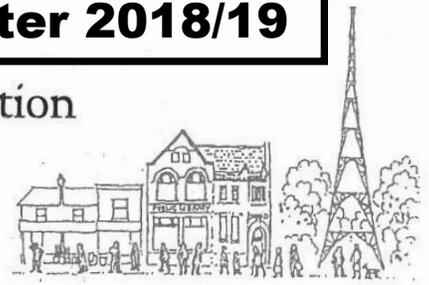


Winter 2018/19

Crystal Palace Community Association



CPCA



Battle over super size Queens Hotel

The Queens Hotel in Church Road has appealed Croydon Council's decision last year to block the hotel's expansion. There will now be a public inquiry, expected to last four days, starting on 26 February at Croydon Town Hall.

The CPCA opposed the hotel's plans. We thought the development was an opportunity to do something about the more unsightly features of the hotel, such as the modern extension on the north side, which is out of character with its Victorian core. So we were disappointed that the scale and style of the plans aren't in keeping with the surrounding conservation area.

Traffic impact

We were also seriously concerned about the traffic impact of expanding the hotel. It already currently generates a lot of traffic, both from coaches and from guests. Many guests leave their cars in surrounding roads, creating pressure on parking spaces. The expansion of the hotel would exacerbate these problems.

There were insufficient mitigations in the hotel's plans, for example to minimise the use of vehicle traffic in reaching the hotel. And Church Road already suffers from a high volume of traffic, which is often stationary while it is held up at the lights at the junction of Church Road and Westow Street.

At a time when people are waking up to the dangers of air pollution caused by traffic, it was very disappointing that the problem of additional traffic wasn't addressed in the hotel's plans.

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



Come to our Open Meeting!

Our next Open Meeting is on Thursday 4 April at the Paxton Centre in Anerley Hill at 7:30 pm. It's a great chance to hear about latest developments to do with the Park and the local area, and to have your say.

50th Birthday

We will also be discussing plans for our 50th birthday! It's 50 years since our President and local painter Audrey Hammond was so concerned about the rapidly vanishing Triangle that she founded the Crystal Palace Triangle Community Association - now known as CPCA. We plan to celebrate the occasion with a book of Audrey's distinctive and iconic posters advertising the CPCA's eclectic range of events in the early days. If you have any other ideas about celebrating this historic occasion, please come along and share them with us.

We look forward to seeing you on the 4th. Refreshments are on us!

Holding the Trust to account

Many thanks to all those who came along to our Open Meeting at the Paxton Centre back in October. We hosted Laurie Handcock, Lucy Hopkins and Martin Tempia from the Crystal Palace Park Trust, which has been set up by Bromley Council with the long term objective of taking over the running of Crystal Palace Park.

The Trustees faced many questions. How can they, as volunteers, take on the daunting task of running a large, historically important park?



Who will watch out for the Park?

How will they report back to Park users and the community? Will the sale of land around the park, and income from events, be enough to pay to run the park?

The Trustees showed a real commitment to the Park and a desire to do the right thing. But they clearly face a huge task. We hope that the CPCA can hold the Trust to account as they take on more responsibilities from the Council, supporting and encouraging the Trustees, but challenging them and Bromley Council if necessary.

Crystal Palace Library of Things

Have you been along to the Library of Things at the Crystal Palace Library hub yet? They have already held the first **Repair Party** of 2019 where volunteers fixed items including a **100 year old lamp**, an **Only Fools and Horses Alarm Clock** and an **Xbox!** There are a whole host of 'things' you can borrow - check out their website <https://www.libraryofthings.co.uk/crystalpalace/>

Capel Manor College

As well as running our local city farm in the park, the College offers a range of full and part-time land-based courses to anyone aged 14 plus. The College also runs Advice Evenings (5pm to 7.30pm) and Open Days (10 am to 3pm). Next Advice Evening is 13 March and Open Day is 30 March. Find out more at their website <https://www.capel.ac.uk/>.



Friends of Crystal Palace Dinosaurs – the Dino Bridge is coming! Well done to the Friends for reaching their target of £70,000 to build a bridge to the dinosaurs. The Mayor of London has pledged £30,000 and the rest has been raised through a crowdfunding project and some enthusiastic bidding on their online auction.

Chair of Trustees Ellinor Michel said: “A *Dino Bridge* will mean many more people can get up close to the *Crystal Palace Dinosaurs* and help us to look after them too.” Find out more at <https://cpdinosaurs.org/>.

Who knows where this is?



E-mail us on cPCA@onetel.com – first correct answer wins a mystery prize!
Congratulations to everyone who identified the steps at the top of Fox Hill in our last newsletter.