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Easter edition 2017

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**Editorial help needed. Contact Iain Simpson on 020 8947 1301
email: iainsimpson@imi-consulting.com**

Chairman's Report

Planning and local developments

Planning applications and new developments seem to have grown in number in the last year. In particular, I have already mentioned in past newsletters the sudden surge of developments on the borough boundary with Wandsworth by the River Wandle. The earliest proposal was the redevelopment of the main part of the Haslemere Industrial estate. The latest has been the 'Wellington Works' proposal to build a block of flats to the rear of Durnsford Rec; This is being led by Goldcrest Land PLC.

Goldcrest have consulted locally quite extensively and have met with WPRA representatives several times in the last few months. As a result of their various discussions, they took a decision to lower the height of the building. This was a welcome decision. Also they confirmed that access to the site from Dawlish Avenue would be restricted to pedestrians and disabled persons. Access to the site via Havana/Wellington does pose other problems of increased traffic around the school area and for those living in Wellington Road, in addition to the traffic already accessing the industrial estate via Wellington Road.

A lot of discussion with developers generally has centred around the possibility of establishing a connection from the Haslemere side through to Durnsford Rec and also the possibility of a pedestrian bridge across the Wandle from the Ravensbury Terrace area. The Wandle Valley Forum article in our last newsletter mentioned this. Certainly Goldcrest have been open to views and suggestions and shown a willingness to assist where they can. They are to be commended on their approach to local consultation which is in contrast to many development companies who, for the most part, conduct consultation with a largely tick box attitude.

The 'Glasshouse' in Arthur Road

In my last report I mentioned the planning application from the owners to add a further floor to the building for Commercial use. There were a number of objections to this application from neighbours, who would be directly affected, and also Councillors and the Association. This application was subsequently refused by Merton Council on the basis that 'by virtue of its size height and design it would result in an unacceptable increase in height of the building that would be detrimental to the Arthur Road streetscene and would also be visually intrusive and detrimental to the amenities of occupiers of residential properties in Farquar Road and Strathmore Road.....'.

Surprisingly, despite this comprehensive rejection, another application has been made to Merton, again wishing to add a fourth floor but this time for two residential flats. This proposal, as with the last one, seems entirely inappropriate for this location and hopefully will be rejected again.

Merton Council action on pollution

On pages 12 and 34 you will find an article giving the background to a decision by Merton Council to create a levy on all diesel cars in Merton which are subject to

parking permits. Apart from other considerations, this levy attacks only one section of the users of diesel cars in Merton and therefore is highly discriminatory. There are many reasons why we should all be very concerned by the introduction of such an ad hoc and arbitrary levy but particularly because action to deal with air pollution and the problems of diesel engine emissions needs to be addressed on a pan London and eventually country wide basis by the national government, not by individual councils.

It has been brought to my notice that a local resident of Wimbledon Park has made an official complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman about the action of the Council in this regard. The main planks for objection are: inadequate consultation and that it is a discriminatory policy. If anyone is interested in seeing the full detail of the complaint, you can get in touch with me.

Boundary Commission proposals

In my last report I wrote about the proposals and provided details of the proposals and the response from the WPRC. A second round of consultation has commenced based on the responses received in the first one. The results of the first consultation are available on the Commission website. Overall the local response to their proposals was negative. By the time you read this report the consultation period will be over. However, I will be writing to the Commission reiterating the views that we expressed before, both verbally to the Commission and in writing. I think our proposals were sensible and, importantly, met the criteria set down by the Commission. These were in line with the response from the Wimbledon Society whose views we supported.

Crossrail 2

Stephen Hammond's update on Page 7 confirms the latest position on Crossrail 2. It seems unlikely that we will hear any further detail until June or July. If there is news before then, we will publish it on the website.

The new South Wimbledon-based Harris Academy

According to a recent circular from local Councillors, this new school will be part of the Harris School Federation and from September 2018 will be run from its initial site on Whatley Avenue (formerly Merton Adult Education Centre) before transferring to its permanent site on High Path in South Wimbledon in 2020. Harris proposes to use what are described as 'nodal points' to shape the school's admissions policy and children who live closest to these points will be prioritised for places.

The three nodal points it is currently proposing to use for admission to the school in those first two years would be Wimbledon Park Station, Wimbledon Chase Station and the front entrance to Merton Abbey Primary School. It has yet to be decided how the numbers will be allocated.

This is an important development affecting residents of Wimbledon Park. There was, apparently, a public meeting held in Wimbledon Park school on the 7th March and a period of consultation until the end of March. However, I am not certain how well publicised this was to local residents. *Iain Simpson*

Update from Stephen Hammond MP

I am grateful for the opportunity to write again in the WPRA newsletter. There is always so much local news, so it's often hard to reduce it into one article, but I always try to keep residents updated on my website, www.stephenhammond.net (where you can sign up to my regular community email), and on twitter @S_Hammond.



Crossrail 2

Crossrail 2 remains one of the biggest local issues we are facing here in Wimbledon Park. A further consultation on the preferred new route option, was planned for November last year, but when this deadline appeared to be slipping, I asked a Prime Minister's Question in the House of Commons and found the consultation was to be delayed until a business case was submitted to the Government by TfL.

This business case has now been submitted and I have also submitted a written question to the Secretary of State for Transport to ask what their timescale is for considering it, and when they expect to hold the next consultation. I expect we will hear more about the next consultation and route option in June or July.

The Government's insistence for a business case shows they are concerned about the costs and benefits of the project. However, it is my view that the project is more likely than not to go ahead.

When the consultation is held, I will do everything I can to publicise it to ensure that local residents' voices are heard.

Brexit

Many local residents have written to me with their views on Brexit. I campaigned and voted to remain, but the reality is that from the moment the result was announced the United Kingdom was on a course to leave the European Union. Since then, I have been fighting to make the inevitable Brexit work as well as possible for the country, Wimbledon and London. This is what I will continue to do on behalf of my constituents.

I have been busy holding the Government to account in Parliament. I called for a White Paper to be published, I've been making the case for protecting our financial services sector, I added my voice to the calls for our Parliament to vote before the European Parliament, which the Government conceded, and asked the Home Secretary to put the rights of EU citizens into UK law in the Great Repeal Bill, which she has accepted.

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WINDOW WANDERLAND

I love living in Wimbledon Park/ Southfields and have found since I have been here that people are really willing to join in when something is going on. It was that feeling that came back to me when I visited my sister in Bristol in 2016 and Window Wanderland was happening in her area. For me, the simplicity of the thing is what makes it so wonderful. People, houses, shops, restaurants and schools - anyone can sign up to create a window over two nights on a weekend. You can express yourself in whatever way you like. You can simply open your curtains and carry on your usual evening's activity, or you can put a beautiful picture in your window or your son's lego! The aim is to make your community fun, encourage people to speak to each other, get out and about and do something different. 'To see your neighbourhood in a new light'.

Over the nights of 4th and 5th March, 108 windows in Wimbledon Park and Southfields opened their wares to the world. We had sea creatures and teddy bears picnics. There was a flashing disco show in Southfields Footcare on Replingham Road and a display of ancient tincture bottles in the D Parry Pharmacy on Arthur Road. Four primary schools lent their creativity to businesses; involving hundreds of children and 'Crafted' ran workshops all week culminating in the taking over of the St Michael's café window in a gloriously colourful collaboration. St Barnabas church lit up their big window and there was a pop up tea shop on Lavenham Road, where a cuppa and a piece of cake sustained Window Wanderers for a few more streets of delight.

We had Star Wars, Moby Dick, Bowie, the Hungry Caterpillar, Alice in Wonderland, animals, sea creatures, balloons, a disco and much, much more.

It was lovely to wander the streets over two nights and see so many people out, not hurrying, just wandering with the only purpose – to spot something fun, beautiful, amusing and amazing!

Thank you Wimbledon Park and Southfields residents and businesses, for making your streets beautiful. I'm already looking forward to next year.

Amy Hill

See here for a full gallery of windows:

<http://www.windowwanderland.com/event-gallery/?eventID=5878>



Front Garden Awards 2017

Calling all gardeners in Wimbledon Park! We will again be seeking the best Front Gardens in Wimbledon Park for our annual awards, so please help to enhance the neighbourhood by making your front garden as attractive as possible. Even the smallest space has potential!

A team of local residents will be looking at all gardens visible from the street to nominate their favourites. From these, a panel of judges will choose the best in the following categories:

Best Summer Interest Garden

Best All-year Interest Garden

Best Environmentally Sustainable Garden

Judging will take place on the following dates:

Preliminary round: 22 - 28 June

Final selections: Sunday 2 July

We will inform all those whose gardens are selected for the final judging, and results will be posted to them within a few days.

Presentation of the awards, including the John Uden Trophy for the overall Winner, will take place at the WPRA AGM in the Autumn.

We are always looking for new people to get involved with the judging, so if you are interested and are willing to spare a few hours of your time, please get in touch.

Contact Jill Farmer

Tel: 020 8947 6572; email: jill.y.farmer@gmail.com

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The best way to tackle air pollution?

The Council is about to introduce a surcharge on diesel vehicles in the borough, based on parking permits only. Therefore, this will not include those that can park off road or the huge amount of daily through traffic in Merton.

On 14th November 2016 the Cabinet agreed to the introduction of a levy charge for all diesel vehicles that have a Resident, Business or Trade parking permit with the introduction of £150 surcharge phased over a 3 year period - £90 in 2017/18, £115 in 2018/19 and £150 in 2019/20.

Also, a Resident parking permit charge for electric vehicles is to be set at a discounted rate of £25 per annum.



The Council is to review the impact of the diesel surcharge for a period of 2 years, with a view to the introduction of a comprehensive emissions based parking scheme.

To implement the above, the Council is undertaking a Statutory Consultation, starting on 12th January 2017 and concluding on 3rd February 2017, to amend all the Traffic Management Orders pertaining to Controlled Parking Zones.

According to the Council, the introduction of a diesel surcharge is designed to highlight the disproportionate impact these vehicles have upon local air quality and ill health.

They say the overall aim of the scheme is to influence residents and business users to consider changing to lower or zero emission vehicles with any revenue derived from the scheme reinvested to support local sustainable transport initiatives and necessary infrastructure. Successful introduction of this type of scheme demonstrates the local authority's commitment to reducing emissions and improving air quality towards national objectives.

According to research carried out on behalf of Merton Council, there are 15074 vehicles with parking permits. These are represented by vehicles split 63% petrol and 35% diesel.

The introduction of these measures was discussed at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on the 12th December after being 'called in' by Councillors David Simpson and Daniel Holden.



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Reflections

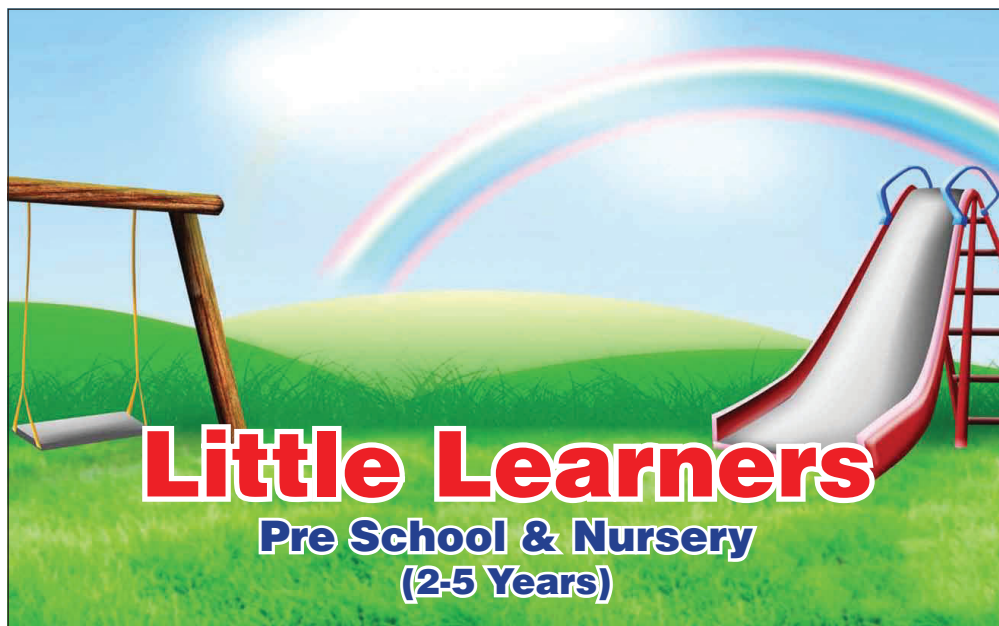
We recently celebrated our Silver Jubilee as residents of The Grid area of Wimbledon Park. Inevitably, I began to reminisce about what our neighbourhood was like when we moved here, and have tried to establish in my mind just from memory the main changes that have taken place in the area since we arrived.

By professional formation my interest is generally focused on the physical aspects of the buildings and the public spaces in between them. From this perspective, perhaps it can be said that not much has changed, in particular on The Grid, which retains its strong residential character. Although the majority of the terraced houses have now incorporated further accommodation in the loft space, this has been done, except for a few cases, without compromising the external appearance of the houses or the street scene.

When you catch glimpses of the changes at the rear of the properties, then it becomes apparent that the use of the land has been clearly intensified. Externally, the demise of most of the old corner shops on streets such as Revelstoke Road has meant a loss in the variety and character of the area.

The main local commercial area in Arthur Road sustained by the attraction and movement of the residents towards and from Wimbledon Park tube station has seen more changes, in particular the lower end of the road towards Durnsford Road, where more recently new residential led developments have taken place. These new buildings have, in terms of massing, respected the overall height of the older buildings further up on both sides of the road. As to the architectural character of the new buildings, one could say that perhaps not enough attention was paid for these to reflect in a contemporary manner at least the materials and proportions found in the overall context.

The uses at street level have indeed changed following commercial demands and trends. Banks no longer have outlets at Wimbledon Park, the Public Library also disappeared and, as in any typical High Street, there is now a bigger range of food and café shops providing local residents with an option to stop their journeys for a chat on the way home or to work.



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The extension and renovation of the Coop store has made this a popular destination balancing the attraction of the tube station. Christ the King Church continues to play an important role in the character of our local town centre.

The approach to the tube station through the meandering Arthur Road from the top of the hill offers quite a lot of changes, with new mostly residential developments that have taken place almost unnoticed over the period, due to the strong presence of mature trees and high brick boundary walls onto the street.

We can now see the minimalist approach next to St Mary's Church and contemporary design town houses almost opposite the Artesian Well. We can also see new traditionally designed larger houses that attempt to replicate the scale and detailing of the former late Victorian or Edwardian original single large houses that have been demolished to give way to the intensification of the use of the land.





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But the main change happens when on the way down to the station, all of a sudden a long vista of London becomes strikingly apparent with the impact on the London skyline of the Gherkin, the Walkie-Talkie, the Shard, the London Eye, to mention just a few of the new developments that have taken place in the last 25 years.



What will happen in the next 25 years to the character of Wimbledon Park? Hopefully, the continuous evolution of the area reflecting a vibrant community will be for the better, but that will be for others to assess!

Mario L Avendano, RIBA

February 2017

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Other Theft	By suspect unknown appropriating lost mobile phone.	ENDEAVOUR WAY	23/01/2017 00:01	23/01/2017 06:00
Other Theft	Victim believed her purse was stolen from her shopping bag today at Wimbledon Market	PLOUGH LANE	25/01/2017 11:00	25/01/2017 12:30
Other Theft	Victim 2 has reported theft of property from the venue that was hired out to suspect on five contracts a few months ago.	WEIR ROAD	29/03/2016 00:01	
Other Theft	machinery hired by suspect has not been returned to victim	WEIR ROAD	04/06/2016 00:01	
Other Theft	By named suspect hiring listed property and failing to return it.	WEIR ROAD	19/05/2016 00:01	25/01/2017 11:00
Other Theft	By the suspect taking the property after initially hiring it, but not returning it when meant to.	WEIR ROAD	18/03/2016 00:01	
Other Theft	Theft of parcel from communal post room in flats.	PLOUGH LANE	19/01/2017 11:00	19/01/2017 11:05
Other Theft	Loss prevention have written to the suspect who has failed to respond and return the hired equipment.	WEIR ROAD	13/07/2016 00:01	
Other Theft Person	By person(s) unknown stealing victims wallet from his rear jean pocket when attending the venue.	PLOUGH LANE	07/01/2017 09:30	
Other Theft Person	Victim states that his Iphone has been stolen from his pocket.	PLOUGH LANE	22/01/2017 09:35	
Other Theft Person	Suspect replaced phone that victim was selling with a fake plastic phone in box, stole original iphone	ARTHUR ROAD	30/01/2017 13:22	30/01/2017 13:25
Theft From M/V	Victims car was interfered with and her small wallet containing £2.00 change was stolen by unknown person.	WELLINGTON ROAD	05/01/2017 16:00	05/01/2017 16:00
Theft From M/V	Victim states car broken into and items stolen while parked outside home address	HASLEMERE AVE- NUE	07/01/2017 16:30	08/01/2017 19:00
Theft From M/V	Victim returned to her car parked outside her flat to find that the driver's wheel and steel rim had been stolen.	GAP ROAD	15/01/2017 13:00	17/01/2017 13:00
Theft From M/V	by unknown suspect(s) entering unlocked car and taking a bag full of brand new childrens clothing overnight	DAWLISH AVENUE	16/01/2017 23:30	17/01/2017 07:00
Theft From M/V	Unknown suspect has stolen a TV from the back of victims delivery lorry.	GAP ROAD	20/01/2017 12:30	20/01/2017 12:39
Theft From M/V	By suspect removing the wheel, including tyre, and nuts off a vehicle	WEIR ROAD	12/01/2017 12:00	13/01/2017 03:30

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Allegation	Method	Address	Date / time from	Date and time to
Burglary in a Dwelling	Victim 1 and victim 2 have returned home to discover their home has been broken into and items taken from within	GAP ROAD	15/02/2017 18:00	15/02/2017 19:50
Burglary in a Dwelling	Unknown person has forced open the front door and conducted an untidy search from within the address and taken a number of items	HAYDON ROAD	17/02/2017 08:00	17/02/2017 17:58
Burglary in a Dwelling	Rear bathroom window on 1st floor had a screw screwed into the frame and then the lock has been forced open with a tool. Premises entered at this time not known what has been stolen or what rooms have been entered	HOME PARK ROAD	07/02/2017 12:00	20/02/2017 09:00
Burglary in a Dwelling	Victim left his house at 0730 hours and when he returned 1830 hours the rear patio windows had been smashed.	STROUD ROAD	24/02/2017 07:30	24/02/2017 18:30
Criminal Damage To a Dwelling	Victim 1 has returned home to find his front door entry lock filled with super glue so that it is unfit for purpose and damaged.	MELROSE AVENUE	18/01/2017 00:01	20/01/2017 12:00
Criminal Damage To a Dwelling	By victim reporting a damaged bathroom window caused by an unknown suspect	GAP ROAD	15/02/2017 19:00	15/02/2017 19:01
Criminal Damage To M/V	a unknown suspect has smashed the victims cars windscreen and damaged two panels to the drivers side possibly with a hammer	GAP ROAD	04/02/2017 13:00	05/02/2017 11:00
Criminal Damage To M/V	Unknown Suspect has slashed four (4) tyres of victims vehicle.	MELROSE AVENUE	06/02/2017 20:30	07/02/2017 08:30
Criminal Damage To M/V	Suspects unknown have slashed the roof of the victims vehicle while it was parked at the venue shown. (Vehicle details are unknown)	ALVERSTONE AVENUE	16/02/2017 12:00	17/02/2017 00:15
Other Theft	By suspect taking goods off shelf to obtain a refund.	POLOUGH LANE	02/02/2017 00:01	
Other Theft	by persons unknown taking unattended property	DURNSFORD ROAD	03/02/2017 10:00	
Other Theft	By suspects putting fuel into vehicle then making off without paying.	POLOUGH LANE	03/02/2017 23:57	
Other Theft	CCTV has been viewed and it shows a female in the mail room take victim 1's parcel and leave with it.	POLOUGH LANE	19/01/2017 09:30	19/01/2017 11:00
Other Theft	By suspects in van stealing bins from outside location	GRESHAM WAY	15/02/2017 16:00	
Other Theft	Victim had rented a storage unit in a warehouse. The warehouse moved his belonging to a new location and when victim attended to look through the belonging, he noticed that items of jewellery were missing.	GRESHAM WAY	09/02/2017 10:00	16/02/2017 09:30
Other Theft	by offender taking cash from works till.	DURNSFORD ROAD	20/11/2016 09:00	17/02/2017 09:00
Other Theft	Victim left her handbag on the side whilst looking at the market stall and it was gone	POLOUGH LANE	25/02/2017 12:30	25/02/2017 13:00



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Other Theft	Informant reporting theft of recycling charity clothes from a recycling bank by a male suspect. the suspect is blocking up the hatch and stealing the clothes that are placed on the floor.	DURNSFORD ROAD	01/02/2017 12:00	
Theft From M/V	the victims vehicle has been opened and searched with glove box being opened but nothing appears to have been taken.	DURNSFORD AVENUE	05/02/2017 00:01	05/02/2017 09:00
Theft From M/V	Suspects have gained access to the victims locked vehicle by means unknown and taken property from within.	HASLEMERE AVENUE	08/01/2017 00:01	08/01/2017 05:00
Theft From M/V	Theft of Tools from victim vehicle at location	WATERSIDE WAY	08/02/2017 09:00	08/02/2017 12:00
Theft From M/V	Generator and drill stolen from the back of Victim's van.	WEIR ROAD	09/02/2017 05:45	09/02/2017 15:45
Theft From M/V	Suspects have taken cigarettes from victim's car in cash and carry shortly after their purchase. Car left unlocked as victim was present.	ENDEAVOUR WAY	13/02/2017 11:50	13/02/2017 11:57
Theft From M/V	By suspects shown taking the property shown from vehicle 1 and made off in vehicle 2	WEIR ROAD	16/02/2017 12:00	16/02/2017 13:00
Theft From M/V	Petrol grinder taken from the rear of an open back pick up truck whilst parked Roadside	STUART ROAD	18/02/2017 14:00	
Theft From M/V	victim left his car parked on the street while he went to the mosque for about 15 minutes. when he returned the passenger window was smashed and a bag of books taken	RYFOLD ROAD	21/02/2017 20:17	21/02/2017 20:25
Theft From M/V	THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	DORA ROAD	22/02/2017 12:34	
Theft From M/V	VEHICLE ENTERED BY SUSPECT AND MEANS UNKNOWN AND PROPERTY STOLEN FROM WITHIN	STUART ROAD	24/02/2017 00:01	25/02/2017 13:45
Theft/Taking of Pedal Cycles	Pedal cycle stored in side alley of property behind a locked gate. Bike last seen at 2300hours on 17/02/2017 however owner has noticed it missing on 18/02/2017 at 0600hours.	KENILWORTH AVENUE	17/02/2017 11:00	18/02/2017 06:00



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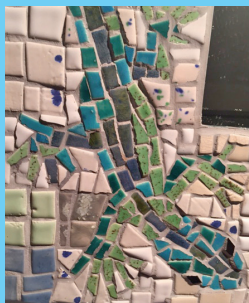
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SPRING HAS ARRIVED IN DURNSFORD REC



The daffodils and narcissi have been giving a wonderful show for the past few weeks and if you hurry down to the Durnsford Rec you might still be able to see them.

In the Fruit Hedge the apples, pears and plums are just coming into blossom and all the other fruits are now beginning to show signs of life with buds emerging from the raspberries, red currants and gooseberries. Let's just hope that the weather is kinder to us this year and that we get a good yield from the fruit. Don't forget the Fruit Hedge is there for all to use, so if you fancy some fresh fruit in the summer pop down to the Rec and pick your own. Take the children along so they can see how the fruit grows and what it looks like before it goes into those little plastic containers you buy from the supermarket. But please be careful as some of the fruit has rather nasty thorns, particularly the plums.

We are in the process of tidying up the Golden Jubilee flower bed and aim to plant some more shrubs over the coming months in order to give all year round colour to the bed. So when you are walking in the park, keep an eye out for the new plants.

ABUNDANCE

If you have fruit trees in your garden and cannot make use of all the fruit then please get in touch with **Abundance**. They will arrange for someone to come round, at a time convenient to you, and pick the fruit. The fruit will either be passed on to local charities providing food to the homeless or those in need, or it will be used to make jams, chutneys and juices which are then sold, with any profits going to local charities, at the annual Abundance Fruit Day this year on 16th September at St Mark's church in Wimbledon. Check out their website at www.abundancewimbledon.com

If you have any fruit to spare or would like to get involved in either picking the fruit or jam making, then please contact Abundance at abundancewimbledon@gmail.com or telephone Juliet on 020 8946 2514

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Why should I support the Residents' Association?

There has been some sort of Residents' Association in Wimbledon Park since 1906. The Association provides an important forum for discussing important local issues and a platform for action. Since its inception, the Residents' Association has helped hundreds, probably thousands of local residents, irrespective of religion, race or creed who have turned to the committee for guidance and support.

We regularly check local planning applications and have been very successful in opposing unsuitable developments. We promote planting and improvements in local parks and green areas. We work with the local police to help you to fight crime in your street and keep you informed by publishing the crime statistics in our newsletter which is produced three times a year and is delivered by volunteer street representatives to over three thousand homes in the Ward.

We have led some major initiatives such as the redevelopment of Wimbledon Park Hall – so that once again we have our own community centre. We have put on fairs and shows and supported numerous local campaigns, individuals and families faced with tragedy. The Residents' Association has given the Wimbledon Park Community a solid and respected voice when dealing with Merton Council. An individual can achieve only so much, but as a team we can and do achieve so much more.

For residents who are new to the area - or possibly those who have forgotten what we have achieved, you will find a brief summary list on pages 30 and 32 covering the last 10 years.

Our income is derived from subscriptions and advertising in the newsletter. We need your support to ensure the continuation of our activities, ideally for three years. Twelve pounds for a 3 year period will help us pay for printing and stationery to publish this newsletter, computer and IT software to run the website, materials and equipment to organise events and keep the flowerboxes blooming in Arthur Road.

Please take a moment to fill in the very brief form on the opposite page. We regret that, unless an email address is supplied, we are unable to acknowledge receipt.

If you are already a member but are not sure of your current status, email to wpsecretary@blueyonder.co.uk and we will check for you.

Thanks in advance for your support. It is hugely appreciated.

DeNica Fairman, Membership Secretary

To Join the Wimbledon Park Residents' Association

Please complete this form and return it to us with your payment:

Name _____

Address _____

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Payment Options:

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Wimbledon Park Residents' Association

Post to: WPRA, 3 Strathmore Rd, SW19 8DB

By Cash

You are welcome to drop your subscription through the door of the Membership Secretary, DeNica Fairman at 3 Strathmore Rd, or of our Chairman, Iain Simpson at 56 Home Park Rd.

Email* If you would like to be included on an e-mail list for crime alerts, WPRA updates and information on other important local issues, Please tick here**

☐

Please date...../...../.....



Wandle Valley Forum

Introducing Wandle Valley Forum

Wandle Valley Forum was established in 2005 to bring together people and organisations that care for the River Wandle and its diverse network of open spaces and communities. We are supported by over 100 community groups, voluntary organisations and local businesses, including Wimbledon Park Residents Association. We provide both a communications network and an independent voice for the different communities and organisations in the Wandle Valley Regional Park. Among other things Wandle Valley Forum:

- **is the primary consultative forum for the Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust, four London boroughs, Greater London Authority and other statutory bodies on Wandle Valley issues**
- **provides an independent voice which speaks out on issues that matter to the future of the Wandle**
- **provides information and support through regular publication of Wandle Bulletin and via our website (www.wandlevalleyforum.org.uk), twitter (@WandleValley) and Facebook**
- **organises events and workshops which bring people together from across the Wandle Valley**
- **feeds in views on planning policies and development proposals to protect and enhance the river and the surrounding Regional Park**
- **provides two members of the Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust Board**

The Wandle Valley Forum Charter sets out our priorities and this was informed by the views of all those who support us. It is available on our website. Wandle Valley Forum is run by volunteers and is a not-for-profit group.

During the last two years we have worked hard to influence the spate of developments in Earlsfield and along the river. We are looking for Merton and Wandsworth Councils to collaborate and harness this development to secure improved access to and across the river and provide better connections to nearby open space and rights of way. This work included a joint letter signed by local

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Councillors, Wimbledon's MP, WPRAs and other local organisations. We have also met with Crossrail 2 to discuss its plans for Weir Road and ensure they respect its location by the river. In all this we have pressed for action to close the gap in the Wandle Trail where the river goes under the main railway line out of Waterloo.

Looking ahead we will be leading the celebration of the Wandle this September during Wandle Fortnight. We are hoping all our supporters will be putting on Wandle-related events and activities and we will even have a small amount of Lottery money to distribute to help.

We are all the richer for the wildlife, green space and heritage of the Wandle Valley and if you would like to stay in touch with our work then sign up at our website.

Tony Burton

Chair, Wandle Valley Forum

www.wandlevalleyforum.org.uk

The VINEYARD HILL ROAD SURGERY



There has been a practice at 67 Vineyard Hill Road since the early 1970s. However, following the announcement of the previous partners' retirement in 2014, it faced closure. NHS England initiated local patient consultation with the likely outcome that the list would be dispersed.

The Partners from the Groves Group took over the partnership in March 2015 and the practice was saved from closure. The Groves Group has 7 partners, 2 of whom work regularly at the Vineyard Hill Road Surgery alongside 3 salaried GPs. Their ethos of maintaining local care in a community environment whilst encouraging autonomy has been fundamental during this transitional period for the local community. They are supported by a Practice Nurse, Health Care Assistant, Manager and a valuable reception and administration team.

The premises were acquired by third party Assura Properties with a twenty year lease, so the local community can be reassured of the long term commitment from the Groves Group to continue providing local services.

The Groves Group has a strong caring vision and is committed to sharing their experience to maintain quality services to local surgeries which are supported

within a group organization structure and responsive to local needs.

Opening hours are 8.00 am to 6.30 pm, Monday to Friday and we are pleased to announce that appointments are now available on Saturday mornings twice a month. We are also currently working with our local CCG to provide Thursday evening appointments in the near future.

Patients can register with 'Patient Access', which enables them to book appointments, request repeat medication and view results online, and we work closely with our local pharmacies to ensure prompt prescription turnaround.

We have an active Patient Participation Group, which welcomes new members.

After our CQC inspection in January 2017 we are pleased to announce our rating is good. Further details including all the services that we offer can be found on our website www.vineyardhillroadsurgery.nhs.uk

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CQC ratings GOOD please see

www.cqc.org.uk

Councillor David Simpson said that he was in favour of measures to improve air quality but that this should be done at a regional or national level. His view was that the surcharge is a piecemeal measure that has been used as an opportunity to raise revenue for the Council. He said that the impact of the surcharge would be felt predominantly in the west of the borough, as that is where the majority of controlled parking zones are located and that this was therefore a punitive and tokenistic measure.

Councillors David Simpson and Daniel Holden made further points in response to questions: vast majority of hotspots are caused by vehicles from outside the borough; although the level of pollutants from vehicle emissions is certainly higher than that indicated by manufacturers' tests, modern cars have lower levels of emissions; air quality is affected by lots of factors across London and can't be controlled by local measures taken in isolation; a surcharge should be imposed at London or national level for all diesel vehicles.

A motion for the matter to be referred back to Cabinet was defeated.

The key legal framework allowing for parking operation and enforcement duties comes under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Road Traffic Act 1991.



Designation of parking is achieved through traffic regulation orders.

During the 1990's people were encouraged, by the introduction of road tax incentives, to buy diesel vehicles on the basis that they produced lower carbon dioxide emissions. At that time there was apparently little or no appreciation of the health impact of particulate matter or Nitrogen Dioxide.

Now diesel vehicle owners are to some extent being punished for following what they assumed was good advice. A fair way of dealing with the problem needs to be found. Low emission Zones have been introduced in many big cities throughout the country. This surely must help but perhaps the most sensible thing would be for the Government to introduce an age related programme of scrapping of diesel vehicles over an agreed time frame.

Iain Simpson



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Kathy Blackburn	51 Ryfold Road	SW19 8DF
Spike Clarke	30 Home Park Road	SW19
Beate Eberhardt	17 Crescent Gardens	SW19 8AJ
DeNica Fairman - Membership Secretary	3 Strathmore Road	SW 19 8DB
Pamela Healy - Advertising/Planning	1 Brooklands Ave	SW19 8EP
Nigel Israel	14 Ryfold Road	SW19 8BZ
Mamoona Jahangir	260 Durnsford Road	SW19 8DS
Paresh Modasia	124 Arthur Road	SW19 8AA
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Elaine Sandon	90 Ashen Grove	SW19 8BN
Michael Tyler - Planning	Cromwell Road	SW19
Iain Simpson - Chairman & Newsletter Editor	56 Home Park Road	SW19 7HN
Peter West - Planning	33 Cromwell Road	SW19
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We need volunteers to deliver our newsletter to each of the following roads **Havelock Road, Kingsley Road, Kohat Road, Ashcombe Road and Gap Road**. If you live in any of these roads and could spare an hour or so three times a year to deliver our newsletter in your road, and possibly others, we would be very grateful.

We will deliver the newsletters for your road to your door. If you would like to help please contact Pamela Healy at pam.2015@outlook.com.

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