

# **Twickenham Rediscovered: Connectivity to and use of the River Workshop**

**Wednesday 14 September 2016**

**Lead Facilitator: David Allister, Head of Parks and Open Spaces**

**Chair: Paul Chadwick, Director of Environment**

## **General Points**

Feedback from the sessions will be captured and along with all presentation materials will be published on the Council website. All workshop attendees who leave an email address will be sent a link to the relevant webpage.

Asking a question at a workshop does not preclude anyone asking questions later or in writing.

Not all questions will be able to be addressed in the workshops, but all questions will be captured and the responses will be sent out electronically and available online.

- 1. How does what happens on Twickenham's riverside compare to what happens on Richmond's riverside?**

Richmond has a smaller 'working' riverside than Twickenham. There isn't the same size of boats in Richmond.

- 2. When you mention river uses, one thing that hasn't been mentioned is the paddle boarding club. We are hoping that the club has a space which it could rent once the development is finished. At the moment we are operating from the Twickenham Rowing Club at the moment.**

Noted, thank you.

- 3. Is there anything in particular / improvements that you would like to see? (Question to Helen Montgomery-Smith)**

I would like the existing wharf to have more piles. This would make it safer for boat maneuvers and the tying up of boats. Most other things on the riverside work well.

- 4. I was on my boat today. I went up to Platt's Eyott in Hampton and it has deteriorated. There used to be a lot of activity in this area, but it really needs attention now. Platt's Eyott shows how quickly working riversides can deteriorate and how fragile the related industries are.**

Absolutely - we need to maintain good infrastructure to support the working riverside and make any improvements happen.

**5. What is the position regarding events (e.g. rowing regattas).**

Workshop attendees responded:

There used to be one – the Twickenham Regatta.

We run a children's rowing regatta with 50 children every year and this works perfectly well. We also run a dragon boat racing event on the River.

The Twickenham Yacht Club sail every Wednesday and Sunday in the summer between Eel Pie Island and Marble Hill Park. The Club also runs longer races / events.

**6. I've been watching this side of the River for 50 years. I've seen a number of youngsters visiting the channel to learn, particularly in the summer period.**

Noted, thank you.

**7. You have not mentioned the complaints we've had. For example, we need five piles on this working quayside. Piles were put in by the PLA (Port of London Authority) to protect the expensive brickwork. However, they put them in so badly that they came out within six months. The Council has done nothing about this even though the brickwork has been damaged. My second complaint is that the Council does not consult with boat users. When they wanted to clear up the mud on the Church Street slipway they dumped ballast in the River which was not the correct thing to do. This reduced the depth of the channel. Please can the Council consult with boat users going forward?**

Point made, thank you. This involves a very complex relationship between the Council, Environment Agency and the PLA (Port of London Authority). In this instance the responsibility lies with them. We will commit to consult with boat users going forward.

**For the table discussions this evening, what do we mean by 'the site'?**

The Twickenham Riverside and focus on the area between Wharf Lane and Water Lane. However, for the purposes of the workshop please do not feel restricted to only this area as we realise that there are primary uses taking place in a wider area.

**8. How might the Council look to potentially widen Water Lane? I would like to see the three current shops (Santander, M&Co, Superdrug) turned around by 90 degrees from where they are now to draw more people towards the riverside.**

So far we've heard mixed opinions on whether or not Water Lane should be widened. Some feel that widening might help to create a river vista whilst others are concerned about increased noise and pollution in the area down to the riverside. One alternative

option we have heard tonight is to maintain the width of the road (i.e. a single carriageway) but widen the pavement to draw more people down to the riverside.

**9. In what form will you provide feedback to us?**

As we are currently still analysing and reviewing feedback, we are still developing the form the feedback will take.

**10. All other workshops have taken place in St. Mary's Church Hall. I much prefer this location (The Salon, York House). Please can any future meetings/workshops organised take place in here?**

Noted, thank you.

**11. How many proposals will you present us with in the next phase of the consultation?**

This is still to be determined but potentially three different proposals. .

**12. The paper copies of the consultation questionnaire provided this evening state that the consultation will close on the 13 September – has this date been extended?**

Yes, the consultation period has been extended and is now open until the 16 September.