

Ashburton Councillors Update

Feb 2017

Old Library & Park

As you can see there is a great deal of work going on in the Old Library. We are making the building ready for partners, charities, clubs etc and the priority is "multi use". We have interviewed a number of organisations to occupy and manage the building. Maddie was on the interview panel along with officers and FOAP vice chair. We will also be putting the successful organisation in touch with local stake holders and others who also wanted to run the building but were not successful.

The park is one of Croydon's green spaces to form part of the masterplan with new officers working to make it a great place for us.

Along with planning for the library we are also drawing up plans to widen the gates on the Lower Addiscombe Road so lorries for events can get into the park without having to use the narrow back streets.

Blackhorse Lane

The bridge has been closed as it is in such a bad state we can't risk letting cars over it. The bridge over the tram is owned by TFL and the bridge over the walk way is owned by the council. We have therefore decided to make this a joint contract so one contractor is working on both bridges.

Unfortunately this will take time as TFL need to find the funding and we can then move forward with the joint plan. We hope to make the pavement a bit wider and include cycling routes.

Meanwhile we have been working with officers to ensure that the problems with lighting and cleaning in Blackhorse lane are resolved. Skanska were onsite today to fix some temporary spot lighting over the entrance to the tram. This will be in place till they are able to fix a more permanent solution.

Business Forum

Andrew wrote to all businesses on the Lower Addiscombe Road / Shirley Road from the shops outside The Cricketers to Addiscombe Sports. He suggested re starting the business forum and in March he is holding a drop in session with officers and Cllr Watson to get it up and running. The forum will help businesses grow and with the big development planned for Croydon city centre we need to make sure local district centres thrive.

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Parking

At council Cllr King announced 1 hour free parking in district centres including The Lower Addiscombe Road. The proposal will have to go to committee.

Ward Budgets & RAs

Councillors have agreed to give some of their ward budgets to help finance the Christmas lights and the public notice board that is going through planning but any other suggestions for ward budgets are also welcome.