

TUDOR AREA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION KINGSTON (TARAK)

October 2012 Newsletter

1. Local News

1.1 A new school for North Kingston

On 11 October a meeting, chaired by Zac Goldsmith, was held at the North Kingston Centre to consider the establishment, by 2015, of a new secondary school for North Kingston. The main points were:

- the only funds for education now available from Government are for a free school
- the Kingston Educational Trust (Kingston University, Kingston College, RBK education department) are the preferred RBK bidders
- the proposed free school would be a mixed, non-selective, non-faith, 6-form entry, 11-18 school, and would include academic and vocational opportunities for study
- the school would be on the North Kingston Centre site and would be part of the RBK family of schools
- the Department for Education now has the power to purchase a school site if it is not being used as a school, so it is important that RBK retains the site and puts a free school on it.

For more information visit kingstoneducationaltrust.org. For those residents without computers Tudor Library will assist them in getting the information.

1.2 Sale of Latchmere House Prison site

Members will be aware that the Latchmere Prison site is being sold by the Ministry of Justice. On 17th October, a packed meeting at Latchmere school heard that Richmond and Kingston councils are currently developing a planning brief to ensure the best possible outcomes for local residents, and our Councillor, David Cunningham, is assisting with this. Details of the meeting and of the frequently asked questions are available on the RBK website (go to the RBK website and put Latchmere House into the search field). Tudor Library will also assist residents with this.

Particular issues raised included:

- possibility of a new school on the site
- pedestrian and motor vehicle traffic and impact on Latchmere Lane and Church Road
- possibility of affordable housing for Kingston and Richmond residents
- use by the community and retention of green space and trees
- what will happen to Latchmere House.
- what is the likely impact of any development on existing schools and health facilities in and around the area?
- regarding time scales - the expectation is that the site will be sold by 2013 and development started in 2014
- the draft planning brief should be available for public consultation towards the end of 2012.

1.3 The Cardinal public house

Members will be aware that our local pub, the Cardinal, has closed. This is a considerable loss to the community and to TARAK. For three years we have held committee meetings there, had our Xmas mulled wine and mince pie event there, and in the last two years established the bi-monthly TARAK lunch meetings there. Your committee is exploring other hostelrys for these functions. Currently we have made an arrangement with the Hand and Flower on Ham Parade for a TARAK lunch at **12 noon on Friday 7th December 2012**. Please phone Susan on 0208 546 6529 to let us know you will be joining us. The Hand and Flower continues to offer a lunch menu which includes: sandwiches @ £3.95 and meals from £5 (very good value!).

1.4 The TARAK AGM

The date: 31st January 2013 at 7.30pm.

The place: the Hand and Flower restaurant, which we hope will also provide an opportunity for members to chat about common matters of interest.

1.5 Diamond Jubilee bulb planting

In our Summer Diamond Jubilee newsletter we reported on the intention to plant bulbs in Tudor drive (as a long-term celebration of the Jubilee) with the help of funding from Kingston Town Neighbourhood Committee. After a number of postponements due to inclement weather and the hardness of the sward, successful planting was carried out on 28th October. This is reported in the current Surrey Comet (02.11.12) accompanied by photographs of the hardworking planters (including the two-year-old grand-daughter of a committee member, local councillors and a member of Quadron). We look forward to the daffodils blooming in spring.



Photo charlotte levy

2. RBK Council Information and Planning news

2.1 166 Tudor Drive shop - planning application

The owner's application for an extension of lease for two years was turned down, but an extension for one year only was granted. It was also agreed that the current shop window should be improved. No further information is currently available.

2.2 Parking outside Tudor Parade of Shops

The local Authority is undertaking a consultation on controlled free parking, for the Tudor Parade of shops. It would operate between 8am and 6.30 pm on Mondays to Saturdays inclusive (apart from Christmas Day, Good Friday or a Bank Holiday). The maximum period for which a vehicle may be left during the permitted hours is two hours with no return within two hours.

3. Items of interest from Surrey Comet

3.1 The Metropolitan Police have decided to merge the senior policing roles for Richmond and Kingston. This is part of their plan to cut costs by £500million by 2015.

3.2 Kingston Museum is hosting an aeronautical exhibition with paintings, artefacts, sculptures and silverware, to celebrate the 100 years history of Kingston's aviation history. The exhibition runs from November 17th 2012 to January 12th 2013.

4. Our MP

Zac Goldsmith continues to ask questions in Parliament about Heathrow. His latest question was to ask the Secretary of State for Transport if he will (a) make an assessment of the potential effect on air quality of a third runway at Heathrow and (b) submit that assessment to the Independent Commission on Aviation chaired by Sir Howard Davies. Air quality is important to North Kingston.

Best wishes from Judith Pottinger (TARAK Chair)