

NEWSLETTER

A voluntary association supporting local heritage, quality of life and community

Compulsory purchase? SCC seeks to build on Elmbridge village green

Surrey County Council has now released full design details of the Walton Bridge and 'clover leaf' junction scheme, and has issued compulsory purchase orders and side road orders. Residents have until 11 March 2005 to object and help ensure a public enquiry.

Damaging junction, bad decision

Surrey County Council granted itself permission for the new bridge and junction. This means that SCC considers the proposal to be a suitable use of the land. Other parties may disagree.

Many local residents are strongly opposed to the junction design. They believe it is grossly oversized for the projected traffic flow. It would do irreversible environmental damage, deprive residents of cherished riverside amenity, and it would encourage traffic into Walton Lane, Thames Street and Portmore Park Road.

SCC has published the required statutory Orders, which you can view at Walton or Shepperton Public Library:

A **Side Roads Order** providing for revised layout of roads on and around the new bridge, including link roads from Walton Lane at Cowey Sale, and a roundabout on Walton Bridge Rd Shepperton.

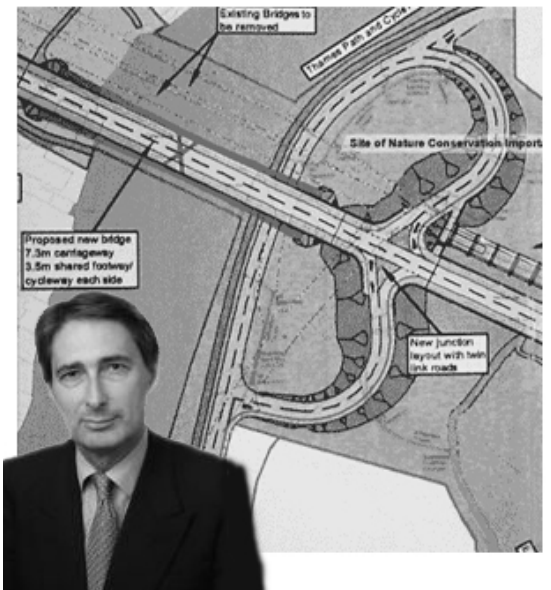
A **Compulsory Purchase Order** to acquire land and rights totalling 20 acres of land on both sides of the river, including 19,000 square metres of open space at Cowey Sale, 2,300 square metres of common at Windmill Common/Green and 7,400 square metres defined as village green (by the flood arches).

If you want to object...

Relevant objections to the scheme itself might include design and traffic issues; objections to the SRO might relate to need, cost, traffic, safety; and objections to the CPO might involve open space, common land, loss of amenity, environmental issues. Objections to these Orders need to be made **by 11 March 2005** and sent to:

The Secretary of State for Transport
Local Authority Orders Unit
Government Office for the North East
Citygate, Gallowgate
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE NE1 4WH

Citing Ref. "A244 THAMES CROSSING NEW WALTON BRIDGE SCHEME, SIDE ROADS ORDER and COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER"



MP shares concern over traffic threat

Runnymede and Weybridge MP Philip Hammond supports the process by which Surrey County Council has awarded itself planning permission for the new Walton Bridge and junction. But he is concerned about traffic flows on local roads.

In a letter to our committee, Mr Hammond said "any significant increase in traffic along Walton Lane would be unacceptable". He had written to SCC seeking "a commitment to act swiftly if at any time in the future it becomes apparent that traffic flows in Walton Lane have increased as the result of the construction of a new bridge." He would write to us again when he had a response from SCC. That was last September. We are still waiting to hear of an SCC response.

Portmore Park & District Residents Association Committee for 2004-5

Miles Macleod (Chair) 844449 Clinton Close; Pat Scholey (Secretary) 843121 Mount Pleasant; Ian Bonnett (Treasurer) 856971 The Willows; John Phillips 847984 Portmore Park Rd; Tricia Scott 888843 Montrose Walk; Godfrey Turner 853009 Portmore Park Road