

THE ECA PUTS STOCKPORT HOMES ON NOTICE

Stockport Homes Group (SHG) is the Council's publicly owned arms length management organisation (ALMO) responsible for building and maintaining council houses since 2004. SHG has a growing number of other responsibilities including Anti Social Behaviour, Homelessness and Facilities Management.

The ECA team have been listening closely to residents across Edgeley over the last 12 months and understanding just how SHG performs and delivers for tenants. Stockport Homes has been no stranger to cuts, just like the Local Authority.

However, we have growing concerns about how the organisation works day to day. For example, tenants have told the ECA about unacceptable delays to repairs and concerns around building and estate management.

Central Government has imposed new statutory responsibilities on housing providers and service charges are proposed to increase by

approximately 10% with a similar increase in rents expected too.

Local Authorities across the county are looking at ALMOs to ensure that they are delivering a decent standard of services and value for money.

Asa, Leah and Matt believe that it's time to look at how Stockport Homes is working for tenants and we are open to working with the Councillors across all parties to make this happen.

The parking survey concluded in December. Thank you to all those residents who took the time to engage and let the Local Authority know their feelings on parking in the SK3 area.

The Highways Department is analysing the 1400 survey responses and compiling a report containing feasible solutions.

We hope to get to the point where we have a parking plan for

Edgeley that gives us viable options to address match day and commuter parking.



Your next **ECA public meeting** is set for **Monday 4th March 2024 at 7.30pm at The Alexandra, Northgate Road.**

Going forward, we will be visiting venues across the ward for public meetings to ensure everyone will have an opportunity to attend and be represented.

Contact us at edgeley.community@outlook.com for membership enquiries and to ensure your name is added to our mailing list for public notices and updates.

Any matters to raise? Our contact details are included below.

Website: www.edgeley.community



BUDGET PROPOSALS UPDATE

The budget meeting of the Council will take place on 22nd February 2024 at the Town Hall. This is an important formal meeting where Stockport Council's financial budget is agreed and council tax rates and rent levels are set.

The Liberal Democrats that run the Council are proposing a 4.99% increase to Council Tax (2.99% general increase & 2% Adult Social Care Precept increase) and a 7.7% rent increase with service charges going up around the same rate.

Even with these increases, SMBC is cutting £5.65 million from its revenue budget.

There is no getting away from further pressure these increases will have on households. The Council's financial outlook is crippled by a combination of unprecedented demand on children, social care and homelessness services, high inflation and a financial settlement for local government in the form of fourteen years of austerity under the Conservative Government..

As your ECA Councillors we are in a unique position and have the freedom to vote for what is in the best interests of Edgeley and Cheadle Heath residents and the Borough itself.

We will listen carefully to all proposals made between now and then and vote according to conscience rather than a party whip.

EDGELEY ACTIVE TRAVEL CONSULTATION

The road towards the replacement of the Armoury Roundabout and Stockholm Road bridges continues.

Following consultation with Councillors, the Highways Department are now going out to the public on the highways aspect of the plans.



The plans include Zebra Crossings on three arms of the new roundabout bridge and making Booth Street one way eastbound to accommodate a cycling route and improved walking and cycling facilities around Our Lady's Primary School.

Also there are plans to address the free for all on the area of Castle Street around the Jolly Crofter Public House. There are also a number of schemes being proposed including cycle lanes on Mercian Way, King Street West as well as upgrading the junction of

Bloom/Grenville Street amongst other improvements.

You should have already received a consultation letter. The plans can be viewed at stockport.gov.uk/consultations or you can request a copy of the consultation by contacting 0161 217 6043.

CASTLE STREET DEFIBRILLATOR

The ECA and Cllr Caton were delighted to support Choo and the team at Chilli Massalla as they raised funds for a defibrillator for Castle Street.



Cllr Caton says, "Choo and his team are a credit to the Edgeley community and the ECA and its members wanted to support their fundraising for this much needed facility on Castle Street".





BONAR ESTATE WALKABOUT & SPRINGMOUNT MILL

Cllr Caton recently performed a walkabout around the estate with the Stockport Homes Housing Officer for the area, Paul Spencer.



Issues looked at include misuse of waste and recycling areas, signage and extra CCTV and also the contractor parking situation for residents associated with Springmount Mill and the pressure it is putting on residential areas.

The ECA have booked these in quarterly for residents to join in and we will advertise them regularly.

Anyone experiencing any issues with Springmount Mill can contact Cllr Caton who is in regular contact with the site manager.

Cllr Caton says "I have met with a number of residents affected by the development at Springmount Mill. I will continue to make sure that any issues raised are addressed".

STOCKPORT VIADUCT & NETWORK RAIL

Network Rail have submitted a planning application to perform repair works on our Viaduct.

This follows the guarantee in 2021 of a £1 million investment in to a repair programme, which Cllr Wynne campaigned for. With the new Interchange expected to open by Easter, now is a good a time as ever to get her cleaned up and repaired.



From examining the statements attached to the application, the works will involve:

- *Vegetation removal*
- *Cleaning of drainage gutters*
- *Graffiti removal*
- *Remove spalled material and replace units which are deeply spalled*
- *Core testing and inspection of historic drains.*

EDGELEY CHOSEN FOR CLIMATE CHANGE FUND

Edgeley has been chosen as one of two places in Greater Manchester for a climate change study as part of the

international Resilient Cities Network programme.

This will involve a study of our exposure and resilience to the environment, be that from flooded cellars to how we cope with increased hot weather. We will keep you updated on how it progresses.

CASTLE STREET CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON

We are delighted to report on a successful Christmas Light Switch On event at the top of Castle Street.

Attendances were recorded at several hundred and involved County centre-back Ethan Pye switching on the lights.

Thanks go to all those involved in preparation and helping out on the night. The event really is a testament to what we can achieve as a community. Coming together on a special occasion, working together for the common good.





Making a REAL difference

ALEXANDRA PARK UPDATE

The damaged and broken flags at Alex Park have been replaced by Council contractors.

In the last year the ECA has achieved a refurbished mens, ladies and disabled toilets and work on improving the area around the kiosk.

We have programmed work in to look at the planters and once this is complete we can look at any further works necessary.



ECA PROJECT UPDATE

Edgeley Ward has a number of small budgets allocated to it to spend on a range of projects.

We have listened to residents priorities over the last twelve months and have agreed the following with the council:

1 Road safety scheme on Grenville Street/Bloom Street/Chatham Street –
Virtual speed cushions to reinforce the 20mph zone at key junctions.

2 Oxygen aeration infrastructure for No.3 Reservoir – We need to break this cycle of adverse weather cycles affecting oxygen levels in the water leading to loss of fish. We have allocated money to a device on the reservoir that will sufficiently oxygenate when needed.

3 Hollywood Park play area fencing – We have allocated a budget towards the provision of fencing and gating around the Children's play area on Hollywood Park following discussions with parents.

4 We have asked the Council to consider any remainder budget to be considered for **tree planting or wildflower planting** around Edgeley and Cheadle Heath.

Robinson to see how Brsk could provide additional support for Edgeley's fantastic community groups.



Cllr Caton says "Brsk asked to come to Edgeley having already generously gifted a free high speed internet service at The Rose Walker Community Centre for use by visitors to Friendly Fridays and other community groups"

THE NEW ECA WEBSITE

We've given our website (www.edgeley.community) a refresh with updated details and key information about the area on it.

This is a work in progress and your community website. Please get in touch and let us know what you would like to see on there.

The website also contains information on how to become a member of the Edgeley Community Association. Remember, we donate 30% of all membership fees to local community causes!

COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

On Sat 13th Jan, a team from broadband company BRSK joined the ECA and residents from Edgeley to conduct a litter pick at Hollywood Park.

Following the litter pick, Cllr Caton and Shell Critchley from Brsk met with Community Leader Pam

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