

## North and South Richmond Community Conversation

### Ward/s: North and South Richmond

Date: Thursday 10 October 2019

Time: 6.30 – 9.00pm

Venue: RHACC, Parkshot. TW9 2RE

### Ward members:

#### North Richmond

- Cllr Nancy Baldwin
- Cllr Richard Pyne (Non-Attendance)
- Cllr Richard Warren

#### South Richmond

- Cllr Peter Buckwell
- Cllr Pamela Fleming
- Cllr Bill Newton Dunn

CHAIR: The Chair for this event is Professor Andrew George

### Agenda Item One: Achievements

Headline Topic: Ward Achievements	
North Richmond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Last year residents asked if we could expand recycling, which has happened across both Wards. An additional 500 flats including 236 flats at Courtlands are taking part in the council's food recycling trial.</li><li>• We have increased Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators.</li><li>• We have improved communication between residents, the council and businesses.</li><li>• 400 signatures obtained asking TfL to restore Sheen Lane bus shelter was successful</li><li>• Richmond's Planning Department denied the Homebase site, which has now been called in by the Mayor of London</li><li>• Raleigh Road Rec and Tangier Green / Windham Road Rec now has signage and the Council has a consultation out for disability play equipment at Raleigh Road Rec</li></ul>

<p><b>South Richmond</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regarding the number of robberies, particularly of teenagers, we helped Mothers against Mugging with a petition and a meeting was held at the council as well as a very well attended meeting with senior police officers. We continue to press for a dedicated police team for Richmond Town Centre.</li> <li>• We have been working with partners and the police on Vineyard Passage regarding drug issues</li> <li>• Planning: House of Frasier keeping retail space. The Cambrian Centre has a planning application in for extending its community space.</li> <li>• Working closely with Richmond BID and a low emission zone for George Street.</li> <li>• New proposed cycle parking facilitates at the station, in partnership with SWT. Looking at replacing the railings which allows for a better gateway for travellers out of the station.</li> <li>• Redevelopment of the Wakefield Road bus station.</li> <li>• Ad Hoc Signage, on-going consultation with Sheen Common Drive, Orchard Drive and the wider East Sheen area.</li> </ul>
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**Agenda Item Two – Pre-Submitted Questions**

<p><b>Headline Topic: Police Presence around Vineyard Passage Graveyard (Katie Lang)</b></p>	
<p><b>Question 1</b></p>	<p>I would like to ask about police presence/ patrol around the Vineyard Passage Graveyard area. I grew up in the area and returned here a couple of years ago and there's a noticeable change in the area. I'm concerned about safety walking up the passage in the dark. The area is being used flagrantly by drug dealers/ users who congregate around the first bench near the paved tomb section. If policing is not an option could cameras or other monitoring be used to try and deter these behaviours?</p>
<p><b>Response</b></p>	<p>Cllr Fleming: I've worked with residents in the area on this. It can be an intimidating area. I've worked with the environment trust clearing some of the trees and foliage to make the area brighter. Patrols from Parks Enforcement Officers has resulted in this problem lessening. Unfortunately, it just moves the problem. We have also worked with SPEAR in helping the homeless. We are installing additional lighting too. This has been brought up at the PLG and Neighbourhood Watch are aware.</p> <p>Cllr Baldwin: We have been working on improving our relationship with the police and Neighbourhood Watch. Unfortunately Sheen Dale Road pedestrian walkway has suffered from ASB. We would like to see the discussed ticket booth from North Sheen Station for police use - we will know more on this in March'20.</p>

<b>Headline Topic: Professional Begging (Katie Lang)</b>	
<b>Question 2</b>	The rise in professional beggars is also noticeable and I wondered what the policy was around managing this? It can feel quite threatening being followed by some of the young men who congregate around the station who approach you directly on foot. Despite the help of the hostels they feel pretty desperate.
<b>Response</b>	<p>Cllr Buckwell: They are not all professional beggars but there are groups of professional beggars that come in via a van. The police are aware. It does come down to needing a regular police presence in Richmond. Chief Superintendent Sally Benatar who oversees policing in Kingston, Merton, Richmond and Wandsworth as the Commander for South West London has been written to by Councillors and the Leader. The crime rate in South Richmond is twice that of the rest of the Borough. We will continue to ask for a dedicated town centre police team.</p> <p>Cllr Fleming: We are aware of this issue and have worked with SPEAR and The Vineyard in trying to help the homeless.</p>
<b>Headline Topic: Additional Terminal at Heathrow (Katie Lang)</b>	
<b>Question 3</b>	Inevitably a question about the flight path and the additional terminal at Heathrow - can more be done around varying the flight path so that we get a bit of a break from it? The links between noise/ sleep deprivation and well-being are well documented. Most people agree around 8 hours sleep/rest is pretty desirable. Planes fly low and i believe have the wheels down over Richmond. The noise is pretty intrusive, it goes on past 11pm and begins again sometime around 5am. Living in the borough, it's almost impossible not to have your sleep disturbed by the planes and they're pretty noisy during the day time as well. Can Heathrow do more to contain the noise and vary the routes to share the disruption?
<b>Response</b>	<p>Cllr Baldwin: The council have been working on this for years, we have made many representations to Heathrow. We are part of a legal co-operative with other Councils in the area, which will continue to oppose the additional terminal and we will not stop. We will carry on fighting this.</p> <p>Cllr Fleming: The council's consultation results will be submitted, and there are various groups opposing this as well, such as Richmond Heathrow Group and TAG in Teddington. We are all firmly against the extra noise and air pollution that this will bring.</p> <p>Jon Evans - Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council is disappointed that it lost its recent application for Judicial Review of the Government's Decision to favour a third runway at Heathrow through its Airports National Policy Statement</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council brought its challenge working with Wandsworth, Hillingdon, Windsor and Maidenhead, Hammersmith and Fulham, the Mayor and TfL and Greenpeace on ground of air quality, noise etc. There was a hearing at the High Court in March 2019</li> <li>• The same group – our “legal coalition” has joined forces again seeking to appeal the decision through the Court of Appeal on several grounds including the habitats directive and aspects around noise impact</li> <li>• It’s not yet clear if and when the appeal might be heard but we’re confident that we have good grounds</li> <li>• Worth also noting that the Heathrow planning process continues regardless of our challenge – Heathrow’s statutory consultation on its expansion plans will commence the 18th of June and end on the 13th of September. There will be roadshows and the information will be accessible from the Council reception. They state that “This step is the latest delivery milestone for the critical national infrastructure project, and the responses received will feed into a final planning application”</li> <li>• The Council will of course respond to this consultation (being run over the Summer!)</li> <li>• Following the conclusion of this consultation and after feedback has been incorporated, Heathrow will submit a final proposal to the Planning Inspectorate in 2020, “kickstarting its approvals process”</li> <li>• The decision on whether to grant the DCO will be made by the Secretary of State following a public examination period led by the Planning Inspectorate.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Headline Topic: Parking in Selwyn (Janice Kendall)</b></p>	
<p><b>Question 4</b></p>	<p>1. As a resident and car owner, WHY do we pay ALL the parking charges yearly to park in Selwyn Avenue and find on the majority of cases there are no parking spaces available?</p> <p>“This is due to the local restaurant’s clientele parking every day at 4.30 pm until 12 or later. Residents are unable to park and find they have to park miles away from home which is getting worse on a daily basis”.</p> <p>Suggestion: To put the parking times from 10am to 6.30 pm which will enable residents, who work, able to park nearer home is one solution.</p> <p>2. No sign at the top of Selwyn Avenue - knocked down and removed months ago.</p> <p>3. The smelly bins owned by the various restaurants and placed at the top of Selwyn Avenue which is against Health and Safety, unhealthy and unsightly.</p>
<p><b>Response</b></p>	<p>Cllr Baldwin: Regarding parking, whilst we need and want the businesses they do bring problems. We need to do a consultation for a CPZ in the whole of this area, not just Selwyn Avenue. We will get the signage replaced. Regarding the smelly bins, I walk past them quite often and we do our best to monitor this. Ultimately the bins are on private land. They cannot leave the bins out the back due to development of property. We can look at this straight away if you tell us. Businesses cannot leave food bags out on the ground, due to foxes.</p>

<b>Supplementary Question</b>	The alleyway close to bins has lots of fly tipping. I've reported it to the police.
<b>Response</b>	Cllr Baldwin: You need to report fly tipping to the council, and we will remove it.
<b>Headline Topic: Large Companies such as Uber, Deliveroo etc (Indra Anne Dhillon)</b>	
<b>Question 5</b>	I would appreciate any information on the above. Large corporations / companies such as Uber, Deliveroo, Just Eat etc. have changed the way our cities are used by their employees/partners. Parking spaces, ASB including illegal parking, noise nuisance, loitering in residential areas and harassing residents. The approach by the council has been inconsistent, some departments more supportive than others.....  How will the council deal with these real issues with long term serious solutions?
<b>Response</b>	Cllr Fleming: The police have been in touch with Deliveroo and David Noakes our Community Safety Officer, parking officers and civil enforcement officers too. CEO's have ticketed them and moved them on. The problem is people want this service. Hillingdon Council tackled the problem by making an area for them to stop in. I have asked parking officers to make an area for them. I am waiting for a response. West Minister Council are looking at licensing them. This has come up at PLG.  Cllr Campanale: With Uber you can request a zone where they are not allowed to stop.

### Agenda Item Three: Open Questions from the floor

<b>Headline Topic Lack of Public Toilets</b>	
<b>Question 1</b>	There is a lack of public toilets in Richmond.
<b>Response</b>	Cllr Fleming: There is the community toilet scheme where cafes, shops and hotels etc across the borough allow their toilets to be used. There is a push for more businesses to join this scheme and better publicity of this. We do need better signage and to be able to allow people to easily find this information out.  Cllr Campanale: Please look on the Access Able App.
<b>Supplementary Questions</b>	The public library on the Green does not have a toilet facility...
<b>Response</b>	Cllr Fleming: I thought that this was being looked at, there may be issues as the building is listed.  Jane Harrison: There is a toilet provided at Richmond Museum.

<b>Headline Topic: Bin Men Leave Behind a lot of Rubbish</b>	
<b>Question 2</b>	When bin men have been they leave behind a lot of rubbish. Something needs to be done about this.
<b>Response</b>	<p>Cllr Baldwin: Let us know if you have issues with this straight away and we will sort this out. You can check on-line to see when your street is due to be swept.</p> <p>Cllr Fleming: They do carry brushes and should sweep up if they have made a mess.</p>
<b>Headline Topic: Make Friar's Lane One Way</b>	
<b>Question 3</b>	Make Friar's Lane around Richmond Green into a one-way street.
<b>Response</b>	Cllr Buckwell: I've met you on site with the Friends of Richmond Green. I wrote this all up and put it through to officers. Last week I was told that it is sitting in with a group of similar proposals that new software is looking at. It is on the agenda for being looked at to improve the centre of Richmond.
<b>Headline Topic: Street Lighting and Kelvin Light Bulbs</b>	
<b>Question 4</b>	Residents of Cobarets Place have had their street lighting replaced but it is now a cold harsh white. Residential roads need to have 4000 Kelvin light bulbs. Can residents privately pay more for softer lighting?
<b>Answer</b>	<p>Cllr Fleming: You can pay to have heritage lights, but I don't know about light bulbs.</p> <p>Cllr Baldwin: The average street light and bulb is £250 heritage lighting is £850. If you live in a conservation area, over 50% of households in the road need to agree to this and every household needs to pay for it.</p> <p>Cllr Campanale: Regarding LED street lighting – we must have standard lighting across the Borough. It is not feasible to have different bulbs outside everyone's house. LED bulbs are used for environmental reasons.</p>
<b>Headline Topic: Car Parking Outside Waitrose in Lichfield Road</b>	
<b>Question 5</b>	Car parking outside Waitrose on Lichfield Terrace Road – people are allowed to double park when it should be a bus through fare. We should have car parking on just one side of the road.
<b>Response</b>	<p>Cllr Newton Dunn: This is a good idea.</p> <p>Cllr Fleming: Need to talk to the businesses along the road to see what the impact on them will be. I will speak to Richmond BID as something that could be considered.</p>
<b>Action</b>	Cllr Fleming to speak to Richmond BID re parking outside Waitrose on Lichfield Road

<b>Headline Topic: Warren Avenue Bottle Neck</b>	
<b>Question 6</b>	Burwyn Avenue, Denehurst Road and Tangier Road all bottle neck at the bottom of Warren Avenue.
<b>Response</b>	Cllr Warren: We have started an informal survey. We have lettered and spoken to residents to see what preferred ideas residents have to deter rat runs. We are knocking on doors again on Saturday and we are receiving emails. We will then analyse the information gathered and see if there are enough comments to launch a formal consultation.
<b>Headline Topic: Silver Birches are Suffering and Dying around the Borough.</b>	
<b>Question 7</b>	Tree conservation: Silver Birches are suffering and dying around the borough.
<b>Response</b>	Cllr Fleming: We have a paper coming to us on Monday for approval of planting more trees. We do want to plant more trees and preserve what we can.