

Community Conversation Minutes

Wards: West Twickenham and South Twickenham

Date: Tues 15th Oct

Time: 6.30 – 9.00pm

Venue: Waldegrave School, Twickenham

Ward members:

Cllr. Piers Allen (West Twickenham) *Chair of the Adult Social Services, Health and Housing Services Committee*

Cllr. Alan Juriansz (West Twickenham) *Vice-chair, Policy and Performance Review Board*

Cllr. Helen Lee-Parsons (West Twickenham) *Chair of the Regulatory Committee*

Cllr. Richard Bennett (South Twickenham) *Leader of the Opposition Minority Group and Green Party Group*

Cllr. Michael Butlin (South Twickenham) *Armed Forces Champion*

Cllr. Katie Mansfield (South Twickenham) *Vice-chair, Transport and Air Quality Service committee*

Chair: Elizabeth Tongue, Head of Waldegrave School

1. Introduction of panel and guidance on the format of the Community Conversation by the Chair

2. Review of achievements in South and West Twickenham Wards	
<p>South Twickenham Ward: Cllr Mansfield</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPZ South Twickenham and Strawberry Hill has now been implemented • Albany Pub road improvements final design being considered, funding made available • St Mary’s Uni and Strawberry Hill House – monitoring licensing implementation and following up noise nuisance • Greggs bakery development monitoring proposals for that site • 20 mph implementation / working on roads that have been excluded • New pathway between Twickenham Station walking and cycling path. Cycling hangers to be implemented

<p>West Twickenham Ward: Cllr Juriansz</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPZ to be considered for the Cross Roads area, due to West Twickenham and Strawberry Hill CPZ has squashed the parking area in between. The parking improvements are currently at design stage and should be implemented within the next few months • Twickenham BID – raise money to make improvements for Twickenham businesses. New agreement for the BID has been approved.
<p>Cllr Allen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incursion of travellers on Kneller Gardens - Council acted quickly through Parks and Police to move the group on within 48 hours • Desire to develop pavilion at Kneller Gardens, planning application is being prepared for changing rooms/community room • 20mph – signage going up. A305 Staines Rd update advertised to make Heath Rd to Twickenham Green 20mph as large amount of school population at this point. There will be two further consultations on Staines Rd to improve cycling provision. • The Apex corner to Sixth Cross Rd requires further safety measures, therefore traffic calming measures are being considered. Also need to liaise with TFL re: possibility of traffic lights on the Apex roundabout. • This Saturday there is the Climate Change summit, and students are due to attend the youth summit tomorrow. This is to support the ongoing Climate Change and Air Quality consultation ending on the 24th October.
<p>Cllr Lee Parsons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Police are at Squires Garden Centre every Weds, for ‘Cuppa with a Copper’ a drop-in contact session. The Police Liaison Group meets on a Tuesday at Waldegrave School for the West Twickenham ward and encourages/supports neighbourhood watch groups. • Sixth Cross Road communal recycling site move to South Rd as a more convenient spot. Need to make the most of communal recycling points. • Improvements in pavement. Fielding Avenue work to start on pavements in November
<p>Cllr Allen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part of improvement of pavilion in Kneller Hall to serve as a potential base for Neighbourhood Police Team within West Ward.

<p>Open Questions from the floor</p>	
<p>Headline Topic – Details Cuppa with a Copper</p>	
<p>Question 1</p>	<p>Would like to have more information on the ‘Cuppa with A Copper’ sessions</p>

Response	https://www.met.police.uk/a/your-area/met/richmond-upon-thames/west-twickenham/?introducingyoursaferneighbourhoodsteam=meetingandevents Gives the full details of all future events.
Headline Topic	Twickenham Green – grass reseeding
Question 2	Need for protection of grass and more protected implementation of seeding
Response	<p>Cllr Butlin: Part of the Green could be fenced off to allow for seeding to get established, move fenced off area slowly around the Green to allow grass to become established.</p> <p>Cllr Bennett: The Green has become compacted, and weeds have taken over. The cricket green is in very poor condition. Around Arthur’s quite good as Arthur’s contributed to seeding. After seeding then we have events, which undermines the seeding. Too intensively used to allow grass to recover.</p>
Supplementary Question	Would it be possible to have systemic scheduling of events and seeding to avoid this situation
Response	<p>Cllr Butlin: The Green is a facility for local people, we cannot get rid of all the events, but we do need to take care of what people want to do with the Green. Possibility of generating some income to protect the cricket ground eg cricket club crowdfund for seeding and drainage/watering of grounds.</p> <p>Cllr Mansfield: what would you like councillors to do?</p> <p>Resident: The seeding is then followed by number of heavy vehicles using the Green. There is a need to schedule seeding to allow for the full effect, without the immediate impact of events. Event holders would be made aware of when events can be held around the seeding.</p> <p>Cllr. Bennett: The Council Events Team need to communicate with the Parks maintenance side.</p> <p>Cllr Jurianz: Walked around the Green with cricket club and Friends of Twickenham Green reviewing the condition of the Green. (Will not be having Christmas event on the Green this year.)</p> <p>Resident: Possibly plant more robust strain of grass for cricket outfield?</p>
Headline topic:	Possibility of traffic lights at Apex Corner
Question 3	There is a backlog of traffic to McDonalds which blocks the traffic. Would it be possible to have a left turn lane to McDonalds and also to the David Llyod Club to avoid congestion at this junction.
Response	Cllr Allen: I would encourage any road improvements to this junction.
Headline topic	Electric charging points
Question 4	Resident from the Fulwell Rd area. Are there any plans for electric charging in lampposts in the area?

Response	Cllr Mansfield: The Council is now rolling out electric charging points in the borough and encourages residents to identify good locations.
Headline Topic: Traffic calming measures in Staines Rd to Apex Corner	
Question 5	Would that mean speed humps? What is the point of spending money on further speed controls?
Response	Cllr Allen: The purpose of the study and consultation is to see what improvements could be implemented. Cllr Mansfield: When reviewing the objections to the 20mph the Council took into consideration some of the roads that residents wanted excluded from the 20mph, thereby lowering the number of objections.
Headline topic: road safety	
Question 6	Some places in the Borough have 20mph where it defies logic. For instance, on Sandy Lane, Teddington to Kingston, signage is very small and I tried to observe the limit but lorries/car behind pushed me to go back to 30mph. 20mph is not well observed in Twickenham town centre, would have been better to spend on enforcement of current zones.
Response	Cllr Butlin: It is true that drivers are impatient. Requested additional signage to show entering into 20mph area. In Kingston variable speeds are very difficult to observe Cllr Bennett: Introduced rather quickly, now need a period of re-adjustment. The consultation question was in relation to putting in 20mph across the whole Borough. Cheaper to implement across the whole borough. Cllr Mansfield: The police have a duty to enforce. Areas go live when areas have signage clearly revealed. There is clear evidence of the lesser impact of accidents at slower speeds. Gradually need to change behaviour. It will create a better place in the longer term. Cllr Juriansz: There will be a community roadwatch scheme for residents to monitor traffic speed. Resident: (Fulwell Park Avenue resident) Safety of children is key and observed drug drop offs, cars loitering in the area, motorbikes also dropping off. Cllr Lee Parsons: At the Police Liaison Group West Twickenham, able to report these incidences directly. Cllr Butlin: PLG is the ideal place to report incidences, which then helps to set up the parameters of local policing in terms of their priorities. Elinor Firth: It would be possible to include these dates in the Council newsletter. Cllr. Mansfield: 27 th Nov Salvation Army Hall – South Twickenham
Action: Cllr. Lee-Parsons	Let residents know dates of police meetings – Cuppa with a Copper and Police Liaison Groups, via Community News.

Headline topic: Air Pollution and 20mph implmentation	
Question 7	Is the air quality going to be monitored after the 20mph implementation?
Response	<p>Cllr Mansfield: Acceleration/deceleration of cars has a greater impact. More consistent speed should result in less emissions</p> <p>Cllr Butlin: And less fuel consumption</p> <p>Resident: But low gears consume more fuel.</p> <p>Cllr Bennet: Hopefully, there will be more measuring of the particulates, although expensive equipment.</p> <p>Cllr Juriansz: There is an Anti-idling Policy throughout the Borough, further enforced by additional traffic wardens.</p> <p>Cllr Mansfield: There is enforcement rights to switch engines off, or else face a £60 fine on the spot</p> <p>Cllr Butlin: Anti-idling signage has been implemented at Strawberry Hill station level crossing</p> <p>Resident: Would like to congratulate Council on the introduction of 20mph.</p>
Headline topic: Traffic strategy for the whole Borough	
Question 8	Is there a plan for an overall traffic strategy for the Borough?
Response	<p>Cllr. Butlin: Main strategy to get residents out of cars-to cycle and walk</p> <p>Cllr Mansfield: The CPZ implementation has been patchy and that is why there is a consultation going to take place to consider the wider application of parking controls in the area. One of the main strategies for transport is the active travel plan coming out for the whole borough, as well as the current air quality action plan/climate change strategy under consultation.</p> <p>Cllr Bennett: With the climate change consultation we aspire to be the greenest borough.</p>
Headline topic: Traffic in Teddington	
Question 9	The passing of buses is restricted because of parked cars eg Broad St Teddington. The air quality must be impacted with the traffic jam. The Council need to look at where buses can't pass each other
Response	<p>Cllr Bennett: Stanley Rd and Hampton Hill buses are also having issues, modern cars are also wider in parking bays.</p> <p>Cllr Butlin: Buses no longer pull over, buses tend to stay in the line of traffic</p> <p>Residents: Where parking is positioned often causes the problem. There is a need to remove one space to allow for busses.</p>
Headline topic: Congested Roads from parking on both sides	
Question 10	There is parking on both sides of my road (Appleby Close), on the pavement on one side, and access for emergency vehicles is problematic. What is the right channel to go through to notify the Council of this problem?

Response	Cllr Allen: Now that the consultation is going to the design stage for the CPZ for the 2 nd – 5 th Cross Rd area, emergency services and disability reports will form part of the design. Cllr Mansfield: You can email councillors as well to notify them of the situation.
Headline topic: Cycling and traffic	
Question 11	Cycling near M&S in Heath Rd, cycle lane becomes cut off. The cycle lanes are inconsistent
Response	Cllr Mansfield: I Would like to see this changed. Active travel plan will address these issues.
Headline topic: Crane Community Centre management	
Question 12	Cllr Allen: Possibility of managing Crane Community Centre by LAERA (Lincoln Avenue Estate Resident Association). The Council would like the community to run the hall, but further support is needed for LAERA.
Response	Chair of LAERA: LAERA has been running for 40 years and took over the running of the community centre. They ran groups for the elderly and young families. LAERA has reformed and is currently trying to raise its profile. They ran the big community picnic in July to promote the area. But to take on the community centre is a big commitment, and the association would like to encourage local residents to get more involved.
Headline topic: Newsletter	
Question 13	In what way do the Council distribute news?
Response	Ellie: The Communications Team produce an e-newsletter every Thursday. There is news through the community noticeboards and the Council has a presence on Nextdoor/Social Media.
Headline topic: Ward Budgets	
Statement	Cllr Butlins: Around £10,000 for each ward budget to help the ward develop based on the residents wishes for that ward eg playground or tidy up an open area. Decisions around spending could be repeated where necessary to sustain a project.
	Cllr Juriansz: The idea came from the manifesto to spread community funding wider across the borough to complement Community Fund and Civic Pride. Ward Budgets give a wider spread across all the wards equally, and could be used for anything from park benches, security lighting or a contribution to something larger.
Question	Resident: Who makes the decision on how the ward budget is spent?
Response	Cllr Juriansz: The Ward Councillors will make the final decision.
Headline topic: Crossing improvements on Meadway	
Question	Across the Meadway at Kneller Garden there is a need for a formal pedestrian crossing at this point.

Response	Cllr Allen: Looked at what could go there, but vehicles need to access gardens so crossing can't be put there. Need more markings on the existing raised table.
Further point on ward budgets	The £10,000 fund will come out of the Community Fund and Civic Pride Fund, it is not additional money Cllr Allen: NCIL money was previously spent on Twickenham Green cricket refurbishment, Radnor Gardens on the café awning, Brunswick Club outdoor play are resurfaced. Civic Pride has been used for Strawberry Hill Trust Lost Treasures exhibition for Strawberry Hill House and the Eel Pie Island Museum audio visual exhibition.