



**STOP THE CLEAN-UP:** Residents from Boyn Valley Road, pictured this summer, have been joined in opposition by Travis Perkins. Ref:103557-2

## Travis Perkins joins opposition

**BOYN HILL:** A prominent business has joined the fight against a recycling facility in Silco Drive.

Options Utility Services has submitted a fresh application for permission to clean up thousands of tonnes of soil at its Boyn Hill site.

Neighbours fought fiercely against the original application in the summer and have now been backed up by neighbouring business Travis Perkins.

In a letter to the council, branch manager Stuart Johnson complained that huge clouds of dust have been engulfing its property and the company has a 'duty of care' to protect staff and customers from the potential risk.

He has been backed by Perkins' senior estate surveyor who said in his letter that 'serious problems' were already created by dust blowing over the yard.

Options began recycling at the site in November and in May formally applied to change part of the yard from storage to a construction waste recycling facility.

But in July the council told the company its operation was 'unauthorised' and 'detrimental'.

It has now reapplied to the council for permission saying the mounds of dirt for recycling will be kept below six metres and measures such as screening used to minimise airborne dust spreading.

# Creche may be axed in cost cutting move

**Maidenhead:** Options for cash-saving could target childcare at Magnet

**A** POPULAR creche for parents using the Magnet Leisure Centre in Maidenhead could be axed as the Royal Borough struggles to balance the books.

The grim news emerged during a meeting of the cabinet in White Waltham on Thursday to discuss the provisional 2010-11 budget.

Members, who debated a raft of possible cuts, said tough decisions have to be made as the council copes with lack of Government cash and other financial pressures in the current climate.

The Tory council said efficiency savings would be needed alongside the council's growth strategies, which would impact on

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everything from social care, transport and libraries to leisure facilities.

The cash-saving proposals include a 'reorganisation of library services' and scrapping the creche at the Magnet.

Growth proposals are listed for park maintenance and environmental services, among others.

The preliminary budget sets the agenda for future budget steering groups and a final deci-

### Speed Read

**BUDGET pressures and lack of Government money has led to cost cuts in the provisional council budget for 2010-11. The council told concerned residents that vital services would not be cut and they would get 'more for less'.**

tion will be taken in February.

A stagnant property market leading to a fall in income from developers' contributions is one reason for the cuts, while rising unemployment and falling interest rates mean there is less money in the council coffers.

The dire situation means job losses at the borough are expected.

The forecast for 2011-12 also looks gloomy with an inevitable loss

in financial support from cash-strapped central government.

During the meeting, Cllr Richard Kellaway (Con, Bisham and Cookham) said savings would be needed but promised vital services would not be slashed.

He also said Royal Borough residents could look forward to getting 'more for less' and did not anticipate having to borrow money to plug the funding gap.

Cllr Liam Maxwell (Con, Eton and Castle) said the council needed to be cautious on spending, and avoid 'white elephant' projects which were of little or no value.

The Government is also calling on local authorities to raise money through the sale of its assets.

Figures show the borough has physical assets, including operational buildings like its town hall, worth £372m.

Although it made £5m from capital receipts in 2008-09, it has not made a single penny from sales so far this tax year, which has been blamed on the poor market conditions.

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## Trust invites the public in

**ROYAL BOROUGH:** The public were invited to attend a meeting at Wexham Park Hospital this week of the beleaguered hospital trust's board of directors.

It is the first board of directors meeting to be open to the public since the establishment of the Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

The trust is engulfed in financial chaos, which led to the inter-

vention of an independent regulator and the resignation of the chairman, Dr Tim Lincoln.

His replacement Chris Langley was keen to hold the meetings in public, starting with Tuesday's.

He said: "I am delighted to be here, all of just over a week in the job."

"I am keen to have these meetings held in public and accessible to

the local population. There are challenges ahead but it is already clear to me we have made a good start on that journey.

He added: "This trust has some financial challenges we need to face. We need to do that while maintaining and even enhancing quality of care to the patients we serve."

In addition to the resignation of Dr Lincoln, four non-executive directors have also resigned - Alf Turner, Vispi Birdi, Martin Tett and a fourth who had not taken up the post yet. The trust is now looking for replacements.

The next meeting on November 24 will be held at Heatherwood Hospital from 2pm.

## Fun during literacy week

**COX GREEN:** Hobgoblins and fairies were a common sight during Literacy Week at Wessex Primary School last week.

Year six children dressed on the theme of A Midsummer Night's Dream and year three children had a theme of Giraffes Can't Dance.

There were visiting poets, story telling, drama workshops and visits to the library.

## 11+ paper replaced amid fears of 'leak'

**ROYAL BOROUGH:** An 'error' has forced education chiefs to replace an 11-plus paper due to be taken by Royal Borough children.

Buckinghamshire County Council has refused to comment on an alleged leak and said it had replaced the test, the first of two, as a precaution.

Pupils in Windsor and Maidenhead do not automatically take the exam but can do so if they wish to go to a grammar school in Buckinghamshire.

The Advertiser was told by a concerned parent last week that a school in the Royal Borough had let children take their completed test home and it had been leaked to other parents.

The Royal Borough declined to comment and County Council refused to say whether this was true or disclose any details of the 'error'.

In a statement, it said: "Following legal advice and to reassure parents, the county council has substituted the question paper of the first test with an equivalent test for those children yet to begin the 11-plus selection process."

## Swim champ visits

**TOWN CENTRE:** Olympic medallist Nick Gillingham will give a swimming masterclass to the Marlins at the Magnet tomorrow (Friday).

The former world, European and Commonwealth breaststroke champion will help young swimmers at the club perfect their stroke.

## Angler, 15, catches the biggest fish

**MAIDENHEAD:** A young fisherman has scooped an award for catching the biggest fish at a holiday activity day for teenagers.

Laurence Doe, 15, of Alwyn Road, caught four fish, including a three-pound carp, at the council-hosted session in White Waltham.

Laurence, who attends Furze Platt Senior School and who also likes to rollerskate at the Magnet Leisure Centre, won a certificate and a £35 voucher, which he will use to buy a fishing rod.

The youngster was presented with the prize for the Royal Borough's activity scheme for 13-to-19-year-olds at the council's art and sports bursary awards on Wednesday last week.

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