

# 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.

## Building Work starts at EFHS



Photo courtesy Keith Marriage

### Ealing Fields High School:

The design of the new school, on the St Anne's' Convent / King Fahad Academy site, has proved challenging. The doubling of the number of pupils on this site, coupled with the need to retain the historic central building, has meant that classroom blocks will have to be constructed very close to the site boundary. This will not leave room for screening trees between the new buildings and the site boundaries. In addition, many mature trees have had to be felled to make way for the new buildings.

*Continued...*

## Wednesday 22nd 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.**

### **Ealing Fields High School** *continued*

EFRA actively represented resident concerns at last autumn's Planning Committee and secured agreement that the external walls of the new buildings will be screened with 'living green walls' wherever possible. There is an example of 'living green wall' on the south side of Edgware Road Underground Station.

EFRA continues to have concerns over the arrangements for deliveries via the rear, Convent Gardens' entrance and the capacity of the narrow pavements at the main entrance, opposite The Plough, which will need to accommodate 850 pupils at the start and end of the school day, in addition to the pupils who already use them.

During the current clearing and demolition works EFRA was concerned to learn that some residents have experienced damage to their properties from the vibrations they have felt in their homes. EFRA has supported these residents in pressing for condition surveys to be carried out prior to the demolition work and, also, for ongoing monitoring of vibration levels. EFRA hopes that the Department for Education, which is paying for the new school, will take a responsible attitude to any damage caused and address the concerns being experienced by affected home owners.

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## **Orion Park Redevelopment**

Demolition work is due to start on the site this autumn. The developers, Network Homes (a Wembley-based housing association), are not expected to apply for changes to the planning permission granted by Ealing Council apart from welcome amendments to the original colour of the brickwork. The mixed use development will provide around 75 new homes for the area.

We enjoy good relations with the developer and can represent resident views to the housing association before and during the building programme.

Site security remains high after Travellers broke into the site last August. The resulting mountain of rubbish was cleared by Network Homes - at considerable cost - after the Travellers were evicted from the site.

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## **Housing Development at the back of Overdale Road?**

The landowner of the garage site between Overdale Road and the Underground line at Northfields Station is planning to sell the site to a housing developer – Oakford Homes. Currently there are proposals to build 66 flats on the site in blocks that are not more than three storeys high. There will be dedicated parking for cars/bikes and bin zones with some communal gardens. Over a third of the housing will be 'affordable' and managed by a partner housing association.

We are working with our councillors and local residents to ensure that any development does not adversely affect residents living nearby. We are particularly concerned about the potential 'shadowing' effect of the proposed buildings on properties with south facing gardens and also on car parking provision for the new development.

The developer has committed to full community consultation with the neighbouring residents ahead of submitting his formal planning application. EFRA will be part of these discussions working to protect the interests of local residents.

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## Heathrow: Northfields could be overflowed by aircraft 365 days a year

In March, EFRA responded to Heathrow Airport's consultation covering:

- New flight paths resulting in changes to runway alternation and respite
- Questions regarding the current Westerly Preference regime which sees flights taking off over Windsor when there is a light easterly wind
- A new night flight regime
- Extra flights from 2022 by introducing Independent Parallel Approaches (IPA).

The consultation revealed what the new flight paths might look like – with or without the construction of Runway 3. These show that the changes could result in Northfields experiencing sustained landing noise and air pollution for the first time. There could also be more take-offs over our area than currently.

There are also proposals for an additional 25,000 flights each year using current facilities at Heathrow, starting in 2022. This could happen even without the new runway.

EFRA opposes expansion at Heathrow, including additional flights from 2022. As changes to flights paths are expected even if Runway 3 is not built, we made the case for being spared a significant increase in additional noise. We raised the density of schools in South Ealing stressing the known negative impact of continuous aircraft noise on schoolchildren. EFRA's full response is available at [www.efra.org.uk](http://www.efra.org.uk).

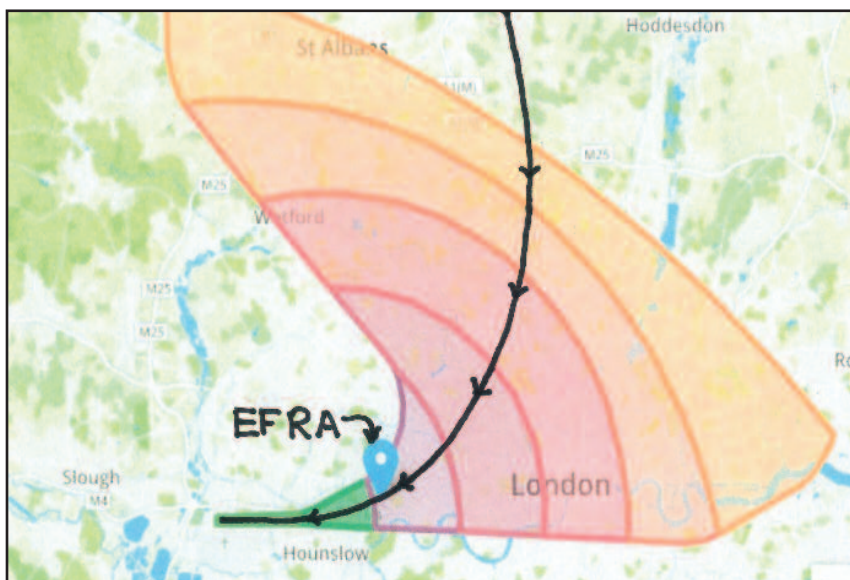


Photo courtesy Keith Marriage

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## Northfields Library: Is 'community management' an option?

The Council has started a consultation exercise which could see the closure of seven libraries, including our own Northfields Library, unless community groups can be found to run them. There have been a number of consultation meetings and the process continues until 17 May. If you haven't done so already you are encouraged to submit your views.



Photo courtesy Pollyprint

Go to [www.ealing.gov.uk](http://www.ealing.gov.uk)>current consultations> draft library strategy to make your views known.

EFRA wants to protect this important community asset and is keen to work with the Council and others to ensure that it continues to deliver vital services to our local community.

## **Traffic Calming**

A lot has happened in the past 12 months and we are pleased to report that EFRA has worked successfully with residents, local councillors and neighbourhood schools to improve road safety around Little Ealing Lane and Weymouth Avenue. For instance, new, clearer 20 mph roundels have been painted in surrounding roads and raised tables have been built to improve the safety of pedestrians and other road users.

However, our work does not stop there. We will continue to lobby Ealing Council and local stakeholders to further improve the safety of local roads for both local residents and children attending Little Ealing Primary and Mount Carmel Schools. We hope we can count on your support.

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## **Making Northfields Station step-free**

Working with the pressure group Transport for All, EFRA launched its campaign to make Northfields Station step free last September.

The online petition is still live so if you haven't signed it yet please add your name to the 2000 plus people who have: <https://www.change.org/p/transport-for-london-make-northfields-tube-station-step-free>

We are in discussion with our various partners about when would be the best time to present the petition to the Mayor of London and TfL.



Photo courtesy Keith Marriage

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## **OWL Leaflets - Neighbourhood Watch**

Growing concerns about community safety resulted in 300 residents attending a local meeting on 10th April with the police and other stakeholders. Resourcing levels mean that there is only so much our local police can do. EFRA therefore strongly recommends that everyone joins the local online Neighbourhood Watch scheme called OWL. Please follow the joining links in the enclosed OWL leaflet.

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## **Nextdoor Ealing Fields**

Local residents have been receiving letters promoting a social media platform called Nextdoor Ealing Fields. Please note that, despite the similarity in name, this initiative has no connections with EFRA.

### **EFRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 22nd May 2019**

Do come to EFRA's AGM at 7.30pm on Wednesday 22nd May. There is a lot to discuss. We will have speakers from the contractors working on the EFHS site and from the Council talking about the plans for the library service. We will also have a slot on Community Safety. Our councillors will be present to take questions on matters that concern local residents including prospective and actual changes to the parking regime for both residents and local businesses.