



Peterborough Road and Area Residents' Association
incorporating Clancarty Road, Daisy Lane, Hugon Road,
South Park Mews, Sullivan Road and Settrington Road

www.prara.org.uk

NEWSLETTER **Volume No. FOURTEEN** **Issue No. 51** **Date: February 2015**

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1 - PRARA 'At Home'

A very big "thank you" to everyone who came to the Christmas 'At Home' in November. It was lovely to see so many of us gathered together for such a busy event. We had a huge number of 'thank yous' from guests and further offers to host similar events later in the year. As the evening was such a success we are now planning a Summer 'At Home' on 18th June and hope to see even more of you at that. Details will be announced nearer the time. Getting to know more of your neighbours socially binds the community together and helps us all to deal with the local issues that we face.

2 - Helicopter noise

Many of our members and particularly those closest to South Park have been disturbed on a number of occasions by night-time noise which we believe is caused by Chinook helicopters. Our SNT Police Officer, Alex Douglas, has done extensive research on our behalf. He confirms that 2.00 am flights are not the Police. Private flights are carefully controlled, so the culprits are almost certainly RAF military helicopters, perhaps on exercises because of the heightened security alert. If the problem continues we still want to register a protest on behalf of our members and others whose sleep is being disrupted, but to do this we need to provide a log of incidents. **If you are affected, please make a note each time it happens and advise your road representative.**

3 - Neighbourhood Watch

Figures for reported crime continue to fall year on year. They are now so low that they really cannot fall much further. The causes are not completely clear, but must include (i) effective policing and (ii) a move by criminals towards online and phone fraud.

Although crime figures are falling throughout London, they are particularly impressive in H&F. The previous Council administration can take some credit for this, having invested in extra police officers in the town centres. The new administration is following suit: from April 2015 it intends to pay for an extra 44 officers spread across the Wards, so that we should have more than just 1 PC and 1 PCSO allocated to each Ward. The Council says that the funding will only be forthcoming for Ward-based activities. This is to counteract the central

Police tendency to redeploy so-called Neighbourhood officers to other duties. We have yet to see how this turns out, but the intention is clearly laudable. Our Sands End Dedicated Ward Officer, Alex Douglas, and his PCSO assistant can now be contacted on 0788 166 1830 as well as 020 8243 2823, *but only when on duty*.

The Neighbourhood Watch Committee put on an evening about online and phone fraud on Tuesday February 10th, to which we alerted those of you for whom we have current email addresses..

4 - 7 day GP access

It is now possible to see a GP at weekends in three Fulham surgeries. This is complementary to the services provided by your own practice and in addition to the Walk-In Centre on Parsons Green and the Urgent Care and walk-in facility at Charing Cross Hospital.

The three surgeries, which are open between 9am-4pm on both Saturdays and Sundays, are:

Cassidy Medical Centre
651a Fulham Road
London
SW6 5PX

Dr Jefferies & Partners
The Medical Centre
292 Munster Road
London
SW6 6BQ

Palace Surgery
510 Fulham Palace Road
London
SW6 6JD

You can book appointments in advance on 03000 333 666 or use the walk in service available at all the surgeries.

5 - Chelsea Victory Parade

Chelsea Football Club (CFC) are currently top of the Premier League so it is very possible that there will be another Victory Parade this summer. If so, it will be on a Sunday in June. Since the appalling mismanagement of the last parade three years ago, your Committee and one of our local Councillors have been trying to acquire a Memorandum of Understanding between the Council, the Police and CFC about who is responsible for what on these occasions. This should achieve greater clarity and better planning; and it should enable us to check the plans before the event. Progress has been unbelievably slow, but we are now pressing the Council to expedite this urgently.

We are delighted that our appeal in the last newsletter for a PRARA representative at the CFC community liaison meetings produced a volunteer, Jean-Pierre Isal, and we hope that this extra contact will also be of great help in dealing with victory parade issues.

6 - Carnwath Road - latest

The number of applications seeking a Judicial Review (JR) of the Government's approval of the Thames Tunnel increased to four but all have been rejected. Two applications were

failed on timing technicalities. One appeal has been launched by the Thames Blue-Green Economy Limited, a company set up for the purpose, and there are plans to try and incorporate the key arguments put forward in the two JRs which were rejected on technical grounds. The fourth JR applicant is also considering an appeal.

The fight for Carnwath Road is now focussed on a last attempt to have the main drive site in Carnwath Road moved to Barn Elms. The Carnwath Road Coalition (CRC) called our MP, Greg Hands, to a meeting on 29th January to ensure there is a proper follow up to the undertakings given at his open meeting last November. A comprehensive action plan was agreed which Greg Hands will be implementing. It covers, in the worst case scenario, improving mitigation measures for residents in or around Carnwath Road, and helping them deal with Thames Water and its agents or contractors. More importantly, it involves having the two Secretaries of State involved - Eric Pickles and Liz Truss - visit Carnwath Road so that they fully realise the full and horrendous impact on local people that their approval of that site would have, compared to the non-residential location of Barn Elms. Andy Mitchell, CEO of the separate company formed to build the tunnel, has also been invited to come to Carnwath Road and meet some residents, and also visit Barn Elms to compare the impact on residents.

The Thames Tunnel is a 'National Infrastructure Project' and CRC are of the opinion that the legislation for such a project trumps Metropolitan Open Land protection, which has been the main reason given for not using Barn Elms. This is being discussed on an urgent basis with Brandon Lewis MP, the Minister of State for Housing and Planning. Do you know anyone with special expertise in this area who could help? If so, please contact Ann Rosenberg urgently - her contact details are at the end of the newsletter.

7 - Peterborough School building in Clancarty Road

There is still no news about the now overdue alterations and improvements to the former Peterborough School building in Clancarty Road. The only change so far is new signage, one each for *Marie d'Orliac Primary School* and *The Fulham Bilingual (a Partnership between Holy Cross and Marie d'Orliac)*. Traffic jams in Clancarty Road at the start of the school day, especially near the junction with Settrington Road, are becoming worse and scooter use continues to be a menace to non-school pedestrians. A meeting was held on 6th February with the Head Teacher and parents' representatives, all of whom were aware of the problems but they have no legal powers outside the school premises. A plan of action was agreed which it is hoped will bring some improvements.

8 - Local Plan and basements

PRARA has been asked to comment on the draft of the Borough's new Local Plan, which will determine local planning policy for the next 20 years. Much of the content is similar to the policies set out in the two planning policy documents that it replaces. There are however, five new or amended policies: replacing the Hammersmith flyover with a tunnel; designating a Fulham Regeneration Area to secure the future of Fulham Town Centre; designating the Fulham Gas Works site as a Regeneration Area; respecifying the requirement for social housing; and introducing limitations on the scale of domestic basements and light wells. PRARA is strongly endorsing the latter policy and commenting favourably on those policies which we think will benefit our area.

9 - Imperial Road traffic scheme

PRARA has also been consulted on a scheme to improve safety for vehicles and pedestrians in Imperial Road, proposed following an analysis of traffic collision data for the past three years. We have supported the scheme which features a number of physical

changes and the introduction of a 20mph speed limit. We have also asked for a mini-roundabout at the junction of Imperial Road with Harwood Terrace

10 - Borough airports consultation

At the end of last year the Council set up the Hammersmith & Fulham Commission on Airport Expansion to be conducted independently by residents. PRARA was asked to make a submission. We said that we opposed any airport expansion which would increase the numbers of flights over our area, increase the overhead noise and / or extend the hours during which aircraft are routed over our area. We particularly opposed any further increase in the number of so called night flights and would like to see the number of these flights reduced, especially those at the beginning of the day.

The Commission reported to the appropriate Council Committee on 13th January. It expressed concerns with 'gaps' in data on flight path locations, non-localised noise assessments and lack of analysis on air quality impacts. It concluded "If Heathrow were to expand under either of the two Heathrow options, H&F would enjoy some economic and leisure benefits, though these would be far outweighed by the adverse effects of additional flights overhead, additional flight paths over the borough, additional noise, road and public transport congestion, worse air quality and uncertainty about precise impacts for many years."

The Commission's report has been submitted to the Government's own Airports Commission and can be seen using this link:

http://www.lbhf.gov.uk/Directory/News/Hot_topic_Heathrow.asp The Borough response to that consultation was informed by the local Commission's findings.

11 - 2015 AGM and Neighbourhood Question Time

Our AGM this year will be on Tuesday, 15th September at Sullivan Primary School. We are hoping to arrange for a special Question Time with panel members who will be able to answer any questions you might have about our local area and matters which affect our area and borough.

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