

Tudor Area Residents Association Kingston TARAK

July 2015

website <https://tarakresidents.wordpress.com>

1. News from Your Committee

(i) The Government has introduced new planning policies which have given more power to local people. The Localism Act was given Royal Assent in November 2011 and communities are being encouraged to prepare neighbourhood plans to influence what happens in their area. The North Kingston Forum (NKF) has now been established (the final name to be decided) and includes many organisations from across Canbury and Tudor Wards. The secretary is Diane Watling email: diane.watling@gmail.com. TARAK has become a member. The next steps will be: drafting a constitution, deciding the boundary of the area to be included, setting up a website, and encouraging full local representation. Please encourage any local group you are a member of to join and contact Diane Watling.

(ii) Protests have been made by residents across Kingston regarding the proposed 19 storey tower for the Old Post Office site and to changes in Eden Street. Your committee has contributed £50 to the Kingston Residents Association (KRA) to help fund a QC to investigate various issues associated with these proposals. The KRA website is at <http://kingstonskyline.weebly.com> and provides a considerable amount of information on these issues.

(iii) Councillor Frank Thomson -the committee sent a message of condolence to the family of Frank Thomson, our very helpful councillor, who died in May.

2. Bulb planting in the grass verges and elsewhere



Members may remember the very poor weather conditions last November when stalwart members, their children, and two councillors braved the elements to plant bulbs. The photo illustrates the results of one area of the planting, opposite the shops and by the bus stop. There were also good bunches of daffodils showing opposite The Pharmacy and Post Office. This Autumn the lawns between Barnfield Gardens and Barnfield Avenue will be planted, using the £200 donated by the BBC film-makers of 'The Boy in the Dress'. Some residents in Tudor Drive are now planting their own daffodils in the verges outside their house.

3. Latchmere House Development Decision

The Planning Inspectorate's Decision Notice has just been issued (07.07.15). The Inspector has upheld the appeal for Option 1, the lower density development without the new link road to Latchmere Lane.. Planning permission is thus granted for Option 1. The decision notice, which gives details of the Inspector's arguments is 18 pages long and will shortly be available on the Kingston and Richmond websites. It has already been sent to TARAK members with computers.

4. Letter from a TARAK member -please use the 101 phone number to report incidents

Around midday on 22.06.15, I returned to my car, parked on the field verge outside the Ham St. entrance to Ham House, having walked my dog. A Volkswagen estate car also parked there had had its rear window smashed in. Glass was everywhere, including all over the suitcases and clothes inside. An open holdall was open on top. I called 101 to report it and the operator was very helpful, articulate and efficient, saying a police car would attend within an hour. It arrived within thirty minutes. I hung around as I didn't want the car to be further ransacked. I hoped if it had been my car, someone would have done the same. So be warned - if you're parking there, cover stuff up or remove it

from view! What astonished me was that about twenty adults passed that unattended car while I was waiting, walking, cycling, driving. Many stopped to look...then walked on. The police told me they had only received ONE report – which was mine! However, one young woman stopped and came over to me asking if it was my car and could she phone anyone for me or help in some way. Only one out of twenty! Residents - Let's get more active!! PS We have also received a further communication about more needles in back alleys - please keep an eye out for these and report them to the appropriate authority at Kingston Council on 020 8547 5002.

5. The Cardinal pub

The Cardinal lease has been put up for sale and we await news of the new lease-holder. Rumour has it that it will be a purveyor of good Italian food and from 5-10pm on Thursday 16 July a visiting Italian chef provided special pizzas.

6. Kingston Education News

(i) Kingston Academy The first intake of children will be taught in temporary classrooms at a cost of £600,000 to RBK
(ii) Tiffin Girls is increasing their intake for 2016 to 180 pupils with more account taken of Kingston Inner Area pupils.
(iii) Did you know that from this year, 2015, the school leaving age was raised to 18? Education after 16 doesn't just mean staying at school full-time: your child can stay at **school**, go to **college**, or take up an **apprenticeship** or a part-time **training course**. They can earn money and learn new skills at the same time if they want to.

7. Kingston Council News

(i) Councillors at the Full Council meeting on Tuesday 14 July 2015 voted through a package of changes called 'Renewing Kingston's Democracy'. The changes are designed to shift the Council's focus away from formal meetings and the 'apparatus of decision making' to how it interacts with local people, businesses and partners to achieve a shared vision for the borough. The full report is on the RBK website under 'Changes to the Council's constitution to give residents a greater voice in local decision making'

(ii) With regard to planning in future:

Para24 of Appendix E of the Infrastructure, Planning and Contracts Committee 25/06/15 states:

The localism Act 2011 enables local communities through the establishment of Neighbourhood Forums to prepare Neighbourhood Plans for their local area. The Plans should set out how growth will be accommodated, and need to be in conformity with the objectives and policies of the Core Strategy.

Para25 of Appendix E: states:

The Councils role in Neighbourhood Planning is to provide advice and support to communities to help them prepare their Plans, and once approved at independent Examination, to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan as part of the Development Plan. Adopted Neighbourhood Plans must be taken into account in planning application decision-making. *TARAK will watch all the above changes with interest.*

(iii) The websites for the regeneration proposal for Eden Walk is <http://www.edenwalkregeneration.com> and for feedback is <http://www.edenwalkregeneration.com/feedback/#>. Do have a look at these and provide feedback.

(iv) Parking charges have been raised by 10p per hour and residents permits by £10 per year.

8. Our MP in Parliament and the Constituency

(i) Zac Goldsmith was re-elected with a considerably increased vote, and is now considering standing for Mayor of London. He sent out ballot papers to seek the views of residents.

(ii) Zac Goldsmith delivered a very powerful speech in the House of Commons opposing the recent recommendation to extend Heathrow as opposed to Gatwick runway.

9. Councillors Surgery

The Surgery in Tudor Hall is open to all Tudor residents on the second Saturday each month from 10am to 12 noon.

10. Other information to note

(i) The Prudential RideLondon -Surrey on 2 August . Three different cycle races, but they all begin in Kingston and finish on the Mall. There will be a number of road closures and information regarding these can be found at www.PrudentialRideLondon.co.uk

(ii) Kingston Little League recently held an open day at Tudor Hall to show residents their proposals for a new pavilion on Latchmere Recreation Ground. TARAK would like to support the building of such a pavilion which offers facilities to the whole community, not only for KLL and would hope to enter into discussion with KLL and RBK regarding this. TARAK members may recall that there is a covenant on Latchmere Recreation Ground in addition to the 1902 Act of Parliament which ensures the land is for use by all residents of the Borough for recreational use.

(iii) Dates for TARAK social lunches

24th September and 12th November. Christmas social and AGM will be in the next newsletter. Don't forget all the previous newsletters can be found on the TARAK website.

The Committee wish you all a good summer holiday.