CHAIR’S COMMENTARY

As summer comes to a close in this extraordinary year, many of us have found that opportunities for a break have been limited, due not only to the constraints of Covid-19 but also to the extraordinary amount of planning matters requiring our attention, locally and nationally. I am therefore delighted to welcome John Mumford and Aurélie Paoli to the Society’s committee. Their expertise strengthens and extends the Society’s capabilities so that we can continue to address vital planning issues and develop our sustainability and climate change portfolio. John has extensive experience in professional planning practice and Aurélie in environmental engineering and sustainable development.

The Society continues to correspond with the Council, and we anticipate continuing a dialogue with them on current and emerging planning matters, many of which regular readers of the newsletter will be familiar with. Following the departure of key planning officers earlier in the year, I can report the return of Viv Evans who has re-joined the Council as Head of Planning and look forward to meeting him at a mutually convenient date and time.

Covid19 has compelled both the Society and the Council to conduct committee meetings remotely and I would like to express my personal thanks to the Council’s team responsible for setting up their digital meetings. The system put in place is user-friendly, and support is available for anyone wishing to address a committee, as I did at June’s Planning Committee, speaking against the redevelopment proposals for the Wells Social Centre (decision deferred: https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/news/decision-on-wells-centre-deferred).

Anyone can register to attend the ‘virtual’ committee meetings. The online platform increases accessibility for many who would otherwise be unable to attend the Town Hall in person, a positive step in facilitating civic engagement.

EXPANDING OUR EXPERTISE

We are delighted to welcome Aurélie Paoli and John Mumford to the Society’s committee. Aurélie introduces herself and her expertise on p8/9.

John Mumford is a recently retired Chartered Town Planner with 35 years of local government experience. Much of this was at the Royal Borough of Kingston where his responsibilities included strategic planning and regeneration. For the last 6 years John worked for Epsom and Ewell Borough and so is well versed in local planning policies and issues. As a local resident in this borough John’s motivation to join the Epsom Civic Society committee is because he is so concerned at the inappropriate height, scale and nature of so many recent planning applications. He is keen to offer his expertise to ensure that the Society can play a leading role in shaping Epsom’s future whilst safeguarding its essential character and appearance.
Local Plan

Coronavirus has also affected progress with the draft Local Plan: the Local Plan Programme adopted in January 2020 was revised in August with a new timetable, the anticipated date for the Final Issues and Options Consultation (Regulation 18 Part 2) shifting to November – December 2020 (from May - June 2020), and the Pre-submission Public Consultation scheduled for July – September 2021 (from June – August 2021). Subsequent key stages and dates are unchanged and are as set out in our previous newsletter (No 163). The complete revised Local Plan Programme (August 2020) is in the public reports pack here: Revised Local Plan Programme August 2020

All dates are subject to ongoing review. The Government White Paper on planning reform (see below) may have significant implications for the Borough’s Local Plan Programme and indeed, for the draft Local Plan itself as currently proposed.

Planning Reform

On the same day (6 August) as the Council’s Licensing and Planning Policy Committee agreed the revised Local Plan Programme, the Government published its consultation paper, ‘Planning for the Future’ with proposals for radical change to the planning system, including a new role for Local Plans and a new process for making them by replacing current legislation. Details are found here: https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future

A summary of the proposals is accessible here: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-for-the-future-explained from which the following extract is taken:

In the new system local areas will develop plans for land to be designated into three categories:

- **Growth areas** will back development, with development approved at the same time plans are prepared, meaning new homes, schools, shops and business space can be built quickly and efficiently, as long as local design standards are met.

- **Renewal areas** will be suitable for some development - where it is high-quality in a way which meets design and other prior approval requirements the process will be quicker. If not, development will need planning approval in the usual way.

- **Protected areas** will be just that – development will be restricted to carry on protecting our treasured heritage like Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks.

Communities will be consulted from the beginning of the planning process – and help shape the design codes to guide what development can happen in their local area.

Transition provisions in paragraph 2.50 are potentially very significant for the Borough: local authorities are given 30 months from legislation being brought into force, or 42 months where a Local Plan has been
adopted within the previous three years or where a Local Plan has been submitted to the Secretary of State for examination. The decision for the Borough is whether to continue the current Local Plan Programme or begin again, in anticipation of the changes coming into operation. The Council has written to the Secretary of State requesting clarification of what to do, details here: https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/news/government-announce-fundamental-reforms-planning-system

As the White Paper’s reforms will take some years to be in place, the Government is also consulting on shorter term measures to improve the effectiveness of the current planning system, including changes to the standard method for assessing local housing need, full details: https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-current-planning-system

While the latest (2018) ONS national household growth projections for local authority areas will be used, which would, under the old formula produce a much-reduced figure of 215 homes a year for the Borough as opposed to the current requirement of 579 homes a year for the life of the plan, the changed formula increases the requirement to 604. Where annual delivery is below benchmark, the figure is likely to rise (currently a 20% buffer is added). I will be digesting the proposals with my fellow committee members, examining the detail and submitting our responses. ECS member Geoff Delamere explains, on pages 9/10, why it’s important for community voices to be heard in planning in anticipation of these changes and how you can get involved.

New Planning Laws

Meanwhile, changes are coming into operation now (August / September 2020), including new permitted development rights for ‘building up’, specifically (i) allowing existing purpose-built blocks of flats of three storeys or more to extend upwards by up to two additional storeys to create new homes, up to a height of 30 metres, (ii) allowing existing houses to be extended to provide more living space by constructing additional storeys and (iii) allowing the construction of additional storeys on free standing blocks and on buildings in a terrace that are houses or in certain commercial uses, and in mixed uses with an element of housing, to create additional self-contained homes. A full application for planning permission is not required for these types of development, although they are subject to the prior approval procedure which allows for local consideration of key planning matters and conditions.

Yet another new permitted development right, again subject to the prior approval procedure, allows vacant and redundant commercial and light industrial premises, and residential blocks of flats, to be demolished and replaced with new residential units, permitting up to 2 storeys to be added to the height of the original building as long as the resulting residential building is no higher than 18 metres. Finally, there have been significant changes to the Use Classes Order, intended to simplify the system by introducing a new and broad ‘Class E’ for commercial, business and service use, and aimed primarily at revitalising high streets and town centres. Changes to another use, or mix of uses, within this new class do not require planning permission.

Market Place Transformation and Emily Davison Statue

It has been great to experience the transformation of Epsom’s marketplace following completion of major improvement works - congratulations to everyone involved. Eventually, the marketplace will have a statue of suffragette Emily Wilding Davison famously trampled to death by the King’s horse. The Society is a
supporter of the Emily Davison Memorial Project and the exciting news is that sculptor Christine Charlesworth has started building Emily’s statue. You can find out more about the project and donate at this link: http://emilydavisonproject.org/donate/

And Finally

My thanks go to my fellow committee members who have continued the Society’s work during this difficult time, becoming adept at managing ‘Zoom’ and other remote conferencing facilities along the way. The Society has continued to have constructive meetings and correspondence with councillors, representatives from local groups, Chris Grayling, and developers. Thanks also to our Road Representatives for their continuing support with newsletter deliveries.

Margaret Hollins

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

In the last (June 2020) newsletter update we referred to 20 planning application sites. Some were reporting on decisions and appeal decisions. Since June the Amato Inn (20/00643/COU) application to convert the restaurant into a single dwelling was withdrawn and the applicant confirmed that the restaurant (part of The Grumpy Mole chain) will continue. Both The Wells House (19/00929/FUL) and Woodcote Grove (WS Atkins site) (19/00999/FUL) applications were each thoroughly considered at separate Webinar meetings of the Planning Committee in July. Interestingly, the outcomes were to defer both for the planning officers to negotiate with the respective applicants amendments and further details. The Society had strongly objected to these applications; clearly the Planning Committee members were not entirely convinced either.

There remains a long list of outstanding major planning applications awaiting decision. A number lie within our Conservation Areas and are treated further under the Conservation and Heritage section of this Newsletter.

- **7 Stoneleigh Station Approach (19/00668/FUL):** This application for a block of flats up to 7 storeys is expected to be reviewed by the Planning Committee on 8 October.
- **Clayhill Lodge & Allonby West Hill (20/00031/FUL):** For the demolition of two houses and construction of 14 flats and 9 houses in the Stamford Green CA.
- **24/28 West Street (19/01021/FUL):** Proposal to construct a 13-storey high-rise tower block in the Epsom Town and West Hill Conservation Area. We await details of amendments.
- **Multi-Storey Car Park (MSCP) for Hospital Site (20/00249/FUL):** Application for a stand-alone six storey car park (ground level plus five storeys above) on the Epsom Hospital site.
- **Police and Ambulance sites, Church Street Epsom (19/01589/FUL):** This McCarthy and Stone application for 60 Extra Care Units for occupation by persons aged 70 or over was validated in mid-February.

South-West elevation of the Police and Ambulance Station proposals on Church Street (McCarthy and Stone).
• **6 The Grove (20/00313/FUL):** For the demolition of a house and replacement with a 3-storey block of 9 flats in the Church Street CA

• **22/24 Dorking Rd (19/01365/FUL):** Demolition of two detached houses and their replacement with a new 3-4 storey building with 20 flats. This is recommended for approval to the 3 September Planning Committee. The report says that revisions have been made to the original proposal and are carefully designed to respond to its position on the corner site and to contribute positively to the townscape experience and the listed building (Hylands House) opposite. Nevertheless ECS remains sceptical that the redevelopment to provide 18 additional dwellings in this location is entirely appropriate.

• **88 High Street (20/00671/FUL):**
  Scheme to refurbish commercial property close to the Clock Tower and provide commercial areas along with 8 flats.

• **Langley Bottom Farm (20/00475/FUL).** See below.

• **Guild Living at Epsom Hospital (19/01722/FUL).** See below.

In addition, a new application has been submitted at **107-111 East Street (20/00797/FUL)** on the Ewell side of the Kiln Lane junction for **demolition of two residential properties and replacement with 23 flats.**

The Society has objected to this application on the grounds that the design, mass and bulk is inappropriate to this part of East Street which has a more residential style than that towards the town. The adjoining properties will be heavily overshadowed by this proposal.

**2 Pine Hill (20/00958/OUT):** An application for the demolition and development of an existing large house and change of use from multi-occupation to three five-bedroomed detached houses follows two very unsatisfactory applications for flats, to which we objected. This proposal appears more acceptable. Further design details are awaited.

**Tamaris 3b Worple Road (20/00751/FLH):** This application consists of a first floor front extension, single storey side extension, conversion of garage into habitable space, canopy over existing front bay window and other associated exterior modifications. This was refused on grounds of scale, siting and design and that these modifications would be a dominant addition that would overwhelm the original principal front elevation and disrupt the uniformity with the immediate properties of the same style and therefore harmful to the character and appearance of the host dwelling and the visual amenities of the surrounding Worple Road Conservation Area.

Michael Arthur

**CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE**

Notwithstanding the effect on us all of the pandemic, the last six months must have been the best time ever for residents to venture out and discover the true beauty of our open areas. Our cars stayed on the drive and we walked, ran and cycled over the Downs, across Epsom Common and throughout our 21 Conservation Areas. I for one have been very thankful that these areas are on our doorstep and that they should be protected for the future.
I am concerned by several ongoing Planning applications for new care homes for the elderly. The architects surely need to revise their designs to incorporate lessons learnt from the impact of COVID19. Obviously this is an ongoing situation but there is no doubt that the virus is here to stay with or without a vaccine and we must be confident that design specifications and operational requirements are taken into full consideration.

The Planning applications of concern include the following:

**Guild Living residential home, Epsom Hospital site, Woodcote Green Road (19/01722/FUL):** This application is for the demolition of redundant hospital buildings and redevelopment of the site to provide a new care community for older people arranged in two buildings comprising 302 to 308 care residences, 8 to 12 care apartments and 26 to 30 care suites.

The ECS is arranging a Zoom meeting with Guild Living’s (Legal & General) team. This is to discuss their latest brochure (June 2020) and their ongoing planning application. At present we completely disagree with the 9 storey height of the main block and whether Covid lessons have been incorporated. Quite oddly the Council has approved the Demolition/Enabling Works planning application (20/00885/DEM) ahead of any approval for the main scheme. There are several aspects of the demolition works which set the scene for the main works eg site access, builder’s site set up, hoarding layout. In my experience, a contractor would never start the demolition activities without some form of agreement for the main construction.

**Langley Bottom Farm Buildings (20/00475/FUL):** Further to our Spring newsletter and Summer update, this application for 20 new homes on the site of the existing farm and located within the Green Belt remains a concern. A separate application for a Section 106 discharge for changing the use of the land from agriculture to residential was refused in June 2020. An amended site layout has been submitted, showing a wider area of the site at the junction with Langley Vale Road. The original proposed narrow road junction would have been highly dangerous due to the conflict with racehorses, walkers and road traffic at this narrow site entrance. The amended layout gives room for a much wider junction but now obliterates the sheep field adjacent to Langley Vale Road. We remind everyone that these areas are located within our precious Green Belt. The ECS will be submitting a further objection letter.

**Woodcote Grove Planning Applications 19/00999/FUL and 19/00998/LBA including 5 August 2020 Amendments:** Amended plans have been received for this proposed development of 98 dwellings on the...
site of the old WS Atkins offices in Woodcote Grove. The ECS has already objected to this scheme, mainly due to the height and environmental effect on the adjacent Chalk Lane Conservation Area. The developer has met with Epsom’s councillors and has responded to their queries and concerns within an amended Planning Statement. Despite the revised design and proposed reduction in height, the main building is still 3m higher than the previous Atkins building and 5m above the Grade 11* listed Mansion House with five storeys. The effect would be that the building would be prominent in views from Chalk Lane and overshadow the surrounding trees and landscape of this historic Conservation Area. We are also concerned by the Highways and Road Safety proposals and construction / site access plans and object to any traffic access from Chalk Lane. The ECS has submitted a further objection letter stating that the proposal must be refused on the grounds that the development in such a constrained parcel of land constitutes an attempt at significant overdevelopment affecting heritage assets in one of Epsom’s most important Conservation Areas.

**Chalk Lane Hotel (20/01185/LBA):** A new application was listed on 24 August with a number of documents. Not surprisingly, the original contractor went into liquidation and the architect was also dismissed. The building has suffered extensive damage from lack of protection and through ripping out historical elements and materials that should have been retained as part of this listed property.

A detailed Heritage impact statement shows the extent of unauthorised works assessed against the heritage values of the property and Listed Building Consent. It contains an array of photographs showing the property interiors before and after the builders went in. The latest proposal claims to ‘integrate and celebrate many of these historic features far more effectively than the previously consented scheme managed based on their level of understanding then’. The architect (Lawray Architects) adds they will ‘initiate the much-needed programme of repairs and are a sensitive response to a highly significant listed building executed by an architectural practice with a strong portfolio of work in the historic built environment’. Reparation work is to be managed under the guidance of the heritage consultants Purcell. The application is for NMA alterations to the 2018 approval (Non Material Amendments) and so unlikely to come to committee. The whole scheme of redevelopment from a former hotel with its outbuildings into 21 apartments was always going to be a very challenging listed building project calling for considerable expertise from all the players to produce a high quality end product. Clearly, this got off to a very bad start. This has been a wake-up call. We look forward to a good end result.  

Michael Arthur

**Trees**

There have been many planning applications for tree surgery and felling over the last few months. The first thing that a visitor to Epsom sees is the abundance, variation and beauty of our trees. It made me chuckle that one of the recent ‘refusals’ was Surrey County Council’s application for the proposed felling of 2 ash trees at their Sycamore Centre in West Hill. These trees now have TPOs and will have to be integrated into the redevelopment plans for this site.  

Bob Hollis
Climate Change and Sustainable Development

I am delighted to have been asked by the Society to write a regular section on sustainability with regard to new building applications in the borough.

“Sustainable buildings” are structures and processes that are environmentally responsible and resource efficient throughout a building’s life cycle - from planning to design, construction, operation, maintenance and demolition. As I progress with my role in supporting the Society, I will prepare a policy position paper that summarises relevant national and local policies, and climate declarations by elected local officials, with relevance to housing and sustainability. The aim of this document will be to help enhance the Society’s response to planning applications and to ensure schemes put forward for development comply with sustainability and climate related regulations. The document will also suggest best practice alternatives where possible. This will facilitate the Society’s role in highlighting positive measures being taken, and to also hold to account developers and planners by ensuring required sustainability measures are implemented.

The impact of Climate Change is being felt today – this is as a result of an increase of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions caused by human activities. In 2019 the UK became the first G7 nation to legislate for net zero carbon by 2050. For Surrey, that means reducing GHG emissions against 2019 levels by 46% by 2025 and 85% by 2035. (See Surrey’s Climate Change Strategy, Surrey County Council (2020) https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/225615/Surreys-Climate-Change-Strategy-2020.pdf).

Within Surrey, domestic CO₂ emissions amount to 28% of the total county-wide emissions (2019) and these relate to heating (space and water) and electrical consumption - not embodied emissions of building structures themselves. New buildings therefore need to be built with sustainability as the key driver in order to meet these carbon reduction targets. The Committee on Climate Change (CCC) identified a number of

Aurélie Paoli qualified as a Chartered Civil Engineer with an MEng in Civil Engineering and an MSc in Environmental Engineering and Sustainable Development. She worked for engineering consultancies for ten years specializing in water resources, ports and river restoration. She has been working and living in Epsom since 2005.

“I look forward to supporting the committee in reviewing planning applications to ensure that current and future residents of Epsom and Ewell get the best possible housing that meets the needs of our town and future generations. Housing that not only is architecturally sound but that is critically designed to be climate resilient and with minimal impact on the environment. My hope in working with the Society would be to demonstrate to planners, developers and borough residents that the large planned house building targets for Epsom and Ewell can (and need to) be an opportunity to improve our housing stock. It can be a fabulous chance to construct genuinely sustainable buildings which are comfortable and affordable to live in. Wouldn’t it be fantastic if Epsom was renowned not only for its Derby but also for its sustainable and quality housing stock!”
measures in its “UK Housing: Fit for the Future” report ([https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/uk-housing-fit-for-the-future/](https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/uk-housing-fit-for-the-future/)) which states that “new homes should be built to be low carbon, energy and water efficient and climate resilient”. The CCC also states that the cost of building to such specifications are “not prohibitive” and that “getting the right design from the onset is far cheaper than retrofitting later”.

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council is currently finalising the Local Plan. This provides a key opportunity for the Society to comment and review the plan ensuring that it puts forward best practice measures for building standards to meet sustainability objectives. An objective laid out in its Climate Action Plan is to “identify potential locations and developers to build the first carbon neutral homes and adopt a PassivHaus or similar standard.” ([https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Climate%20Change%20Action%20Plan%20Final.pdf](https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Climate%20Change%20Action%20Plan%20Final.pdf)).

PassivHaus (or other BRE standards such as BREEAM) are holistic in their scope and include criteria that address a wide range of climate change issues (including energy, embodied carbon, water use, flooding and mitigation of the effects of overheating). These standards put emphasis on planning that encourages site specific design to make the most of local conditions such as building orientation for solar heat gain, thermal mass etc. Faced with substantial new housing targets, this will most likely be the main challenge facing Epsom and Ewell: to ensure that developments are not generic, and that sufficient care (and time) is taken at planning development and design stage.

We should all aspire to a home that is affordable, comfortable and suited to our needs, healthy, easy to heat and cool, cheap to run and maintain and resilient to a changing climate. As Tim Oliver, Leader of Surrey County Council states: “The scale of our ambitions must reflect the scale of the challenge. All of us must take action to do our part.”

I certainly hope that as members you will assist the Society in raising our voice to ensure we do just that.

Aurélie Paoli

Making Your Views Count in Planning

Big changes are being proposed by the Government in Westminster which will have a major impact on what gets built, where and when - in every field, village, town and city across England, as outlined in the Chair’s commentary, above.

Residents will have an opportunity to be involved - but only at the start when the Local Plan is being drawn up for subsequent approval by the Government. Once a plan is set, for most areas there will be no further chance for local people to influence what happens in terms of development. This will be a major change in the way planning works in this country. Along with other local authorities, particularly in South East England, Epsom and Ewell Borough will have to accommodate significant increases in house building over the next 10 years and beyond.

There are two main ways to make your views count.

Either, respond to the government’s consultation on its Planning for the Future document by 29 October 2020: [https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future) Or, when the Local Plan is being developed (once the new planning rules are introduced) make sure your voice is heard locally on:
- which areas are to be growth zones, renewal zones or protected zones? There will be minimal or limited restrictions on developments in the growth and renewal zones.
- what design codes should apply locally? (eg limiting building heights and densities).

Epsom Civic Society will be responding to the Government’s consultation and will seek to be proactively involved in testing and shaping what is included in Epsom and Ewell’s local plan.

**Geoff Delamere (by invitation)**

**Neighbourhood Planning**

Stoneliegh and Auriol Ward residents have submitted two applications to the Council which if approved will formally designate Stoneliegh and Auriol Neighbourhood Area and establish Stoneliegh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum. These are the first steps towards working to create a Neighbourhood Plan for the area. Neighbourhood Plans are designed to give communities a greater say in the development and growth of their local area, and the Society supports this local initiative. The Council is consulting on these applications until 5.00pm Friday 9 October 2020. More information, including how to respond to the consultations are available at this link: [https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/residents/planning/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning-0](https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/residents/planning/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning-0)

**EVENTS**

Ian West had a walk planned for this summer in Ewell, but he will now rearrange it for next year.

The Quiz Night is presently re-scheduled for 19 June 2021 at The Epsom Club. Further details will appear in later Newsletters and the website.

For International film festival buffs, **Satisfied Eye International Film Festival** returns to Odeon Epsom 9-11 October 2020, details: [https://satisfiedeye.com/](https://satisfiedeye.com/)

**Sheila Wadsworth**

**MEMBERSHIP**

I have sad news of the loss of Jessie Hinrich, our Postal Rep. She died on 2 July in hospital after a fall. She was one of those many reliable people who do so much behind the scenes for the Society. Since 1990, and possibly earlier, she has been involved with the distribution of Newsletters including being a Rep., driving my predecessor, Margaret Rogers, to outlying parts of the Borough and for the last 10 years a very efficient Postal Rep. Her contribution to the Society, and her friendship, will be much missed.
Welcome to our new members, most of whom joined following our Open Meeting in January. We still have over 1840 members despite not being able to hold any Exhibitions this year. It is important to keep up our numbers to support us and contribute to our voice on planning and the future development of Epsom. So, if you have friends, family, neighbours or work colleagues who are not already members but are interested in how Epsom is going to look in the future, do encourage them to look at our website with a view to joining us or suggest that they contact me.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Thank you to those who have paid their annual subscription, either online or direct to me. There are many who have not yet paid which is understandable in this ‘surreal’ world we are currently living in but we would appreciate receiving subscriptions as soon as possible. Depending on the Coronavirus situation your Rep. may call to collect your subscription. If your Rep doesn’t call, or you are out when the Newsletter is delivered, please arrange payment either online – follow instructions below – or deliver / post direct to me at 9 Sheraton Drive, Epsom, KT19 8JL

Go to the website www.epsomcivicsociety.org.uk/membership, click on ‘Join us’ and select the PayPal option at the bottom of the page. Select individual (£2) or household (£3) membership as appropriate, or pay a different amount if you wish to make a donation. Please include your surname, post code and house number so we can identify you as having paid. When you select the yellow ‘Pay Now’ button, you will be taken to the PayPal website. If you have a PayPal account, you can sign in ; if not, you can make the payment by credit or debit card without signing in.

Membership Secretary (01372 438361) or email: membership@epsomcivicsociety.org.uk
By post: 9 Sheraton Drive, Epsom, KT19 8JL

Ishbel Kenward

Please send any letters or comments for consideration to: Newsletter Editor; publicity@epsomcivicsociety.org.uk
All of our newsletters are available in colour on our website: www.epsomcivicsociety.org.uk

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# Epsom Civic Society

shaping the future, safeguarding the past

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As you’ll see elsewhere in the Newsletter we have two new co-opted committee members [with expertise in Planning and Climate Change & Sustainable Development]. Angela Clifford, already on the committee, is adding Minutes Secretary to her Downs responsibility. We do have a vacancy for a Secretary.