



Barnes, Mortlake and Barnes Common and East Sheen Community Conversation

Date: Wed 12 Dec

Time: 6.30 – 9.00pm

Venue: Mortlake Scout Group Hall, Alder Rd, London, SW14 8ER

Ward members:

Cllr Bridges -Westcott: Mortlake and Barnes Common - Liberal Democrat Party

Cllr Curran: Mortlake and Barnes Common - Conservative Party

Cllr Avon: Mortlake and Barnes Common - Conservative Party

Cllr Brandreth: Barnes - Conservative Party

Cllr Hodgins: Barnes - Conservative Party (Leader of the Conservative Party)

Cllr Palmer: Barnes - Conservative Party

Cllr Adams: East Sheen - Liberal Democrat Party (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr Joyce: East Sheen - Conservative Party

Local Questions

Headline Topic: Designate Long Walk in Barnes as a shared cycle and pedestrian path	
Question 1	May I ask Richmond Council to consider designating Long Walk in Barnes as a shared cycle and pedestrian path? It would form a link between Putney and Barnes following the railway that would encourage commuters and cyclists moving between Barnes and Putney to come off the roads. Long Walk seems relatively wide and little used by pedestrians so both classes of user would benefit - cyclists from the new route and pedestrians from the safety of higher use would bring.
Response	Cllr Curran: I am aware that there are cyclists who cycle on pathways that they shouldn't – I'm not too sure if Long Walk is a designated shared use cycle pathway. I will investigate this.

Actions to be taken	Check to see if Long Walk pathway is shared use for cyclists and pedestrians.	By whom: Cllr Curran
Headline Topic: Litter from Richmond Park Academy		
Question 2	<p>Can a meaningful conversation be had with Richmond Park Academy (RPA) concerning school children dropping drinks bottles/cans and cake bags in the road as soon as the product has been consumed. Invariably this is in the same part of the road every day. At lunchtime I also seem to get Sam's fried chicken bags left about, this encourages the foxes. We used to have a regular daily road cleaner, but I rarely see him now. There is one litter bin in the road up near the school gates, but of course it's been placed up a cul-de-sac, outside school gates that are not in use.</p> <p>I have also found that the refuse disposal operatives sometimes leave pins strewn across the footway making it difficult for people with prams or wheelchairs to negotiate. When householders put out the rubbish they put them neatly by the wall or in their front gardens. I appreciate that they are now under pressure, but they are dropping the bins down so heavily that they straddle the pavement; obstructing the children's nursery and swimming pool located down our street and becoming a nuisance for any wheelchairs or residents from the local residential care facilities.</p>	
Response	<p>Cllr Joyce: East Sheen I've visited RPA and I've been very impressed with the cleanliness of the area. If Paul Mundy-Castle the Principal was aware of this issue there is no doubt he will deal with this sternly.</p> <p>Cllr Adams: I'm not aware that pupils are allowed out at lunchtime? We shall take this up with Paul.</p>	
Actions to be taken	Follow this up with Paul Mundy-Castle the Principal of RPA	By whom: Cllr Joyce and Cllr Adams
Headline Topic: TfL Bus Route Changes		
Question 3 & 4	<p>Q3: Can the panel clarify what is planned (if anything at all) for the reduction of the bus 209 and subsequent rerouting of the bus 485 as well as provide reassurance that the bus 419 intended to be renamed bus 110 will continue to serve the Castelneau Estate?</p> <p>Q4: I would like to include a protest to plans to drop the 419 bus route between Richmond and Hammersmith via the Castelneau Estate in North Barnes. There is nothing on your web site by way of a formal consultation and there most certainly should be.</p> <p>This estate has many poor and disadvantaged people within the community and is a route that I use regularly to travel from Barnes Bridge to Hammersmith or to Verdun Road on my way to the Castelneau Community Centre where I am a volunteer. The Council has announced in its community newsletter the scheme called Hello Neighbour to encourage people to tackle loneliness and isolation in the borough. The loss of the 419 bus route is going to exacerbate the problem for the elderly and infirm as well as making it difficult for the multiple ethnic groups whose first experience of living in London is in this northern</p>	

	<p>part of the borough. You might take a trip via the bus with your shopping and small children with buggies to realise what a boon the 419 bus is for residence of the estate. Walking from Washington Road bus stop presents a nightmare, having to cross a busy road before you can start to access the estate. It is no easier if you get off at Castelnau.</p> <p>North Barnes is a place where the poorer communities need assistance to integrate with the wealthier parts of the community. I use that bus so that I can see the friends I have made as a volunteer going about their day-to-day business. It is not fair to place burdens on their lives by removing the single bus that serves their area. I hope there will be a surge of support from all in the Barnes area to help people whose voice of protest may go unnoticed.</p> <p>Besides which, many of the wealthier parts of Barnes see this bus to get to Richmond for shopping and theatre. It brings business to the town and takes traffic off the roads so improving the air quality in the borough. I hope to hear the Council representative, The Barnes Community Association and our MP all speaking up for the preservation of this bus route.</p>
Response	<p>Cllr Brandreth: We have reassurance from TfL that there will be no change of route from Barnes, just a change of name. There is a limit in the amount of buses that can use Hammersmith Bridge. Both the Barnes Community Association, Zak Goldsmith and I have emailed TfL and asked for clarification of the 485 and associated routes. We are yet to receive a response.</p> <p>Cllr Palmer: I have been contacted by a lot of residents who are concerned about the 419 – I have an email from council officers that there will be no change on the Castelnau bus route. If this was to change then I would be the first person to campaign to keep this service.</p>
Headline Topic: Traffic Issues around Chalker’s Corner	
Question 5	Given the regular traffic gridlock occurring in the area why is the Council happy to sanction a proposal to widen the local approach to Chalker's Corner which would increase traffic flow for all time through the local roads of Mortlake High Street and the Lower Richmond Road?
Response	Cllr Avon: This is still a planning application, so nothing is certain yet. I believe that it is the wrong solution and not radical enough as it won't solve the problem. Chertsey Court will suffer both with an increase in traffic and pollution. We are no further forward, and the planning application is on-going.
Headline Topic: Traffic Issues around the new school in Mortlake	
Question 6	Given the regular traffic gridlock occurring in the area why would the Council be promoting a major new secondary school on the greenest part of the Stag Brewery site, when it knows that such a school would add hugely to traffic generation to and from the site in the peak time and create yet more serious safety risks at the Sheen Level crossing?
Response	Cllr Avon: It's not a great site for a school but we live in London and there is no more space for schools. There is no other suitable site for a school this side of the borough. The data shows that we need a secondary school.

	<p>Cllr Bridges: We recently had a meeting about this school and the data shows that we need it. The school is still going through planning.</p> <p>Cllr Adams: The figures are not rock solid that the school needs to be a secondary school – new data has emerged and needs to be considered.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts: We are considering the councils new data, which has changed slightly, and we need to be guided by the data. Currently no decision has been made.</p>	
Headline Topic: 20mph on the A205		
Question 7	Given the regular traffic gridlock occurring in the area why is the Council not pushing TfL to introduce a 20mph speed limit on the A205 through the East Sheen shopping centre to improve environmental conditions for shoppers and to reduce signage clutter?	
Response	<p>Cllr Ehmann: I'm happy to discuss with TfL, however they are making a lot of cuts. The TfL consultation is now on-going until 6 January.</p> <p>Cllr Hodgins: The Mayor is setting high development challenges for London Boroughs and TfL are very good at looking at individual areas and not the wider area.</p>	
Actions to be taken	Discuss 20mph through East Sheen with TfL	By whom: Cllr Ehmann
Headline Topic: Proposed Sixth Form		
Question 8	The plans for the large Sixth Form of 250 pupils was designed for Tower Hamlets. Have schools been involved in the discussion about where their pupils are going to go to Sixth Form.	
Response	<p>Cllr Hodgins: Tower Hamlets received sponsorship for the school – Department of Education agreed this as there were no more rounds of funding for a state school. Schools plan for their own Sixth Forms. The intake is to be spread over 2 years, so 125 pupils per year, not 250 straight away.</p> <p>Cllr Joyce: Schools have said that competition is healthy between Sixth Forms.</p>	
Headline Topic: Cromwell School versus Livingstone Academy		
Question 9	Why are Livingstone Academy and not Cromwell School going to be running the Sixth Form? Cromwell Schools have better results than Livingstone Academy's.	
Response	Cllr Hodgins: It is up to the Department of Education not the council. Because there are no free school approvals coming up there is not a path to open this up to other applications. There have been several interested parties for this school. The reality is that it is not up to the council to decide. We do need to hear from Livingstone Academy on what their plans are.	
Headline Topic: Stag Brewery and travel plans		

Question 10	All the plans for Stag Brewery seen so far are set around instigating more traffic. I would like to see from the council more substantial plans to encourage residents to walk and cycle.	
Response	<p>Cllr Bridges -Westcott: The school will have to a travel plan, which should be more under the councils control as it will be a new plan.</p> <p>Resident: The roads are too bad for this – the school is not responsible for the infrastructure. The council need to do more.</p> <p>Cllr Bridges -Westcott: The 20mph limit will help to mitigate this. We will support and encourage people to walk and cycle more.</p> <p>Cllr Ehmann: This relates to a specific planning application; but the challenge exists that there is a set amount of money, though we do need to work more to support active travel and less reliance on the motor car.</p>	
Actions to be Taken	Develop clearer strategies on active travel around large developments	By whom: Cllr Ehmann
Headline Topic: 419 bus routes		
Question 11	419 Bus routes – there is no mention of Hammersmith or Hounslow. The 419 and 110 will be merged, the route will not go to West Middlesex hospital – the consultation did not state this fact clearly (hence the extension) It has been very badly publicised from TfL – can the council promote this more?	
Response	<p>Cllr Brandreth: Other residents have brought this up with me. TfL are cutting services, but we cannot allow the hospital to be cut out of the route. You will still be able to get to the hospital, but it will be a longer route.</p> <p>Cllr Palmer: The 419 will be a vital bus for Lowther School leavers to go to the new Sixth Form on the Stag Brewery site.</p>	
Headline Topic: Coval Road		
Question 12	The left hand turn into the Palmerston Sheen Gate Garden and Observatory Road from Sheen Lane and Christchurch Road has had a huge negative impact on Coval road – pollution, noise, road rage and damage to vehicles. The consultation should have been wider to include the roads that have taken the impact. How is this being monitored?	
Response	Cllr Ehmann: – Palmerston road petitioned for this solution for a long time along with Zak Goldsmith. This is on a temporary basis to see what the effects are. We are monitoring this until next year when we will make a judgement based on the evidence. 50% of the people love it as it eases traffic on their road. We will have to look at the results when the data is in.	
Actions to be Taken	Look at the evidence of the traffic monitoring when the results are in.	By whom: Cllr Ehmann
Headline Topic: Alder Road		
Question 13	Alder Road outside the Mortlake Business Centre is dreadful – it should be made one-way to slow traffic down.	

Response	Cllr Ehmann: We could investigate this, but one-way roads can make traffic go faster.	
Action to be Taken	Cllr Ehmann to speak to resident.	By whom: Cllr Ehmann

20 mph consultation Questions from the floor:

Headline Topic: Air quality and accidents		
Question 1	There is no evidence for air quality reduction and no significant reduction in accidents.	
Response	Cllr Ehmann: Residents health and safety must be prioritised over cars, speed does influence the severity of injuries, and there is evidence that 20mph makes roads safer. Cllr Hodgins: We are having a consultation and will see what the outcome is. Driving from 30mph to 20mph and then back to 30mph etc is confusing for the driver and costly on the signage. It is best to decide on one or the other.	
Headline Topic: How much will this cost the local economy?		
Question 2	How much will this cost the local economy?	
Response	Cllr Ehmann: The project will be paid for by TfL funding from the London Mayor. If we don't spend the money this quarter on the Mayors priorities which are air quality and road safety, then we will have to give it back.	
Headline Topic: Fuel consumption will result in more emissions. It must increase bus times during quieter times.		
Question 3	I support 20mph on residential roads – It is a fact that fuel consumption goes up when you are in lower gears and going slower resulting in more emissions. It must increase bus times during quieter times.	
Response	Cllr Ehmann: Emissions are decreased as there will be less speeding up and slowing down if there is a blanket 20mph. We have had conversations with the bus service providers who are happy with this. If it is a problem we can tweak the road signals.	
Headline Topic: Other London Borough Statistics		
Question 4	Do you have fair comparisons of other London Boroughs – the statistics are saying that there is only 2/3mph difference when putting the speed limit down from 30mph to 20mph. The scheme does not work in Bath.	
Response	Cllr Ehmann: Bath is not a fair comparison as Bath uses zones and not a blanket limit. There are 6 London Boroughs that I have shown the statistics for.	
Headline Topic: Shared space in shopping centres		
Question 5	The worst conditions in relation to accidents is in heavy shared spaces between cars and pedestrians such as shopping centres. There should be a strong stance on this with TfL lowering the speed to 20mph	

Response	Cllr Ehmann: I agree and all TfL roads are going to be 20mph by 2020. Therefore, the main arterial roads could be 20mph and the other roads 30mph!
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