

Shaping the future of **Buckskin & South Ham**

Your Community Newsletter - Edition 11, June 2026

Save the date

Our next Pinkerton Road
Area engagement events
are at St Peter's Church:

- Saturday 4th July:
11am to 2pm
- Thursday 9th July:
5pm to 8pm

See Page 4 for
details.



**A place of
opportunity for all**



**Sovereign
Network
Group**



**Sovereign Hill
Partnership**

Pinkerton Road Area

Keeping you up to date

This work is part of a wider vision to create a place of opportunity for all, shaped by the people who live here.

It's about making everyday life better, with safer streets, better homes, and more opportunities for local people, now and in the future.

Working together

Last month, a group of residents from an area surrounding and including Pinkerton Road met as part of a co-design process to help shape early thinking for proposed changes to some existing homes.

This is part of a series of conversations focused on listening, sharing local knowledge, and exploring what matters most to the people who know the area best.

Alongside this, we've been connecting with others who are part of everyday life in this neighbourhood. This has included working with children from Park View Primary School, as well as speaking directly with Pinkerton Road allotment holders, to make sure their experiences and ideas are also part of the conversation.

Why the Pinkerton Road Area?

The sessions began by setting the scene and explaining why the Pinkerton Road Area was identified as a priority area for potential

redevelopment as investment here could help strengthen the neighbourhood and enhance quality of life for residents. This included a discussion about why it's important to explore how it could better meet local needs in the future.

Importantly, the session was not about fixed plans or decisions. Instead, it was about creating a shared understanding and a strong starting point for collaboration.

Co-design principles - applied locally

Residents reviewed the co-design principles that guide this work, focusing specifically on how they apply to the Pinkerton Road Area. These co-design principles were developed by the Community Co-design Associates in Autumn/Winter 2025 and reflect what residents have told us matters most: fairness, opportunity, strong community connections and a better future for the next generation.

This means working openly, listening carefully, and shaping ideas with residents rather than presenting ready-made solutions. The group then explored local area restrictions, including physical boundaries and surrounding uses, alongside possible opportunities. This helped ground discussions in what's realistic, while still giving residents space to share ideas and local insight.



Exploring themes that matter most

Open space



- How green space is currently used and how it could work better in future
- Exploring ideas for shared green or gardening areas
- Discussing the “Play on the Way” concept and how it could benefit the wider community, particularly given the close connection to Park View Primary School, where we recently held a workshop with pupils to explore how play could be part of everyday journeys.

Accessibility



- Car parking arrangements and potential impacts
- Pedestrian routes and how people move through the area
- The relationship between the local area and the neighbouring allotments, including early conversations with Pinkerton Road allotment holders to understand any concerns and how we keep them informed as ideas develop

Character and design



- How any new homes could feel part of the neighbourhood.
- Do streets feel safe, friendly and overlooked?
- How can buildings support everyday life – walking, stopping, chatting, moving around – rather than the buildings turning their backs on the street?

Alongside people’s homes it’s about designing places for everyday life where people feel connected and meet, play and spend time in outdoor green spaces.

What happens next?

We'll share with you what we're hearing and how local voices are shaping early ideas for redevelopment of the Pinkerton Road Area, ahead of submitting a planning application in Autumn 2026. We'll also gather feedback from the wider community to help us test and develop these ideas further, making sure this work reflects what matters most and creates real opportunities for the future.

Event details

The location for both events is St Peter's Church, Pinkerton Road, Basingstoke RG22 6QP

- **Saturday 4th July: 11am to 2pm**
- **Thursday 9th July: 5pm to 8pm**

Come along and join us to find out more, because the best places are shaped with the people who live there.

Further information on this can be found online at:

www.pinkertonconsultation.commonplace.is/



Homeowners in Buckskin and South Ham

When you speak to people who have lived in Buckskin or South Ham for years - sometimes generations - one thing is clear: The place they call home means more than just the building. It's about protecting what people value, while creating better opportunities for the future.

That's why conversations about the future of these neighbourhoods can bring mixed emotions. Alongside hope for improvement, there can also be uncertainty or worry about what change might mean. We want to reassure residents that every experience is different, and every concern is valid.

Homeowners are a vital part of the community

Buckskin and South Ham are home to a wide mix of people, including homeowners who have invested many years, and made memories, in their homes. There is no "typical" homeowner here, and we are not treating people as one. Homeowners, just like rented tenants and businesses are a key and valued part of the community, and their voices matter.

Listening before decisions

At this early stage, our focus has been on listening and engaging with the community. We want to

understand what residents value, what they'd like to protect, and what would make daily life better, so that any future changes reflect what matters most to the community. This feedback has shaped a set of shared principles, created through engagement and collaboration. We're not bringing fixed plans or pre-written answers, but an open mind and a commitment to clear communication.

Being open about buying conversations

Some homeowners have asked for more clarity about why SNG is buying some private homes, for example within the Pinkerton Road area. These decisions to buy certain homes support our longer-term aims to redevelop and retrofit or refurbish some of the Buckskin and South Ham neighbourhoods. These discussions are never about pressure. They are about transparency - helping people understand why such conversations can arise and what options might exist for the potential sale of their homes.

As regeneration and renewal ideas develop, we'll carefully look at how different parts of the area fit together, and how this will shape our decision making.

Fair value and choice

If buying is discussed, our aim is always to offer a fair market price, reflecting the true value of the home, including any improvements made. How homeowners engage - whether directly with us or through an estate agent - is entirely their choice, and conversations are held at the homeowner's pace and on their terms.

Many of the homes we have purchased have already been refurbished and re-occupied. Following purchase, properties are inspected and works completed to meet SNG's quality and safety standards and are then re-let where possible.



Moving forward together

Over the coming months, we'll keep sharing what we're hearing and how community feedback is shaping our thinking. Because regeneration is about people, the community, businesses and the everyday lives that happen in the places they call home, it isn't solely about buildings.

If you'd like to ask questions, share your thoughts, or stay involved as the conversation continues, we'd really love to hear from you.

Email: yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk

What we're doing in your neighbourhood

The Beacon - a new community space

We're creating a new community space that brings people together, supporting local activities, connections and opportunities for the future.

Work to convert the former Beacon pub into a new community hub is well underway. As with many refurbishment projects, we've come across a few unexpected works along the way. To make sure the building is finished to the right standard and supports its future use, we've invested additional funds to address these.

Progress continues, however these hurdles will mean a small delay to the handover of the building to Westside Community Association in summer now rather than spring. We're really looking forward to seeing the space come back into community use and supporting the activities that will take place there. See page 9 and share your thoughts on what community activities you'd like to see delivered by Westside Community Association.

Share your lived experience of your home

To build on what we've already heard, we'd like to invite all residents in Buckskin and South Ham, including homeowners and tenants, to share their lived experience of their home.

We're keen to understand what day-to-day living is like now, and what could be improved in the future. This includes things like how comfortable your home feels (for example, whether it gets too hot or too cold), your energy costs, how your space and storage work for your household, and any issues such as damp, mould or maintenance.

Your experiences will help shape future improvements in the area and will also contribute to a wider research programme looking at residents' needs.

Come and chat to us in person

We're holding drop-in sessions where you can speak to the team face-to-face. Everyone is welcome, no appointment needed.

**Kings Road Café - 11am to 2pm
Thursday 16th July**

Camrose

Following a second community feedback event in February and input from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, we're finalising the design of the proposed development at Camrose. At the feedback event, local residents shared some helpful views and concerns, including around parking, access, and the types of homes being suggested.

We really value this feedback and are taking time to carefully consider what was raised, including how the plans might be updated to better reflect these suggestions. We're proposing to submit a planning application very soon and once submitted we'll let you know where all the information and design materials can be found on the council's website, should you wish to view or comment on the application.

Ahead of plans to redevelop the site, we'll be carrying out some work to safely remove the existing buildings and structures. These are in very poor condition and need to be taken down to make the area safer for everyone.

The site has also seen a lot of unauthorised access, despite the additional security measures and hoarding around the boundary. This safety work will help reduce risks



and make the area more secure for the local community. We'll contact nearby residents with more information before any demolition work begins and will keep you updated as plans progress.

Boosting Digital Access for Students at The Blue Coat School

We're pleased to be working with our business partner Deloitte, who are donating ten laptops to The Blue Coat School as part of their commitment to social value.

The laptops will help students who may not otherwise have access to digital equipment, making it easier for them to take part in learning, stay connected and build important skills for the future. It's a great example of how partnership working can make a positive difference in our community.

New Community Space coming soon to South Ham in the old Beacon



Since the closure of the previous centre, Westside Community Association has been working with SNG and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to establish a new space for our community to flourish.

We need your input to ensure we are providing the activities and services that matter to you and will make a difference to South Ham.

At our old centre, we used to offer a valued and wide range of services for our community including play sessions for pre-school children, fitness classes, health support groups, cooking classes and much more.

We can't re-open the pub that we know many of you loved, but we can create a vibrant new hub supporting our community and bringing people together.

Please list the top 3 activities and services you would like to see provided within South Ham.

1.

2.

3.

Please return to the Kings Cafe, the Ridgeway Centre or Russell Howard Pavilion





In the spotlight

Local Voices: Resident led group underway

A Resident Led Group (RLG) has now been formed for Buckskin and South Ham, bringing together local residents from a range of backgrounds, ages and neighbourhoods across the two communities.

The group was set up after SNG listened carefully to community feedback, where residents told us they wanted a stronger, more autonomous voice to help shape the future of the area. In response, SHP supported the creation of a group that is resident-led and independent.

Independent, resident led and community focused

The Resident Led Group operates independently and is supported by a facilitator from NewmanFrancis, making sure open, transparent and resident led discussions take place.

Making progress together

The group is already making strong progress. At their latest meeting, members worked together to develop a Terms of Reference, a governing document that sets out:

- the group's purpose
- how it will work and code of conduct
- how decisions will be made
- expectations around independence, fairness and respect

This is an important step, helping to ensure the group and SHP can work together.



Your community notice board

Check out the activities happening locally this autumn. Add the dates to your diary and pop along.

Kings Café

Kings Road, South Ham.



Tuesday to Friday, 9am to 2pm
Great choice of food available from a full breakfast to homemade cakes.

South Ham Seniors:

Mondays 10am to 11.30am

A new social club with a different weekly activity including quizzes, craft, board games and guest speakers. £2 entry – hot drink and biscuits included.

Basingstoke Church

St Peter's (South Ham), Pinkerton Road, RG22 6QP.

After School Café:

Wednesdays (term time)
2.15pm to 4.45pm

After-school play café for primary-aged kids with their families. It's all free, including drinks and snacks.

See you at The Four: 4pm Sundays.

It's church but not as you know it!
An hour of worship, prayer, and community, light snacks and drinks.

Westside Community Pantry

Running from
Kings Café

Tuesday 11am to 1pm

Wednesday 11am to 1pm

The Pantry is a membership scheme aimed at helping people make their money go further. Members will be able to get 12 food items for £5.



Buckskin Foodbank



Buckskin Evangelical Church,
Chiltern Way,
RG22 5BB.

Friday 10.30am to 12.30pm.

As well as food parcel collections, you can also receive support from Citizens Advice every week, and there's an Andover Mind wellbeing drop-in every fortnight.

Ridgeway Community Centre



Blackdown Close,
Buckskin, RG22 5BW.

Eco-food Market Pantry:

Wednesday and Friday
10am to 1pm

12 food items for £5, bring your
own containers and boxes.

0-5 years activities (see our
Facebook page for information).

Youth Club:

Tuesday, 4.45pm to 6.15pm
£2.00 per child.

Parent Toddler Group:

Tuesday 10am to 12pm
£1.50 per child,
(includes refreshment).

Ridgeway Ravers:

Wednesday 10am to 12 noon
Over 55's club, new members
welcome.

Lunch Club:

Thursday 12 noon to 12.30pm
All ages, £6 for dinner and
pudding, tea/coffee.
To book call 01256 470665

Cosy Corner Café:

Monday to Thursday 9am to 2pm.
Friday 9am to 1pm (Great choice
of food available from a full
breakfast to baked potatoes).

Seniors Well-being Walks:

Tuesday, 9.15am (free 45 minute
gentle walk around the local area).

Table Tennis:

Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the
month. 1.30pm to 3.30pm (lively
community sessions - all abilities
welcome and equipment supplied.
£5 per session incl. refreshments).

Buckskin Evangelical Church



Chiltern Way, RG22 5BB.

Refresh Café:

Tuesday (school term-time only),
10am to 12pm. Enjoy friendly
conversation, refreshments,
and free Wi-Fi.

Stepping Stones:

Wednesday, 10am to 11:30am.

A parent and toddler group. Lots of
toys to play with, socialising for both
baby and mum as well as a hot drink
and snack.

Allstarz:

Wednesday, 5.30pm to 6.30pm.

A free club for children to come to,
they get a snack, do crafts and
games and have a story.

Buckskin Food Pantry:

Thursday 11am to 12.30pm. (doors
open at 10am)

A place where people can come and
collect out-of-date food and have a
cuppa and a sweet treat.

Alpha Course:

Thursday, 9:45 to 10:45. Course where
you can explore Christianity and its
answers to some of life's questions.

Coffee Morning:

Thursday, 10.30am to 12:00 noon.
A social space to enjoy a coffee and
some treats.

Stitch and Craft:

Thursday, 8am to 10am.

This is a social group where everyone
brings along the craft they love and
spends time doing it together.

Lunch Plus:

Every other Friday, 11am to 1.30pm.
It begins with coffee and a biscuit,
followed by lunch and pudding.
(Voluntary donation of £3).

St Andrew's Methodist Church



Western Way, South Ham, RG22 6ER.

Mug and Biscuit:

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday
10am to 1.30pm - hot food served
until 1pm.

Mums and Toddlers:

Thursday 10am to 11am, term-time.

Boys' Brigade: Friday evenings

5 to 8 yrs 6.30pm to 7.45pm.

9 years to older 7.45pm to 10pm.

Contact info, email: theresa.strachan@googlemail.com

number: 01256 329616.

Knitting Group:

Wednesday 1pm to 3pm, term-time,
includes shared projects and your
own projects, a chat and a cuppa.



Kempshott Village Hall, Pack Lane,
Basingstoke, RG22 5HN.

Inspero Food Bank,

Community Shop and Fridge:

Inspero Food Bank, Community
Shop and Fridge: Tuesdays
9.30am to 12.30pm

(Open 3 days per week Monday,
Tuesday, and Fridays for emergency
food parcels upon referral).

It provides a range of food, hygiene
items, cleaning products, and pet
food. A small donation is requested.

Contact Inspero for further information:

Phone: 07950 686614

Email: catherine@inspero.org.uk

Website: www.inspero.org.uk

Summer fete

St. Andrew's Trinity Church Hall: Western Way, South Ham, RG22 6ER

Saturday 18 July 2026 from 11.00am to 3.00pm

Children's games, craft stalls, free tombola, refreshments and much
more. Come and join the fun.

If you are a local Crafter, run a small business, or wish to promote your
charity/organisation, you are invited to book a space. To book a table
please email: crafter-standrewstrinity@outlook.com. Or telephone
Barbara on 01256 32619. Table sizes can be 6ft long or smaller tables
which are 3ft long (one table per group).

This is a new community venture for 2026, which we hope will grow
into an annual event. This year there will be no charge for booking a
table in the hall, so any monies taken from sales on the day will be
retained by you.

The Church café, The Mug and Biscuit, will be open on the day from
11.00 – 2.30pm for a variety of refreshments.



**Basingstoke
and Deane**

Help reduce fly-tipping - safer ways to get rid of large items

If you have large household items to get rid of, there are safe and responsible options that can help reduce fly-tipping in our neighbourhoods.

Could your items be re-used?

If they're still in good condition, local charities such as the Community Furniture Project Basingstoke or St Michael's Hospice Furniture Store & Donation Centre (Basingstoke) may be able to collect them, usually in return for a donation. You can also use local social media groups to give items away for free.

If items can't be re-used:

Book a visit to Hampshire County Council's Household Waste and Recycling Centre. If you can't transport items yourself, always use a licensed waste carrier, or book a bulky waste collection through the council (a fee applies, with concessions available for people on low incomes). Choosing one of these options helps keep our streets and green spaces clean and avoids the risk of fines for fly-tipping.

For more information visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bulkywaste

Basingstoke Carnival Dance Club

Basingstoke Carnival Hall,
Council Road, RG21 3DH

Tuesdays 2-4pm (£5 non-members and £4 for members, which includes tea and biscuits)

A social group - to learn: Ballroom, Latin, and Sequence Dance.

For further details Email:
banterharris1968@gmail.com
Phone: 07890 028669

CGHB Surgeries - News from the Patients Participation Group (PPG)

For details of what's on and to get a copy of the latest newsletter visit:

www.cghppg.weebly.com/news
or Email:
cghb.surgeryppg@btinternet.com



We want to hear from other local groups about their forthcoming events, what services they provide, when and where they meet - anything which may be of interest to others.

Use this regular newsletter to publicise your events and provide details of local support that's available. We'd also love to hear your thoughts on this edition and what you'd like to see included in the future. Email: yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk

Find out more

Do you know someone else who would like to receive this community newsletter?

We're using a doorstep distribution company to deliver these newsletters to your home, but you can also view and sign up to receive regular news updates electronically, via our website. You'll also find lots of other information to keep you up to date with what's happening.

Website: shapingthefuture.commonplace.is

Email: yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk

Phone: 0300 5000 926*

*Calls from UK landlines are charged at local rates. Charges from mobile telephones vary. The charge for your call will depend on your mobile phone provider and the contract that you have with them.

Please contact us if you'd like a copy of this information in another language or format. Or visit our highly accessible website:

Polish

Prosimy o kontakt, jeśli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać kopię tych informacji w innym języku lub formie. Są one również dostępne na naszej stronie internetowej.

Portuguese

Entre em contacto conosco se desejar uma cópia destas informações noutro idioma ou formato. Ou visite o nosso website, totalmente acessível.

Nepali

कृपया यदि तपाईं यो जानकारीको प्रतिलिपि अन्य भाषा वा ढाँचामा चाहनुहुन्छ भने हामीलाई सम्पर्क गर्नुहोस् । वा हाम्रो पूर्ण रूपमा पहुँच योग्य वेबसाइटमा जानुहोस्।

Hindi

अगर आप इस जानकारी की कॉपी किसी और भाषा या फॉर्मेट में चाहते हैं तो कृपया हमसे संपर्क करें। या हमारी पूरी तरह से ऐक्सेसिबिल वेबसाइट पर जाएँ।

Urdu

اگر آپ کسی دوسری زبان یا فارمیٹ میں اس معلومات کی کاپی چاہتے ہیں تو براہ کرم ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔ یا ہماری مکمل طور پر قابل رسائی ویب سائٹ پر جائیں۔

Arabic

يُرجى الاتصال بنا إذا كنتم ترغبون في الحصول على نسخة من هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو في تنسيق آخر، أو يمكنكم زيارة موقعنا الإلكتروني بكل سهولة ويسر.

Romanian

Vă rugăm să ne contactați dacă doriți o copie a acestor informații într-o altă limbă sau într-un alt format. Sau vizitați website-ul nostru complet accesibil.



