



Peterborough Road & Area Residents' Association

incorporating Clancarty Road, Daisy Lane,
Hugon Road, South Park Mews, Sullivan Road
and Settrington Road

www.prara.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

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1- Wandsworth Bridge Road traffic

The Council's scheme to stop through traffic between Wandsworth Bridge and New King's Road using Imperial Road or Bagley's Lane has caused massive congestion on Wandsworth Bridge Road. This has been compounded by the repair work on the Bridge which has reduced four lanes to two and limited traffic per hour to 2,000 vehicles from the usual 4,500 vehicles. At peak times traffic in the road is frequently stationary in both directions. The scheme has also increased the number of vehicles using the Peterborough Road / Clancarty Road / Settrington Road / Woolneigh Street rat run which is the only north-south alternative route to using Wandsworth Bridge Road. This increase occurs at all times not just the peak hours. This is resulting in traffic backing up on all feeder roads to Wandsworth Bridge Road, such as Beltran and Narborough, not just Clancarty and Woolneigh. Some drivers are also illegally using the one-way section of Hugon Road to reach Wandsworth Bridge Road from Peterborough Road. At times all this extra traffic is preventing residents in our area from leaving or accessing their homes.

Before introducing this disastrous scheme the council did not consult residents living on the west side of Wandsworth Bridge Road, only those on the east side. The latter are of course very happy with their reduction of traffic. The announcement of the introduction of the scheme stated that there would be a review of its impact on our roads following its introduction. We could have told them the bad news before the scheme was launched. There is, as yet, no sign of any review or residents' consultation in the PRARA area although the council claim that they have set up a working party for the west side of Wandsworth Bridge Road.

A new association has been formed to speak for all the residents affected, on Wandsworth Bridge Road itself and on the roads on either side. Called the Wandsworth Bridge Road Association (WBRA), members of the WBRA Team have met with Cllr Ben Coleman and Head of Parking John Galsworthy, and have had numerous email exchanges and phone calls. They have been told that the council fully intends to extend the current scheme to the west side of Wandsworth Bridge Road - but are not consulting all the residents being affected. PRARA has joined WBRA as we think this association will maximise the likelihood

of the Council of re-thinking what it has done. We would encourage you to join as individuals. The link is <https://wbrassociation.org.uk/>

Our MP has also launched a petition calling on LBHF to cancel its SW6 traffic scheme. If you want to support the petition the link is

<https://www.greghands.com/campaigns/SW6petition>

The only good news is that all four lanes on Wandsworth Bridge are now scheduled to be restored by mid-November. Vauxhall Bridge is also scheduled to re-open around the same time.

2 - The Jack's saga

Jack's is a shop at 152 Wandsworth Bridge Road which was opened to sell and promote craft beers. Subsequently the premises passed to a new owner who decided to operate the premises as a bar and cafe. His premises licence does not permit such use, nor does the property have planning permission for such use. The premises license restricts the sale of alcohol to between 11.30am and 9.00pm only, on the premises which are defined as the ground floor and basement of the building. The new owner simply ignored all these conditions and he failed to apply to change the Designated Premises Supervisor from being the original owner to either himself or a nominated representative. This all became apparent in May when he started to use the yard at the back of the premises as a drinking area when the noise and activity caused a serious disturbance to the houses at the east end of Clancarty Road and Beltran Road and the occupants of the flat above the shop. They all complained and PRARA stepped in to help our members who were affected.

In addition the owner completely ignored the Covid-19 restrictions which required all licensed premises, cafes and restaurants to close down. He continued to trade with the result that there were large gatherings in front of 152 and adjacent premises and late night activity in the yard. The affected neighbours contacted the council and council officers and police had to attend the premises several times as the owner failed to take any notice of the advice, guidance and warnings that he was given. He swore at neighbours who complained and used threatening language to them, the police and council officers. He also challenged the owners of Bonbon across the road when they legally re-opened.

The result was that the council commenced proceedings to revoke the premises license, a course of action that is very rarely followed. No other licensed premises in Hammersmith & Fulham flouted the Covid-19 and other regulations. There was an unfortunately delay before the Licensing Committee was able to consider the revocation and the hearing did not take place (virtually) until 30th July. There was such over-whelming evidence that the Committee took the decision to revoke the license. Regrettably there was a further delay before the formal notice could be issued. A 21 notice period then applied during which the premises could continue to trade as before. Shortly before the notice period expired the owner lodged an appeal with Westminster Magistrates Court. Until the appeal is heard the premises are again permitted to continue to trade as before which is what is happening. There is such a backlog of cases that the appeal may not be heard for 18 months.

Planning enforcement issued an instruction to cease trading in contravention of the premises planning permission. Unsurprisingly this was ignored. The situation then became complicated by the recent liberalisation of use introduced by the Government in response to the economic consequences of Covid-19. The Council has now issued a legally binding Enforcement Notice which takes effect on 4th November. From now until that date the owner can appeal the Notice. If he does not do this, he must cease such trading within three months. If he does appeal, it has to be made to the Secretary of State. There is no statutory period by which a decision must be made and it could take around four months before it is. In the meantime the only protection available to neighbours is to request visits

by the council's noise officers when there is sufficient disturbance to cause a public nuisance. The owner has very recently built a temporary roof over the back yard but this does seem to have stopped noise affecting nearby residents.

3 - Neighbourhood Watch news

Since the pandemic began, there have been no Ward Panel meetings and therefore no contact with our dedicated Police Ward Officers. During the period of strict lockdown, it appeared from the press that there was a considerable reduction in the number of burglaries and robberies. Unfortunately, since July there have been an increasing number of houses in Fulham broken into. Nearly always through a front window. The burglars can easily break the central catch and then quickly and forcefully raise the window breaking the two screw in bolts which are there to supposedly prevent the window being fully opened. To prevent this happening it is suggested that the screw in bolts are positioned to prevent the window opening at all, the bolts can be repositioned if you require to open the window. Your NW Co-ordinator has recently noticed that the vast majority of front windows in the PRARA area, have positioned the side screw in bolts, so that the windows can be opened several inches.

Bicycles are a favourite item to be stolen. Very recently an unfortunate fellow sitting in the Bridge Bakery, Wandsworth Bridge Road, drinking a cup of coffee had his bike stolen at 10 am. He had taken his eyes off it for a few moments.

Neighbourhood Watch is not all about crime prevention, it is, especially in these difficult times, about looking out for and offering help and friendship. The more we know and recognise our neighbours the easier it is for us to spot a suspicious character in the neighbourhood.

4 - Committee changes

It is disappointing to report that two committee members are having to stand down. Valerie Piddington found that an increased work load meant she was unable to fulfil her role as Secretary. Sue Oriel, who has been our Co-ordinator for 10 years, has decided to re-locate to Kent where she had been living part time and full time since the beginning of the Covid lockdown. Many of you will know that she is an excellent chairman and has generously hosted committee meetings and many open meetings in her Clancarty Road house. We shall miss her. At a committee meeting on 13th October Anthony Williams agreed to take over as Interim Co-ordinator.

We do have some very good news. Viv Bird has agreed to take over as our Sullivan Road representative, a role filled by her late husband Brendan for many years. We warmly welcome her. Her contact details are in the Committee panel at the end of the newsletter.

We hope that one of our members will be willing to be our new Secretary. The role is not onerous and our committee meetings are all very pleasant and enjoyable. If you could be interested please have an informal chat with Anthony. Tel: 020 7736 6045 or Gileswill@aol.com.

5 - A message from Sue Oriel

After 10 plus years as PRARA Co-ordinator, I have decided to step down and let someone else have a turn. My life is increasingly based out of London and I feel the role needs someone more permanently based in our area. It's been a very interesting decade. I've met and worked alongside some very special people on the PRARA Committee in trying to make just a small positive difference to our area.

It has definitely been the comradeship of the Committee and some members that has kept me going in this role so long. So many aspects of trying to influence local affairs are frankly exhausting. The current traffic chaos is a case in point. No council consultation despite protests to the contrary and then a run and hide attitude from elected members. Or the SEACC white elephant. Do we know anyone who really wanted this?

Unless we all raise our voices together we will not influence local affairs...which is why organisations like PRARA really matter.

I hope you will all continue to support the committee and the new co-ordinator once they are elected... a sense of community spirit is, in my view, a vital part of a happy and healthy life. I wish this for each and every one of you.

With my best wishes,

Sue Oriel - Outgoing Co-ordinator

6 - Parson's Green Station lift

Our Member of Parliament, Greg Hands has launched a petition calling for the installation of two lifts at the station, one for each platform. If you wish to add your support the link is: <https://www.greghands.com/parsons-green-petition>.

7 - Peterborough Road bollard

You may have noticed that the bollard remains down. We are now advised that policing and control of the central section that was being blocked by the bollard will be done by a camera. At this stage we can only presume that it will be part of the ANPR system that is being used to catch through traffic on the east side of Wandsworth Bridge Road. As both Imperial Road and Bagley's Lane are now largely traffic free it appears that control by camera has been successful.

8 - Thames Tunnel progress

The two boring machines used for the tunnels connecting the access shaft in Carnwath Road with those at Acton Storm Tanks and King George's Park, have both completed their work. Rachel, which could be seen above the Carnwath Road fencing before she was sent down the shaft to head to Acton, is being dismantled before she goes back to Germany and used on other projects round the world. The secondary lining of both tunnels will commence in the new year. Shaft works are still expected to be completed in May next year and the Carnwath Road works site largely vacated by September 2022. All that will remain is a service tower over the tunnel shaft. The remainder of the site is likely to be residential development. The council was blocked from approving residential schemes for this area before tunnel works were approved, in case Carnwath Road was selected as a tunnel work site.

9 - Community Centre

Latest indications are that the Centre could open in January. There is still no news about the operation of the centre and its future 'community management'. In the meantime the council has appointed a centre manager whom they will pay for one month. His salary will then be paid from the money being allocated for the launch of the centre

10 - 14-16 Peterborough Road

A local, property developer - Marstons - is preparing plans for the redevelopment of this site which would entail demolition of the existing office building and its replacement by one that meets contemporary needs. PRARA has been asked to comment on the proposals. PRARA's Planning Representative, Paul Leonard, is liaising on this and is currently awaiting details of the planning application before we make our submission. Due to the current uncertainty in the property market, Marstons are unable to indicate when the development might start. It is anticipated that there is unlikely to be any news on this until early next year. If you would like to see information about the proposed scheme you can find it here:

<https://14-16peterboroughroad.community/proposals/>

There have been at least three previous schemes proposed for this site, none of which were implemented.

11 - PRARA 2020 AGM by Zoom

Like many organisations we shall be holding this year's Annual General Meeting by Zoom. Please note the date and time: **Tuesday, 17th November at 6.30pm**. The agenda and Zoom link will be published on the PRARA web site at the end of this month and e-mailed to everyone for whom we have an e-mail address.

Nominees for the election of Officers of the Association should be made in writing to the Interim Co-ordinator at least seven (7) days before the AGM. Such nominations must be supported by a Secunder and the consent of the proposed nominee must first have been obtained. Nominees, Proposers and Seconders must be members of the Association.

18th October 2020

PRARA STANDING COMMITTEE AND MAIN CONTACTS

Interim Co-ordinator: Anthony Williams

Clancarty Road: Anthony Williams, 59 Clancarty Road, SW6 3AH Tel: 7736 6045 Email: Gileswill@aol.com

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Hugon Road and South Park Mews: Acland Geddes, 41 Hugon Road, SW6 3ER Tel: 07769971499 acland.geddes@gmail.com

Membership Secretary/Treasurer: Luiz Motta, 7 Daisy Lane, SW6 3DD Tel: 07467 507 681 Email: luiz.motta@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Watch: Jeremy Gilkes, 78 Settrington Road, SW6 3BA Tel: 3565 0317 Email: jjhgilkes@hotmail.com

Secretary: TBA

Planning Representative: Paul Leonard, 21 Peterborough Road, SW6 3BT Tel: 7610 6827 Email: paulleonard@leonarddesign.com