



REIGATE & BANSTEAD BOROUGH COUNCIL

BOUNDARY REVIEW SUBMISSION

Executive Summary

This representation is on behalf of the Tattenhams Residents' Association (TRA). We support the submission put forward from the Residents' Association Group of councillors. We believe that their submission meets the criteria laid down by the Boundary Commission to deliver a firm boundary and equalise numbers. It satisfies our need to preserve the current sense of community, integrity and history of our area.

We reluctantly accept that to equalise numbers and meet the Boundary Commission's criteria we will merge Tattenhams with the Preston ward. At our recent Annual General Meeting, we discussed with residents the council's proposal to move roads from Tattenhams into Nork. Residents were appalled and expressed amazement that this was being considered as option which to them made no sense. As you will see in this document these roads have been part of Tattenhams since the 1920's.

This document focuses on the community aspects of Tattenhams.

The Tattenham Corner estate was developed in the 1930s and the current boundary has been in effect with only minor changes since the 1930's. The heart of the community is Tattenham Corner village centre, a community that has well patronised amenities including shops, restaurants, a health centre and library.

There is a strong sense of community in Tattenhams which is nurtured by the residents' association, the Tattenham Community fund and the library volunteers. If we can preserve the integrity of the heart of Tattenhams we can work to deliver benefits to a new Tattenhams ward.

About the Tattenhams Residents' Association

The TRA has been established in its current form since 1963 and there have been residents' associations operating in the area since the 1920's and 30's. It is a non-party-political organisation that aims to preserve and improve amenities in the area and seeks to foster good local government by a close liaison with local authorities and other public bodies.

TRA members activities include;

- **A lot of community involvement.** Our volunteers are well connected and many are also part of local groups, schools, churches and charities.



- **Many feet on the street.** We have over 50 volunteers who deliver our newsletters 3 times a year to the 3,500 households in our ward. During the process of subscription collection residents raise issues to be resolved by our councillors.
- **A monthly forum for residents to raise their concerns.** All residents are welcome to attend our monthly committee meetings. These and our 2-annual open public meetings are held at the library.
- **Representing residents in local government.** The TRA puts up a candidate every year for the local borough election and once every 4 years for the County Council elections. We knock on the doors of 98% of Tattenhams residents during election time which provides an opportunity for residents to raise their concerns.
- **Community knowledge:** We know our area well and have been involved in discussions relating to the new De Burgh estate and Preston.



Community

The heart of Tattenhams community is Tattenham Corner Village centre.

Residents often tell the TRA that they can't see a time when they would ever move as everything they need is within easy reachable distance, they feel a real sense of local community and say: "we love it here".

Tattenham Crescent is the heart of the community and home to the amenities such as a well-stocked mid-size Co-op supermarket, curry restaurant, Italian restaurant, fish & chip shop, two cafes, off license/wine bar, veterinary surgeon, post office & newsagent, Children's Trust charity shop, two hairdressers, a barbers shop, garage, funeral services, two pharmacies, doctors surgery and health centre, one estate agent, electrical supplier, car showroom, butchers and a florist.

Tattenham Crescent is also home to the only local family pub/restaurant (Beefeater) and library.

Local transport for Tattenhams and Preston include Tattenham Corner railway station with direct trains to London Bridge and London Victoria. The main bus routes in Tattenhams and Preston are frequent 460 and 480 routes into Epsom with the 420 into Sutton.

Community Events

Events in Tattenhams happen on a regular basis at the library, schools and local churches;

- **Events at the library.** Local community volunteers open the library 5 days per week and organise afternoon talks once a month. A craft group meets weekly in the library. The library hires itself out to local groups for events such as the local schools and the Residents' Association. The TRA is organising a series of free first aid classes for residents delivered at the library as well as our 10 meetings a year and 2 public meetings in the spring and autumn.
- **Events in the shopping area.** Wine tasting and music at Wine Rack, the Summer Fair and Christmas Market. These are organised by the library and local traders working with the Tattenhams Community Fund and the TRA.
- **Local churches, events and groups** in Merland Rise and Great Tattenhams provide community outreach services, playgroups, lunches and make their premises available to local groups. At Christmas there are whole month of events from Christmas markets, carol services and special performances held at St Marks Church in Great Tattenhams.
- **Events at Local schools:** the Shawley Community School Summer Fete, bingo nights and other community activities.



The TRA has been working closely with all these groups. Our members volunteer at the library and sit on the library board. We have a committee member on the board of governors at Shawley Way School and we have two members on the Tattenham Corner Community Fund Board.

Community Development

TRA councillors have been closely involved in the new development of the De Burgh site in Preston. We have also played an active role in working with the Community Development Worker for Preston from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council on the Local Action Plan so we understand the threats and opportunities within the Preston area.

If Tattenhams is merged with Preston ward we will use our existing resources to help build the sense of community and develop social and community hubs.

Leisure Facilities

A combined Tattenhams and Preston ward would provide good leisure facilities including a library, allotments in Merland Rise, a new Leisure centre in Preston Park, a tennis club and access to Epsom Downs, home of horse racing and a golf club.



Background

The Tattenham Corner Estate was built in the 1930s by Surrey Downs Housing and others. It consists of a variety of housing at different levels of affordability. The area borders onto Epsom Downs. These roads have been part of Tattenhams since its inception and they are a



core part of our community:

- *Tattenham Crescent,*
 - *Downs Wood,*
 - *Shawley Way,*
 - *Ellington Way,*
 - *Sherborne Close,*
 - *Walkfield Drive,*
 - *Beech Grove,*
 - *Osprey Drive*
 - *Northview Crescent,*
 - *Woodlands Gardens*
-
- *Garlichill Road*
 - *Colman Close,*
 - *Downs Reach,*
 - *Upland Way,*
 - *Downland Way- Close and Gardens.*



Tattenham Corner Estate Brochure published by the Banstead History Research Group

Equalising numbers and a firm boundary

We support the submission on numbers from Residents Association councillors. We understand that the council's submission would move the roads listed above into Nork. These areas are the heart of Tattenhams and we would regret the loss of these areas. We also want to retain Waterer Gardens which has strong links to Tattenhams with access via the Reigate Road. For more information, please refer to: REIGATE & BANSTEAD BOROUGH COUNCIL BOUNDARY REVIEW SUBMISSION FROM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION GROUP OF COUNCILLORS.

Conclusion

The current boundaries of Tattenhams have remained little changed since building started in the 1920's. Residents reluctantly accept the merging of Preston into the Tattenhams ward. However, If we can preserve the integrity of the heart of Tattenhams we can work diligently to integrate our communities for the benefit of residents.