Ealing Fields
Residents' Association
www.efra.org.uk

Spring 2017

Little Ealing News

The Newsletter of
Ealing Fields Residents' Association

Welcome to the EFRA newsletter. This issue is being delivered to the 2,000 households in our membership area, which consists of thirty-five roads surrounding Northfields tube station.

In this newsletter we summarise what EFRA has been doing over the last twelve months and our concerns and aspirations for the future.

Heathrow expansion – Tomorrow's Skies over Northfields?

See inside for Special supplement about the proposals and consultations.

Photo: HACAN

Wednesday 24th May at 7.30pm at the LOG CABIN

The AGM is your opportunity to find out what's happening locally and air your views and concerns about the issues that affect you.

Refreshments will be available, so please join us at this annual event which enables residents to meet and discuss local matters with their neighbours.

Please arrive by 7.15 if you would like to join or renew your membership.

NIGHT TUBE

Last December the Night Tube began operating along the Piccadilly Line from Central London to Heathrow (and vice versa) on Friday and Saturday nights. So far the service seems to be operating smoothly. However with the summer months approaching we may see more use of the service and potentially an increase in anti-social behaviour as travellers leave Northfields Station after a night in Town. Also residents whose homes back onto the railway line may experience more noise nuisance when they leave their windows open in the warmer summer nights. EFRA is monitoring the impact of the Night Tube.

Please advise us if you have any concerns about the service.

EALING PASSENGER TRANSPORT USERS GROUP (EPTUG)

EPTUG has been actively campaigning since 2001 to improve public transport services throughout Ealing.

Achievements include : provision of more bus shelters and new lifts to provide step-free access to platforms on the new Crossrail/Elizabeth line, securing bus stop for 607 outside Christ Church, campaigning against overcrowding on the Piccadilly line.

EPTUG has cross-party support but there are always new challenges ahead - eg ensuring adequate bus access to Crossrail stations, bus links to support proposed NHS reorganisation. More help is needed to support the organisation - enquiries : info@eptug.org.

STREET CLEANING

In the autumn and the run up to Christmas, you may have seen that the level of street cleaning by the council had become sporadic in the Northfields areas. A number of streets had been over looked and rubbish had started to build up. Through working with the Councillors, and highlighting particular trouble spots, the level of cleaning has been addressed and the council sent cleaners out to deal with particular trouble spots. A new street cleaning schedule has been put in place by the council which has improved the levels of cleanliness.

But if you do spot anything you can report it though:

- Ealing council report it Website https://www.ealing.gov.uk/reportit
- Or there is a hand app as well you can report problems though https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201230/myaccount/2263/ealing_247

On the subject of rubbish, EFRA would like to highlight the bin collection advice from Ealing council that ***wheelie bins should be put out by 7am on your collection day, leave your bin at the edge of your property, close to the street/pavement, but not on the street/pavement.***

Brentford Festival at Blondin

Sunday 3rd September

We are pleased to announce that due to popular demand the 'Brentford Festival' will be returning to Blondin Park for another year.

Contacting EFRA

If you have any local concerns, please email us at:

contact@efra.org.uk

PLANNING & LICENCING

Orion Park Redevelopment

The owners of this site – to the north of and opposite Northfields Station - have submitted a planning application to redevelop the site primarily for housing – approximately 80 flats. There will be an element of affordable housing, retail units to replace the existing shops along Northfield Avenue and some office space in the largest block.

The proposal is for a 5/6 storey building fronting Northfield Avenue with blocks of flats, interspersed with amenity areas gradually decreasing in height to 2 storeys as the site narrows towards the rear of Mayo Court and Jefferson Close.

Although we do not object to the redevelopment of this key site – we do have a number of concerns about the proposals and have raised them with the developers. These include:

- The height of the proposed development will be taller than both existing and nearby buildings, especially along the Northfield Avenue frontage.
- The potential loss of direct sunlight is likely to be a major concern to neighbouring residents (especially in Belsize Avenue and Derwent Yard Flats).
- The rectangular shape of the proposed development and the two shades of brick cladding.
- The likelihood of unsightly balcony contents and the possibility of overlooking into habitable rooms of adjoining residential properties.
- The narrow vehicular and pedestrian entrance is in close proximity to a key bus stop for passengers using Northfield Station.
- There will need to be a legal agreement preventing residents of the site from parking on the surrounding roads during the hours that a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) is in operation. However, a re-consultation may be required.

Planning Notifications

EFRA remains extremely concerned about the unsatisfactory way in which the Council relies on lamppost notices to advise residents of planning applications.

We believe that the Council should return to the previous method of sending written notifications to neighbouring homes and we are lobbying for this change.

EALING FIELDS HIGH SCHOOL / KING FAHAD SITE

Ealing Fields High School opened its doors to pupils last September in its temporary home - the former Evershed sports pavilion in Wyke Gardens, W7. The school proposes to be here for two years whilst plans go ahead for a permanent home on the site of the former King Fahad Academy in Little Ealing Lane.

Breaking news as we go to print is that contracts have now been signed for the King Fahad site. This follows strenuous efforts and negotiations by all involved and sustained support from the Council.

More information will be available on the School's website at: http://www.ealingfields.co.uk/

IMPROVEMENTS ALONG LITTLE EALING LANE

Using funding from TfL, a series of improvements to the road network in our area have been undertaken over the last year or so along Little Ealing Lane (in the main).

It was an EFRA suggestion that a second Zebra Crossing be installed in order to improve safety for school children and to assist with traffic calming.

We have worked closely with the Council on ensuring these improvements have met the needs of local residents.

In the last year we have seen (amongst other measures) the re-alignment of the pedestrian crossings outside our local schools and the creation of a 'rock garden' at the junction opposite the Plough. Indeed EFRA members will be maintaining the garden on behalf of the Council.

The final project associated with this programme involves the creation of a contra flow cycle lane built in Chandos Avenue, projected to be in place later this year.

New 'Rock Garden' at The Plough Junction

Photo: Keith Marriage

TRAFFIC CALMING

Controlling traffic speeds is an ongoing issue in our area. So traffic calming measures are often discussed at our Committee meetings. Working with our local Councillors and Council staff, EFRA has secured funding for projects that will hopefully lessen traffic speeds in our area.

So in the next few months we should see new roundels painted on roads east of Northfield Avenue advising motorists of the 20 mph speed limit.

The Council also plans to highlight the traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Little Ealing School in Weymouth Avenue. This will hopefully make the area safer for parents and carers taking their children to and from the school.

DON'T MISS THE EFRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 24th May at 7.30pm at the LOG CABIN

(behind Northfields Library)

Please arrive by 7.15 if you would like to join or renew your membership

Drinks and light refreshments