

SHEERWATER

REGENERATION PROJECT UPDATE
AUGUST 2018

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Dear Resident

It may seem like nothing is happening, however behind the scenes a lot of work is going on to prepare for the start of the regeneration of Sheerwater.

In October, we hope to have the detailed planning permission in place for the first phase of the housing. In the meantime, work to build the new leisure centre, swimming pool and sports pitches will start shortly. We promised to start this part before building any new homes and I am delighted that we have been able to keep our promise and provide the community facilities at the start of the project.

Throughout this whole project we aim to work with the community to build a better place for everyone. This isn't just about bricks and mortar, but about people living, working and playing together. To help make this happen we will continue to invest in and support the local community.



Cllr David Bittleston
Leader of Woking Borough Council

New leisure complex and sports facilities

The first stage of the regeneration will be the development of a new leisure complex and sports facilities at Bishop David Brown School.

This complex will provide a top class 3G full size football pitch, new football and rugby grass pitches, and a new leisure centre building. The leisure centre will provide the local community and school with top class swimming and sporting recreational facilities.

The new centre will feature a 25 metre pool and a separate teaching pool, a five court sports hall, studio spaces for exercise and dance classes, a gym with changing facilities and communal meeting areas.

3G pitches are tough, hard wearing artificial grass surfaces. They allow for heavy usage and don't wear down or turn to mud. They drain rain water in the same way a grass pitch does.

The leisure centre building will use sustainable energy sources for heating, in the form of ground source heat pumps and solar panels. These will substantially reduce the centre's carbon emissions.

There will also be new parking facilities which will increase the number of spaces available to the centre and new fencing to improve the safety of students

at the school. The reorganisation of the parking bays for the centre will help reduce the impact of the works near to the school's entrance.

All of the facilities will be available for use by both the local community and the school in a coordinated manner.

On a less spectacular note, but just as important, the whole site will benefit from much needed improved drainage and rain water run-off.



Widening Spencer Close

Before construction of the exciting new leisure and sports facilities can begin, the highway in Spencer Close will need to be widened so that construction vehicles can access the site safely.

The street widening work will stay within highway land which includes the grass verges. However, individual property's gardens won't be affected. During the widening work, parking restrictions will be needed so that construction vehicles can access both sides of the roads.

The widening work is expected to take about four weeks and will start later this summer.

Unfortunately there will be some disruption for residents, who live along Spencer Close and Devonshire Avenue, during the construction period. The project team has kept residents up-to-date with what they can expect and when.

Spencer Close and some Devonshire Avenue residents will have their parking spaces relocated to another nearby area. Residents will be notified in plenty of time.

Empty homes

Over the coming weeks you may spot some empty properties that will have metal panels fitted over the doors and windows. This is a health and safety measure so that the properties do not get vandalised and become unsafe.

Keeping in touch with tenants

The Sheerwater Tenants Housing Support Team has now met with over 240 tenant households so far, of which 39 have moved smoothly and without difficulty.

The Council has teamed up with local mental health charity, CornerHouse, to recruit an experienced community support officer, Dominique Raymond. She will work closely with the Sheerwater Tenants Housing Support Team to offer advice, information and guidance to residents within and around the regeneration area, who may require a little extra help and support.

Dominique will be located within Sheerwater offering one-to-one, group and drop-in support to those who need it most. She will also be able to signpost people to other support services such as those run by CornerHouse and other local agencies.

Home owners

If you are a homeowner and not yet had a valuation from Frazers Surveyors – please see their contact details on the back page.

Contact the Sheerwater Tenants Housing Support Team
01483 743870 or email sheerwater.tenants@woking.gov.uk

Contact the new support worker, Dominique Raymond
01483 757461 or email dominique@cornerhouse.cc

Sheerwater Street Party 2018

The Sheerwater Street Party will be taking place on Saturday 11 August 2018, from 12noon to 5pm on Dartmouth Avenue. The event is open to all residents in Sheerwater and will be a community event for all to enjoy.

We're looking for family friendly stalls, attractions and local food vendors to make the free street party of art, music and fun go with a bang!

So if you've got something to offer the community, please contact Yasmin Gordine on 01483 743779 or email yasmin.gordine@woking.gov.uk





The Mayor of Woking, Cllr Will Forster, donned his gardening gloves and picked up a trowel at the Sheerwater Community Garden Launch Day

Green fingered planting day

Local Sheerwater residents, particularly young children, joined the final day of planting at the new community gardens in Dartmouth Avenue.

In the high temperatures of early July, students from the Royal Horticultural Society's School of Horticulture at RHS



New flower troughs along Dartmouth Avenue

Wisley and the Sheerwater Together residents' group rolled up their sleeves, slapped on the sun cream, and got down to some hard work to bring to life the Sheerwater Together Community Gardens.

The idea for the gardens came about in October last year, when the Sheerwater Together residents' group worked with RHS Wisley's Community Outreach Team to plant crocus and daffodil bulbs along Albert Drive. When the residents' group mentioned they wanted to do a community garden, the RHS Wisley Team were keen to get involved.

Each year, 10 students attend RHS Wisley to study for a Royal Horticultural Society diploma. Part of the course requires students to design and plan a new garden. For the Sheerwater Gardens they had some important rules to stick

to when working on their designs. Firstly, the gardens must be for the community and encourage people to spend time in them. Secondly, they must use some recycled materials. Thirdly, the gardens need to be built in such a way that allows them to be dismantled and put back together elsewhere in Sheerwater.

The new, communal gardens are located in two spaces at either end of the parade of Dartmouth Avenue shops. The shady garden by the Post Office boasts beautiful sleeper benches, a place to plant bulbs in the spring and provides a cool, peaceful place to sit in summertime.

The garden is supported by Woking Borough Council, Surrey County Council, Bishop David Brown School and local groups.



A message from Trevor Wenden, Sheerwater Football Club



“Sheerwater Football Club, now in its 60th year, started in league football in 1958. So leaving Sheerwater Recreation Ground has never really

been in our minds. However, better facilities that help us to remain in the Combined Counties League has always been a priority for the club. This will certainly be the case when we move into the new leisure facilities at Sheerwater, once they are built.

“It does mean however, that the Club will be relocated for a period of time whilst the development works are undertaken. So,

whilst leaving the home we've been at for so long, for potentially up to two seasons, will certainly be emotional, we are happy with the ground share arrangements with Woking Football Club that have been put in place for our first team. They will be there from the 2018/19 season. This arrangement has also given us the exciting opportunity to play in the FA Vase for the first time in the Club's history.

“We are grateful to the board members at Woking FC who have warmly welcomed Sheerwater FC to their club and we look forward to working alongside them to develop the relationship further.

“As for the other teams at Sheerwater Football Club, I am pleased to say that by working with the Council we have managed to identify a suitable site where we can keep the rest of the Club

together in one place. This is important for the stability of the Club. Therefore, we will be looking to move the rest of the Club's teams to the new Woking Sportsbox. Its excellent facilities will mean our reserve team and youth teams can continue in their present leagues. We will also be using the impressive, new 3G pitches for all of the teams' training sessions.

“We can now look to the future of Sheerwater FC and be confident it will continue to grow.”

**Trevor Wenden
Secretary
Sheerwater Football Club**

How do you want to use your leisure facilities?

Do you want to be involved in helping to shape the programme of activities for the new recreation and leisure facilities?

A series of informal focus groups in September and October will be open for anyone to attend.

The project team are particularly keen to hear the views from special interest groups, community and minority groups about when and how they may wish to use the new facilities.

The group sessions are likely to be held at Parkview Centre for the Community –

times and dates will be announced at a later date.

To register your interest, please contact:

**Yasmin Gordine,
Community Engagement Officer**

on 01483 743779

**or email
yasmin.gordine@woking.gov.uk**

Contact us

Tenants

Any queries you may have regarding your tenancy or our plans for Sheerwater, please contact Sheerwater Regeneration Housing Support Team on **01483 743870** or email sheerwater.tenants@woking.gov.uk

Homeowners

To have your property valued by Frazers Surveyors, please contact Naomi Gould on **01483 730909** or email naomi@frazers.co.uk

Housing association tenants

If you have any queries regarding your tenancy, please contact your housing association directly.

