

LRA Environment Committee Report for February 6th Meeting

Meeting 24 January: Caroline Brown(CB), Louise Herrity(LH), Cheryl Allen(CA), attending

Flood Action Group Tabitha Whitcomb(TW) from the National Flood Forum, Cllr Tim Hall, and 12 Leatherhead and Fetcham residents met for the second time on January 10th. The purpose was to devise a plan to allow community representatives to work in partnership with agencies and local authorities whose work involves flood risk.

A list of locations with drainage problems or a history of flooding was compiled with questions about plans, policies, and practices on the River Mole and Rye Brook. The 40 items are being formatted in the required way by TW. A meeting in February will allow participants to check and give final approval to the plan before it is submitted via a face to face meeting with representatives of the Environment Agency, Thames Water, Sutton and East Surrey Water Co, SCC, and MVDC.

2017 Spring Clean Keep Britain Tidy is planning what they hope will be the biggest ever Spring Clean during 3-5 March. We have planned a litter pick on Saturday the fourth.* We are coordinating with Cllr. Joe Chrome who will lead a team clearing some 'hot spots' in North Leatherhead. MVDC have agreed to provide litter picking equipment and collect the rubbish bags. The Leatherhead Institute is allowing us to use a room from which to collect equipment and serve tea and coffee to volunteers as they return with their spoils.

Open Gardens Preliminary arrangements are in place for the LRA's joint venture with the Friends of the Parish Church and the Amersham and District Vintage Bus Running Day on 9th July. We are trying to finalise the list of gardens that will be open. We are still hoping to add to the list of names of garden owners who have and have not participated before. **Volunteers:** If you can spare an hour or so on the day we will need some assistance with the plant stall, ticket checking and raffle sales.

River Mole Catchment Partnership(RMCP) AGM January 31st. With 8 speakers covering a wide range of activities on the River Mole and its tributaries, the AGM was enlightening. Brockham and its BERTs(Brockham Emergency Response Team) were highlighted and the afternoon gave way to a tour of Brockham and specifically the points on the River Mole which have flooding issues. The Brockham volunteers have put time, effort, and money into making their village more flood resilient.

Other topics included updates from the RMCP, the Pipp Brook project, Ashted Rye Meadows, Gatwick Greenspace Partnership, as well as insights from a Riversearch volunteer, and a flood overview from the Environment Agency.

Cllr. Chrome has reported a bit of good news. When David Woodhead pointed out a lack of rubbish bins on Randalls Road, Cllr Chrome requested that the council put one in place. A bin is now available for the disposal of litter.

*This is the correct date. That given in the email of 29th Jan had to be altered.