



## Bulletin Autumn 2016



**Our proposals for the Merton Local List – see inside**

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## Our proposals for the Local List

Merton Council maintains a Local List of buildings and other structures that it believes contribute to the local scene, or which are valued for their local historical associations. You can find the list at <http://bit.ly/2ak6KYI>.

Following our recent successful campaign to gain local listing for several items including the cart dip at Three Kings Pond, we are making further proposals for additions to this list:

- Cast iron Victorian gas lamp post at Jubilee Corner. This is one of very few examples of historic street furniture in Merton and has significant detailing and styling.
- Historic walls, well and running track at The Canons and Park Place. The historic running track is associated with the former News of the World Sports Ground. Some international athletes who trained at the track included high-jumper Dorothy Tyler (nee Odam) (winner of 1936 Olympic silver medal in Berlin), Jennifer Pawsey (nee Taylor), long-jumper Jennette Towel (nee Neil), sprinter Jill Bamborough (nee Hall) and middle-distance runner Ann Smith. Some of the walls date to the 18<sup>th</sup> Century.
- Bramcote Court and Parade. The streamline moderne style is unusual and distinctive for Mitcham and reflects a late type of Art Deco architecture that responded to the austerity of the times.

An area of green space which we estimate to measure at least 72 square meters has been tarmacked over on **Cranmer Green** to serve a new bus stop. Similar damage has been done to Three Kings Piece. These are registered town greens, and there was no consultation by Merton Council or Transport for London before the action was taken. We are researching the legality of the move.

The **Ravensbury Arms pub**, on the edge of Mitcham Common is the subject of a planning application which would erect eight open sided shisha cabins next to the existing pub. The building would take place on Metropolitan Open Land – which has the same, high level of protection as

green belt. We have objected to this application. Inappropriate development on Metropolitan Open Land can only be permitted in “very special circumstances.”

A shelter built at **Date Valley School** without permission was refused retrospective planning consent and was required to be removed by Merton Council. This followed our objections. At the time of writing it is still standing, and the school has put in a planning application for a lower shelter. We have not objected to this, but have asked that Merton Council ensures it is an appropriate colour which will blend in to the surroundings as befits a new building in the heart of the Conservation Area.

## **Mitcham Heritage Day 17<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

Please join us on 17<sup>th</sup> September for Mitcham Heritage Day. Between 10.00am to 4.00pm local people can visit buildings which are not usually open to the public, look at special exhibitions, and join in tours – all for free.

Cricket will be played and there will be an opportunity to see inside the 16<sup>th</sup> Century dovecote at The Canons. A full programme is enclosed with this Bulletin, and visit [www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk](http://www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk) for last minute information.

## **Contracting out of green spaces maintenance**

Merton Council has selected The Landscape Group as the contractor who will be responsible for the maintenance of green spaces throughout the borough, including Mitcham Common. Friends of parks and likeminded groups have come together to establish a new Independent Merton Green Spaces Forum. As founder members we look forward to working with The Landscape Group and championing the borough's green spaces.

## **Cricketers pub plans rejected again**

The latest in a long line of planning applications for the Cricketers has been rejected by Merton's planning applications committee. This follows referral to the Council's Design Review Panel following our intervention. The Panel gave the plans a 'red' rating, stating that they "did not achieve the design criteria expected for this very important site."

## **Community on the Green celebration a great success**

Our Community on the Green event on 27<sup>th</sup> July was a great success. We were delighted to welcome more than 100 local people, groups and businesses who joined us to celebrate Cricket Green. The Mayor of Merton, Councillor Brenda Fraser, was among the guests, and we were pleased to present a cheque to Mitcham Cricket Club.

At the event we also hosted a public consultation for The Canons Lottery bid, which hopes to bring up to £4 million for The Canons houses and surrounding open spaces. On view for the first time were ideas for the project including options for a new café and toilets.

We are working with Friends of The Canons and Mitcham Society, along with Merton Council as The Canons Partnership. The bid will be submitted by the end of the year. To learn more about the project and sign up for news, visit [www.canonspartnership.org.uk](http://www.canonspartnership.org.uk).

## **'No' to further flats at Brook House**

Brook House, which faces onto the cricket ground, is currently being converted into 46 flats. An application to convert the roof space for further flats was turned down following our intervention because it is overbearing and does not respect the character of the Conservation Area.

## **About Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage**

Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage is the civic society for Mitcham Cricket Green Conservation Area and its environs. Mitcham Cricket Green Conservation Area was among the first to be designated in Merton, in 1969. Cricket Green has great historical importance, including a really interesting sporting heritage that's about more than just cricket. We work hard to protect Cricket Green, maintain its much valued village character, and encourage everyone to enjoy its open spaces and take pleasure in its history and diverse local community.

We are part of a national network of hundreds of civic societies through our membership of Civic Voice.

**You are welcome to join us on the last Tuesday of every month (except December) for our open meeting at the cricket pavilion on Cricket Green. 7pm start.**

**In addition please do join us on 17th September for Mitcham Heritage Day.** Full details are enclosed with this Bulletin.

Check [www.mitчамcricketgreen.org.uk](http://www.mitчамcricketgreen.org.uk) for additional diary dates and for all the latest news about our work.

## **Join us and make a difference**

As a local charity and voluntary group we rely on your support. How you can help us:

- Join us. Annual membership costs £10. There is a joining form at our web site or email us or write to us at our registered office (address below)
- Come along to one of our meetings. We meet on the last Tuesday of every month (except December). Everyone is welcome. Meetings start at 7pm.
- Follow our lively and informative twitter stream - @MitchamCrktGrn
- Like us on Facebook <http://on.fb.me/1mLDIQL>



Thanks to M3 Housing Ltd  
for their support



MCGC&H Bulletin is printed by Social Enterprise Press,  
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