

in touch

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FROM **Cllr Philippa Broom, Tony Harman and Cllr Isobel Napper**
Your local campaigners for Riverside & Laleham

March 2011

“NO!” 2 GRAVEL EXTRACTION AT MANOR FARM!



Tony Harman, a local resident, Cllrs Isobel Napper & Philippa Broom examine the impact of the gravel proposals behind Pavilion Garden

The fight to protect our green belt from the proposal to take 1.5 million tonnes of gravel from Manor Farm in Laleham continues. In late February, residents marched from Laleham to Manor Farm to protest against the destruction of the 40-acre Green Belt Site.

Cllr Philippa Broom says, “We are going to continue our fight against these proposals, and make sure our voices are heard. This proposed gravel site backs on to Buckland School and many homes. It will seriously impact residents’ quality of life. It must be stopped.” For more information on the proposals, as well as important campaign dates, visit www.no2gravel.com

SPELTHORNE: A VALUE-FOR-MONEY COUNCIL

These are challenging times economically. However, Spelthorne’s Conservative councillors are focused on ensuring how you get the best deal possible.

Like everyone else we’ve had less money in—a central government grant reduction of £700,000 in 2011/12 and we face another 10% cut on top of that in the following year.

However, we are working hard to reduce overheads and increase efficiency, so that we can preserve the front-line services that matter to all of us.

We believe that in the good times you need to plan for the bad times—so we have worked over the last few years to cut backroom costs by pioneering partnerships with other organisations and councils. We now have over 18 of these either active or

just about to come on line. For example by sharing costs with Runnymede and Elmbridge Councils on human resources and procurement we have saved £200,000 annually.

We now rent out part of our council offices at Knowle Green, bringing in £100,000 in revenue. And being green means saving money on energy across our offices as well as the depot and our multi-story car parks, reducing bills.

We have also saved hundreds of thousands of pounds in management costs, by carefully looking at how we can make our “back office” more efficient.

Let us know your ideas how Spelthorne can save even more taxpayers’ money and email us — contact details are on the reverse side.

SUPPORTING AN ACTIVE SPELTHORNE



■ Tony Harman, Cllr Isobel Napper and Cllr Philippa Broom with John Wright, the dedicated Penton Hook Lock Keeper. Spelthorne has 15 miles of the River Thames running through it, with lots of walks!

■ Since 2004, Spelthorne’s Conservative-led council has refurbished and upgraded all 33 of its playgrounds. New facilities were installed in five of our parks, including outdoor gym equipment for older people. Spelthorne has also refurbished three of our existing tennis courts as part of a rolling programme.



■ Spelthorne Leisure Centre is improving the children’s play centre, investing in new gym equipment, and new flooring for the weights area.

■ Dozens of programmes are going on at the Spelthorne Leisure Centre now! For kids, there is an After School Club, Dance Classes, and Gymnastics Classes. For adults, there are Yoga and Pilates classes, and members can book their own personal trainers to help them get fit for Spring!

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Promoted by Philippa Broom on behalf of Spelthorne Conservative Association, both of 55 Cherry Orchard, Staines, TW18 2DQ. Printed by Vale Press Ltd, 6 Willersey Business Park, Broadway, WR12 7RR

Please give us your contact details so we can keep in touch with you about the issues you have raised:

Name

Address

Home/Mobile No

Email

HOW CAN YOU HELP US?

- Display a poster at election time
- Deliver leaflets
- Attend social events
- Join the local Party
- Vote by post
- Stand for Council

How we use your information

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Please return to: **FREEPOST KT1169, 55 Cherry Orchard Staines, TW18 2DQ**

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Building Safe Communities for you!

We know that anti social behaviour is a big concern for residents in the Riverside & Laleham ward.

The good news is that across Spelthorne crime has fallen for two years in a row and there are fewer incidents of anti-social behaviour, with a decline of 602 incidents over the past three years.

We mustn't be complacent but this fall is due, in part, to the investment that Spelthorne is making. In 2010, we targeted £200,000 on crime reduction initiatives, including CCTV cameras. As a result of the cameras alone, 241 arrests were made by police.

But the reduction in crime is also due to the important role Spelthorne's 225 Neighbour-hood Watches play. Says local activist Tony Harman, "I believe Neighbourhood Watch is one of the most effective community groups in Spelthorne." For more information visit:

www.spelthornenhw.info

FIGHTING PARKING FEE PLAN

Spelthorne's Conservatives Lead the Charge

Spelthorne's Conservatives have begun their campaign against the parking charges being proposed by Surrey County Council in our town centres.

The Conservatives are tabling a formal motion to oppose Surrey's proposal at a Spelthorne Full Council meeting.

Says Spelthorne Council Leader John Packman, "We know how important our local shops are to our communities. We feel that these parking charges will have a negative impact on these vital businesses at a time when it is economically difficult for many of them."

We urge residents to voice their opposition to the car park charge plan by



Church Street in Staines, where Spelthorne's Conservatives are opposing parking charges.

writing to Surrey County Council directly with their concerns.

DOING MORE FOR OUR OLDER CITIZENS

Spelthorne has more than 16,000 residents who are 65 years old, or older. "Services to support our senior residents are important," says Cllr Isobel Napper. "My thanks go to both our staff and network of volunteers, who always seem to go that extra mile."

We are proud to be one of only a few councils in the whole of the UK operating a special Spelride service for our elderly and disabled residents. Spelride operates five buses, providing over 2,000 trips per month to elderly and disabled residents. The Meals-on-Wheels programme, staffed by volunteers, serves more than 40,000 meals each year.



Careful financial management has preserved crucial front-line services, such as Spelride's transport buses.