New buildings for college in Park

Capel Manor College, which runs the Farm in Crystal Palace Park and has classrooms in the Jubilee Stand, is launching a consultation on its improvement plans.

The college wants to build new teaching facilities next to Crystal Palace museum in Anerley Hill, and to revive and improve the farm buildings.

**Students to learn about animals and the environment in a parkland setting**

Capel Manor College already has around 300-400 students at all levels, learning about gardening and animal care. The college sees the Park as the obvious place to run its courses. And it now has the money to put its plans into practice thanks to London’s Economic Action Partnership, chaired by Mayor Sadiq Khan.

The new buildings will be low-rise and will not encroach on the existing open space in the Park. A full planning application is expected to be submitted in the Autumn.

**So how does this fit in with Bromley Council’s plans for the Park?**

The College’s plans form part of Bromley Council’s overall vision for the Park – see story overleaf. While local residents may welcome better educational facilities and the chance to smarten up the Farm, other parts of Bromley’s plans are likely to be less popular. A big issue will be whether Capel Manor College’s plans can be realised independently of the overall vision.

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**If you value Crystal Palace and want to help us with our campaigns to benefit the area, e-mail c pca@onetel.com and we will keep you updated on what we’re doing.**

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**Come to our Open Meeting!**

Our next OPEN HOUSE will be at 7 pm on Thursday 19th September at the Paxton Centre. Join us for a lively discussion about local affairs over tea, coffee and cake. Drinks also available. These evenings have proved to be very popular so do come along and join in the fun.

**What a load of rubbish!**

This scene is a common sight in Westow Hill close to the junction with Cooper’s Yard. We supported other local organisations recently in appealing to Lambeth Council to deal with the problem but as fast as the rubbish is removed, another pile appears soon after. It requires some concerted action by the council to find a permanent solution and perhaps a few prosecutions might help. To report dumped rubbish/fly tipping on Lambeth streets google “report rubbish in your area Lambeth council” and fill in the online form.
Planning News – Victory Place

The owner of the plot of land in Westow Street, bounded by Victory Place and Carberry Road, has been trying to develop it for years. A planning application last year talked about negotiations with Marks & Spencer to open a Food Hall. M & S’s Press Office say they are not prepared to comment.

In the meantime, Croydon Council has now approved a variation to the owner’s original proposals, which would allow demolition of the existing buildings and construction of a major new development comprising shops, offices and homes. There is no doubt that if this development were to go ahead it would alter the character of the Triangle and its retail offer, which allows a wide range of small businesses to flourish.

Update on Park developments

On 25th January 2018 an application was submitted to Bromley Council for a scoping opinion about the proposed Crystal Palace Park Masterplan. An opinion was issued on 1st March last year, but an outline planning application remains to be submitted.

Following the introduction of the Masterplan for the park in the previous decade it wasn’t clear where the money to fund the regeneration was coming from. The plan was that the sale of land on the park’s perimeter would pay for the regeneration scheme, but the need to provide affordable housing means that this may no longer be a viable proposition. The Trust that was set up to manage the park following completion of the regeneration has still not taken over. Basic park maintenance is being carried out by Bromley’s contractors idverde. CPCA members continually comment on the poor condition of the park, but things seem unlikely to improve significantly in the foreseeable future.

More positively, local organisations are working hard to look after and improve the dinosaurs, subway and the events stage (aka the “rusty laptop”). It seems that the stalemate will continue for some time.

Find out about the Dino Bridge!

The Friends of the Dinosaurs are reinstating a bridge to the Crystal Palace dinosaurs! This will allow conservation, maintenance and up-close interpretation of this magnificent site. Share your views on the current design on Sunday 28 July, Crystal Palace Park ‘Life’ Café 12 – 3 pm or online at cpdinosaurs.org/bridge.

CPCA celebrates 50th birthday

To mark our 50th birthday we are publishing a book. The Amazing Technicolour Triangle brings the early days of the CPCA vividly to life with reproductions of the posters that advertised the Association’s many and eclectic events. To reserve your copy, e-mail cpca@onetel.com.

Who knows where this is?

Where is this rather decrepit looking building? It's somewhere in the Crystal Palace area, but where?

E-mail us on cpca@onetel.com – first correct answer wins a mystery prize!

Congratulations to everyone who identified the boundary post in Lansdowne Place in our last newsletter.