

Epsom Civic Society

shaping the future, safeguarding the past

11 March 2019

Ms Ruth Ormella MRTPI
Head of Planning
Town Hall
EPSOM
KT18 5BY

Dear Ruth

EPSOM SQUARE
MAINTENANCE

For some time we have been concerned about the appearance of the area of Epsom Square known as the Green Wall, a raised bed with plants including those intended to climb the wooden trellis to form an attractive green feature. It has, however, become very run down and unsatisfactory. Very few of the climbing plants are growing well and some have died. The bed itself is a repository of cans, boxes and general rubbish. This poor maintenance has seriously detracted from the appearance of the square, especially the entrance from the High Street. We drew the Council's attention to this but the only reply was that the responsibility lay with the Management of the Square.

This is of course correct, but in planning terms Condition 8 of the permission granted in July 2016 (15/01851/FUL) required the creation of a landscape management plan defining long-term responsibilities, maintenance and inspection schedules and the replacement of dead or damaged plants. We have not seen the plan but it covered a five year period and we suggest that the appearance of the Square would be greatly improved if the requirements of the planning condition and the landscape management plan were to be enforced.

Yours sincerely

ALAN BAKER FRICS
Vice Chairman

cc Ward Councillors