

Teddington, Fulwell and Hampton Hill Community Conversation

Date: Tues 18th June 2019

Time: 6.30 – 9.00pm

Venue: Teddington Baptist Church

Ward members in attendance:

Cllr Richard Baker (Teddington ward)

Cllr Martin Elengorn (Teddington ward) Chair of the Environment, Sustainability, Culture and Sports Services Committee

Cllr Tim Woodcock (Teddington ward)

Cllr. Monica Saunders (Fulwell and Hampton Hill)

Cllr. Jonathan Cardy (Fulwell and Hampton Hill) Chair of the Planning Committee

Cllr. Matthew Hull (Fulwell and Hampton Hill)

Chair:

Fr Azariah France-Williams

Additional councillors in the room

Cllr. Gareth Roberts – (Hampton ward) Leader of the Council

Cllr. Jim Millard– (Hampton Wick ward) Tenants champion

Cllr. Robin Brown – (Hampton Wick) Finance and Resources Lead Member

Cllr. Richard Bennett – (South Twickenham Ward) Green party leader

Achievements and Actions in the Wards	
Cllr. Elengorn	Introduced new and extended conservation areas in both wards – Victorian and Edwardian buildings Church Rd and Broad St – helps resist unsuitable advertising signs, protects period properties. Tree conservation – tree preservation orders, oak, Black Mulberry Sycamore and Ash protected.
Cllr Brown	Elleray Hall - working with trustees on the future of the building, feasibility study carried out to identify costs of rebuild/move to different site. North Lane East car park site. Officers reviewing at the moment, review of car parking space alongside this. Early July decision could be made on option for the site.

Cllr. Woodcock	For Elleray Hall it will be an estimated budget as a result of moving to car park site, but will still require public consultation before any changes can be made
Cllr Saunders	Air quality plan reviewed – to be published soon. Road safety issues around Burtons Rd and outside Stanley School. Social prescribing and isolation – Sheddington project for Teddington – recycling, repairing encouraging socialising of older residents.
Cllr Hull	Had the CCTV camera on Hampton Hill High St repaired, sorted out fly tipping on Stanley and Princes Rd, when the Council is mowing encourage contractors to remove rubbish before mowing. For Beech House in the Hampton Hill High Street, negotiated for smoking area in appropriate place.
Cllr. Cardy	Monkey puzzle trees on Stanley Rd now have a tree preservation order, Laurel Rd – tree planting taken place. St Marys and St Peters schools not closing during polling day. 6 schools that previously closed during polling, did not close, including Hampton Hill Juniors. Parents were pleased that the schools did not close.
Pre-submitted Questions	
Headline topic – Support for refugees (John Latham)	
Question 1.	Each London Borough has a commitment to house, support and help an agreed number of refugees. Please can we be told how the Borough is helping refugees, how many? How does the Richmond Refugee Committee work? How can we, in our local community, support the Borough's refugees committee?
Response	Cllr Saunders: Supporting 5 families via Syrian Relocation Scheme resettlement team with a support worker, in depth support to the families. Refugee week this week, Government committed to voluntary person resettlement scheme until 2020. Refugees Welcome in Richmond on Facebook, 'Citizens UK' show resettlement figures in the Borough. Community Sponsorship Scheme run by St Michaels in Fulwell.
Headline topic – Hampton Hill High Street pavement maintenance (Elizabeth Newton)	
Question 2.	I would like to ask, after having months of disruption putting down new pavements in Hampton Hill which looked splendid for a few weeks now looks awful, everything shows up & marking because of the light colour.... dropped drink, food etc. How & when is the council going to get & keep clean this new paving.
Response	Cllr Cardy: TfL funded block paving, but no follow up budget to maintain it. Invested to remove chewing gum but machine also removed surface of stone work.
Supplementary question	When pavement first put down, snagging promised to smooth paving
Action	Cllr. Cardy: send snagging details of the paving and will follow up with officers

Headline topic – overhanging bushes on the pavement (Sandra Green)	
Question 3.	<p>As a regular walker in my neighbourhood it is incredible how many house-holds do not cut their hedge back to the edge of their property where it abuts the pavement. (Some do not cut back their hedges at all!) Some of those that do cut their hedges, do not cut them back to their boundary!</p> <p>It may seem a trivial matter, however, ‘overhanging hedges or over grown hedges’ makes walking along many residential roads, hazardous! It can be difficult to pass a fellow walker and extremely difficult to pass people with any form of baby transport. In fact, sometimes one has to walk in the road to pass people! In addition, you run the risk of brushing past a branch and it is catching your clothes or even hitting you!</p> <p>With pavement and road runners greatly on the increase in this borough the problem of over grown and over hanging hedges is a ‘growing problem’!</p>
Response	Cllr. Elengorn: particularly difficult for blind people. Report online, then residents have 14 days to act or then council deal with it.
Supplementary question	So many streets in this position. Letter to be issued to all residents to remind them of their responsibility. Especially as we are encouraging residents to walk.
Headline topic – Teddington Station footbridge (Charles Titcombe)	
Question 4.	In spite of recent maintenance, the condition of the southern footbridge at Teddington Station has deteriorated and the non-slip tread nosings are now a serious trip hazard. Would Ward Councillors update Teddington residents on the action being taken to ensure that Network Rail discharge their responsibility to improve the safety and accessibility of the southern footbridge crossing the railway?
Response	Cllr. Baker: perennial problem, railway bridge owned by Network Rail, but the Council and residents have constantly pursued Network Rail to develop and improve the bridge. Council has agreed to take on some of the maintenance for health and safety reasons.
Supplementary question	Who will pay for work, as Network Rail will not deal with a project under £100,000. (This is nonsense so I answered a different question)
Response	Cllr. Elengorn: lifts to be installed once small portion of former nursery land is purchased, may be a compulsory purchase if necessary. 2020 lifts will be installed in Teddington Station
Headline topic – Road Safety	
Question 5	In spite of the extension of yellow lines at the junction of Avenue Road with Clarence Road, visibility still remains obscured in Clarence Road and further extension of the double yellow lines is necessary. Also, further work at the junction of Avenue Road with Park Road needs to be carried out to ensure that road users exiting Avenue Road onto Park Road towards Teddington can see

	oncoming traffic. Currently parked cars on Park Road obstruct the visibility of oncoming traffic. Will ward councillors address these matters urgently as they are extremely dangerous and prevent the possibility of serious accident.
Response	Cllr. Baker: Clarence Rd and Park Rd had road layout change so easier to get out of Clarence Rd. No accidents since that time. Suggest a petition to the officers. Clarence Rd and Park Rd/Avenue Rd junction
Supplementary question	Cllr Buckwell did visit Avenue Rd and Council officers did get roads doubled yellow lined on Clarence Rd, but the other end was never finished. There is excessive parking for Bushy park on Park rd. where there are no double lines.
Action	Cllr. Baker to follow up outstanding double yellow double line painting
Headline topic – Road Safety (Matt Oliver)	
Question 6.	I'm concerned about the zebra crossing on Stanley road near Princes road shops. I regularly use it when taking my 18-month daughter out in her buggy. Despite my innate wariness of other road users, we have been involved in many instances where cars have failed to stop, or only stopped at the last minute. It is more of an issue with cars coming from the Stanley school direction I strongly suspect that the position of parking spaces (and the frequent illegal parking of large vans and lorries outside the carpet shop/ opposite the minimart) contribute to this safety issue Please discuss urgently reviewing the location of parking spaces, and in the very least adding this to the daily route of your traffic wardens!
Response	Cllr. Hull: a number of residents have spoken about the problem, but the enforcement team do regularly patrol this area. The 20mph is being implemented which should alleviate the problem
Headline Topic: Number of restaurants in Teddington (Barry Rideout)	
Question 7.	I should like to raise the issue of the number of establishments serving food etc in the area from the River to Teddington Green. I attach a list I prepared in March to oppose the Planning Application in respect of the Former HSBC Building at 42 High Street submitted 15/2/19. It would be good to get rid of this eye sore of a building but not to yet another food/ drinks outlet.
Response	Cllr. Woodcock: Developers have made an application for restaurant use, which will not fail on the basis of loss of A1; retail as previously A2 financial services Resident: Development at HSBC potentially a 70 seater restaurant proposed, instead of retail or office. All people visiting the site will need parking. Parking has reached saturation point. Pub deliveries nearby are also very frequent. Cllr. Woodcock: If you have not already done so you could object on the grounds of the size of the building.

	<p>Cllr. Elengorn</p> <p>Planning applications are decided on the basis of Local Plan policies. : Council currently starting the process of reviewing Local Plan policies.</p> <p>Cllr. Baker: with new developments, retail is struggling to survive. Work with Teddington Together – tough to survive, competition is tough. High streets are becoming food outlets, Teddington is typical of this.</p> <p>Cllr. Elengorn: Bed City site was refused change of use to restaurant, from retail. The developer now has to prove marketing for retail has been unsuccessful</p>
Headline Topic: Environmental protection (Terry Anne Scoble)	
Question 8	<p>'Garden Environment and Green Spaces'</p> <p>How soon before we see plastic trees? I'm worried about the increase of plastic lawns & plastic hedges I've seen locally. (They are apparently allowed because they are permeable and tidy). The opposite of tidy isn't untidy, it's 'natural'.</p> <p>The UK is ashamedly and shockingly low on the list for nature conservation, with meadows down to 3% and according to the RSPB, Britain has lost 40 million birds in the last 50 years and 56% of wildlife species in the U.K. are in decline. We can all help, by mowing less and ceasing use of harmful sprays.</p> <p>I urge the council to advise and help local communities to plant native hedgerows, so much better than a fence. To not use Weed killers slug pellets or insecticides. It could help hedgehogs, bumblebees, blackbirds, frogs, butterflies, bats, hover flies, wrens & much more whilst soaking up CO2! Will the council please help protect garden environments and not ignore the decimation that is happening. I urge, that particularly at planning stage, as much care goes into the conservation at the rear of properties, as is presently applied to the facade.</p> <p>Please help to restore nature, to raise awareness by sharing info about the importance of biodiversity, to save our wildlife, especially  bees.</p>
Response	<p>Cllr. Elengorn: not everything requires planning permission, grass replaced by plastic grass does not require planning. Biodiversity plan launched. Idea of a competition for those that restore hard surface front garden to soft garden. It is both a drainage and nature problem, but if it drains within the curtilage residents do not need permission to hard surface front gardens.</p>

	<p>Cllr. Saunders: Local Plan another route into planning. Climate change and loss of diversity. Chris Packham – People's Manifesto for wildlife, but at present legislation is not in place to stop these activities.</p> <p>Cllr. Cardy: Planning Committee did go against officer recommendations on a crossover on Church Rd for a turntable for a car. Vegetation around Wickes, permeable surfaces and soft landscaping on business premises often made a requirement by the Planning Committee.</p> <p>Resident: RHS have garden plans for different budgets.</p>
Headline Topic: Rise in Leisure facility prices (Jean Jacob)	
Question 9	<p>During the past few years, The Richmond Back Pain Group has faced increases in the charges for the use of the hydrotherapy pool beyond the level of inflation. We have been forced to raise our charges substantially in order to cover our costs.</p> <p>The group aims to provide a social service and members are mainly elderly.</p> <p>Can councillors offer any reassurance about future charges?</p>
Response	<p>Cllr. Brown: current budget 5% increase in charges in sports centres fees.</p>
Supplementary question	<p>Richmond back pain group has 100 members, getting older, offer 2 services hydrotherapy exercises with physio, and a version of pilates for older people. Very much appreciated and important for people's lives.</p>

Open Questions	
Headline topic – Hampton Hill High St – shop development	
Question 1	Closed shops in Hampton Hill High St, the old Fara charity shop and grocers. Talk of M and S simply food site moving in.
Response	<p>Cllr. Cardy: In 2017 the Planning Committee decided that the delivery arrangements were a problem to this site as it is so close to the traffic lights. M and S refuted. Current development rumoured to be held up due to Brexit nervousness. The Landlord got planning permission to build one unit and flats above. So it is now in the developer's hands.</p>
Headline topic- Speeding on Sandy Lane by motorbikes	

Question 2	Home overlooks Sandy Lane, motorbikes 30mph speed camera and then accelerate after camera.
Response	<p>Cllr. Baker: average speed camera may be preferable. Have you spoken to the Police?</p> <p>Cllr. Elengorn: Police Liaison Group possibly</p> <p>Cllr. Baker: 20mph will be introduced.</p>
Headline Topic – refuse from the refuse collections	
Question 3.	Trail of litter that follow the bin men after recycling collection. Community Service pick up the litter? What do people on community Service do?
Response	<p>Cllr. Elengorn: one off schemes for community service, but cannot do all year round council services. Council looking at new waste and recycling contract from Mar 2020, so bring forward complaints.</p> <p>Cllr. Cardy: the Probation Service clears the alley way from Wellington Rd to Burtons Rd, alongside the golf course.</p>
Headline Topic – Safer cycling	
Question 4.	Cycle lanes painted on the side of the road do little to help cyclists. Are there plans to create safer cycling lanes eg Kingston Hill?
Response	<p>Cllr. Elengorn: we do not have wide roads in the Borough, so limited space for cycle lanes. Cross Deep cycle lane successful, but loss of parking for local residents.</p> <p>Cllr. Saunders: active travel advisory group -walking and cycling. Identifying specific roads where safe to introduce cycle lanes. Low traffic neighbourhoods, safer routes to school plans in place. Transport committee will take on proposals from the advisory group.</p> <p>Cllr. Cardy: Shacklegate Lane by the cemetery – conflict of no cycling v speed restriction. Compromised with 5mph cycling through the cemetery.</p>
Headline Topic – 481 Bus service	
Question 5.	481 bus, 2 per hour, good driving, but bus punctuality is very erratic and I need it for hospital appointments and leisure. Need for Connection of 481 to buses to Hampton Court on Sundays.
Response	Cllr. Elengorn: long circuitous route leads to timetabling problems. Could travel to Hampton Court via R68 at Teddington. TFL not in position to put on more services. App. on mobile phone to advise of timings.

Headline topic – Thames Water outage	
Question 6.	Water outrage recently – Thames Water criticism failure to communicate widely for temporary water supply. Council accept has responsibility for utilities. Council website did report well. Useful to have meetings during the day to invite utility companies
Response	Cllr. Elengorn: difficult to deal with Thames Water. Scrutiny committee already questioned them over Christmas outage, especially around communications to residents. Will follow up.
Headline Topic – Wickes site development	
Question 7.	Update on Wickes site/ Lidl site?
response	<p>Cllr. Cardy: planning application has been submitted</p> <p>Cllr. Saunders: local councillors involved in talking to residents and local business and South and West Twickenham councillors are also involved.</p> <p>Cllr. Cardy: tree preservation order implemented</p> <p>Cllr. Hull: asked residents to email councillor re: the site, resulted in concerns about traffic, air quality, not like Lidl in Chessington, some supportive. Good to have budget supermarket with late opening. No loss of trees or landscapes. Worried for small shops in Stanley Rd and Hampton Rd. Turing House School site? (The planning application is only for the change of opening hours)</p> <p>Cycle Lanes – issues with cyclist speeding, in Teddington and Waldegrave Rd</p>
Headline Topic- Dog waste	
Question 8.	<p>Teddington Society (Environment group) in reference to mess after bin men collection. Foxes get into boxes, but also bin men do drop a lot of rubbish.</p> <p>Dog owners clear up after dogs, but then deposit dog waste bags on roads, lamp posts, or people's gardens. Can fouling fine apply to waste bags being dumped.</p>
Response	Cllr. Elengorn; dog fouling has improved. Look at fines on waste bags.

Headline Topic – Cycle danger on Waldegrave Rd	
Question 9.	Cyclist on main route to Twickenham along Waldegrave Rd is dangerous, because of car speeds. Forced onto the pavement often. What does the Council plan to do for cyclist on these faster routes – Staines Rd, Stanley Rd etc.
Response	<p>Cllr. Baker: prepared to look at cycle lanes in particular roads. But number of roads just not wide enough.</p> <p>Resident: shared pavement /cyclist pavement?</p> <p>Cllr. Baker: does not really work</p> <p>Cllr. Saunders: Richmond Cycling Campaign worth contacting. The Active Travel Advisory Group also could help, but TFL allocation is greatly reduced for this, so need to prioritise. TFL are moving bus services out of London and Hammersmith Bridge issue key concerns at present.</p>
Headline Topic – Street Gully clearance	
Question 10.	Heavy rain, surface water, LBRUT used to clear out road gullies. Can Continental Landscape clear out gullies?
Response	Cllr. Elengorn: In 2008 Task Group reviewed gully cleaning, inefficient to clean all the Borough, instead concentrate on streets where there is a problem. Competing for Thames water money who wish to reduce water going into sewers.
Headline Topic – Cross Rail	
Question 11.	Are we getting cross rail?
Response	Cllr. Baker: still not certainty!
Headline Topic – Weedkiller option	
Question 12.	Choice to not have weed killer on front verges from Council?
Response	<p>Cllr. Elengorn: using hot foam instead of chemical weed killers, is a possibility. Many residents want the weed killing service.</p> <p>Resident: need for education of residents on caring for overhanging bushes, no weed killer.</p> <p>Cllr. Elengorn: we are responsible for pavement maintenance.</p>
Headline Topic – Restricted parking in Church Rd, Teddington	

Question 13.	Residents parking in Church Rd, Teddington issues.
Response	Cllr. Elengorn: parking service reviewing CPZ and controlled parking zones in Teddington Cllr. Baker: All of Teddington to be reviewed Cllr. Cardy: Current CPZ poll counting votes in favour or against of those that actually vote. No longer absenteeism counted as 'no'.
Headline Topic – Ward Budgets	
Statement	Cllr Elengorn: budgets for each ward, inviting ideas from residents Cllr. Baker: replacing some of the community funding that exists, members currently working through how people will be accountable, practicalities and principles to be finalised.
Headline Topic – Clean Air Day	
Statement	Cllr. Saunders: Thursday Clean Air Day outside Richmond Station there will be a display. You can pledge to reduce poor air quality.