

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH WESTFIELD?



*When I'm out meeting residents I am frequently asked what is happening with the much-delayed Westfield-Hammerson rebuild of the Whitgift Centre, writes Cllr Vidhi Mohan*

In January 2013 Westfield and Hammersons announced that they would jointly develop a new shopping centre in

Croydon, replacing the dated Whitgift Centre. The £1.4 billion scheme was to create over 7,000 new jobs and completely transform and regenerate our town.

The coming together of these two retail giants was largely due to the efforts of the then Conservative Council, Gavin Barwell, former MP for Croydon Central, and the then Mayor of London Boris Johnston. In November 2013 the Conservative Council granted planning permission for the scheme to proceed.

Five years have passed since the scheme was approved, but under the current Labour Council nothing has happened, and Croydon's long-awaited regeneration remains only a dream. Since taking control in 2014, Labour has done nothing to move the scheme forward and has only dithered and delayed. Instead they went into lengthy disputes with the developers, while the economic and retail conditions changed.

Recently a revised scheme was granted planning permission, we have absolutely no guarantee that Labour will deliver on this one. After having done nothing over the last 4 years, how can we trust them to deliver anything now? Croydon simply cannot afford another 4 years of delay and decline. The scheme was conceived and developed by a Conservative administration, and only we can be trusted to deliver this vital regeneration scheme.

### OTHER DELAYED PROJECTS

#### Taberner House

After 4 years the site of the old Taberner House remains empty. The Conservative administration had an approved scheme to build a mixed housing development there, which would have generated much needed housing. But Labour scrapped the scheme and the plot has remained a barren wasteland ever since.

#### Fairfield Halls

This jewel of our cultural crown was closed a few years back, and we have no specific timeframe as to when it will fully open again. We are told 2019, but there is no guarantee of that. And even when it does open it will only be in a phased manner. No idea when our much loved Pantos will be back!



Current Fairfield councillor and candidate for the Park Hill & Whitgift ward

**MAY 3 LOCAL ELECTION 2018**



**VIDHI MOHAN**



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# SURREY STREET MARKET

*The Council recently spent £1.1 million of our money on regenerating Surrey Street Market, but if you went there you would hardly notice the difference!*



In fact there has been a decline in the number of traders using this historical market. What we need is a plan to truly regenerate what the market has to offer, with a mix of fresh produce that will attract shoppers from all over Croydon. Labour's tinkering is achieving nothing. Recently they put up new signs, which were supposed to put the market 'on the map'. Can you see them in the picture above? Clue: it's at the top of the multi-coloured pole!. Not the high impact signage the traders were hoping for!

## LISTENING TO RESIDENTS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Labour Council recently approved an application to demolish a lovely detached home on Addiscombe Road and replace it with 2 semi-detached properties, which was completely out of character with the adjoining Whitgift Estate. Despite objections from local residents, this was pushed through by the Labour controlled planning committee.

If elected, the Conservatives pledge to listen to residents' concerns with an open mind before taking any planning decisions. It is important to maintain the unique character of both Park Hill and the Whitgift Estate, and we will never try and cram more housing into these neighbourhoods.

**Local Heritage Status for the Whitgift Estate** - The Whitgift Estate has long needed protecting from greedy developers and a Council bent on ruining its character. If elected we pledge to look at options to grant the estate Local Heritage Status, which will offer more protection from unwanted development.



## Conservatives to launch 'Fly Tip Busting' teams

Nothing ruins an otherwise pleasant street more than unsightly rubbish and fly tips – and you don't need to be an expert statistician to see that it's been on the rapid rise in recent years!

If the Conservatives win control of Croydon Council on May 3rd, we will introduce 'Fly Tip Busting' teams to proactively patrol the borough looking for fly tipping, major litter problems, graffiti and areas where council contracts for maintenance are not being properly implemented.

While it's great that so many residents play their part in reporting fly tipping, it's time for the Council to get proactive in dealing with it.



## Contact Us

Please use this form to tell us about any local issues that we can help deal with

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**Please cut out and return to:**  
**Park Hill & Whitgift Conservatives, 36 Brighton Road,**  
**Purley, CR8 2LG**

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I'm happy to receive updates from Park Hill & Whitgift Conservatives by email (please give your email address below)

I can help the team campaign to get elected as our councillors

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