



# Ashtead Independents

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## **Enhancement works at Ashtead Pond**

31st October 2013 by Simon Ling

The following is now on the Mole Valley District Council website:

Enhancement works are to begin at Ashtead Pond. The works, which are being undertaken to improve the water quality and appearance of the pond, are due to begin during the last week of October and are expected to last for approximately three weeks.

Specialist contractor Aquamaintain has been appointed by Mole Valley District Council to dredge the pond and introduce wetland plants designed to help filter the water entering it, as well as improving its general appearance and providing a better environment for fish, plants, birds and insects.

There are also plans to manage pollard trees and cut back some of the surrounding vegetation, with some of the work carried out by volunteers led by the Lower Mole Countryside Management Project. The Lower Mole Countryside Management Project has previously worked with volunteers to carry out a variety of improvement projects in the urban fringe around Ashtead, Leatherhead and Bookham.

The enhancement works are being funded by developer contributions which have been set aside to enhance the environment in and around Ashtead. Other improvements are planned once the main works to the pond have been completed, including new seating and litter bins

Those interested in volunteering their time to assist with managing the vegetation around the pond are invited to attend a volunteer day which is planned for 17th November.

Speaking about the importance of enhancement works for Ashtead Pond Cllr James Friend, Portfolio-Holder for the Environment, said:

“Ashtead Pond and its surroundings are used and enjoyed by a wide variety of people every day and the site is an important local landmark. We welcome the opportunity to work with local people to carry out some much needed improvements that will benefit local residents and the wildlife of the area. Mole Valley District Council is committed to preserving the character of our countryside and urban areas. The works at Ashtead Pond are part of this commitment.”

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the project please contact Rod Shaw, Principal Conservation Officer at Mole Valley District Council, by e-mail at [rod.shaw@molevalley.gov.uk](mailto:rod.shaw@molevalley.gov.uk)

## **Ashtead Street Traders Evening**

27th October 2013 by Simon Ling

The Ashtead Street traders will be holding their usual pre-Christmas late shopping evening on Tuesday 12 December. We are pleased to say that the Peace Memorial Hall car park will be free from 2.00 pm that afternoon.

All MVDC car parks will also be free from noon on the three Saturdays before Christmas.