

NEWSLETTER

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

New road across our green belt Where will it lead?

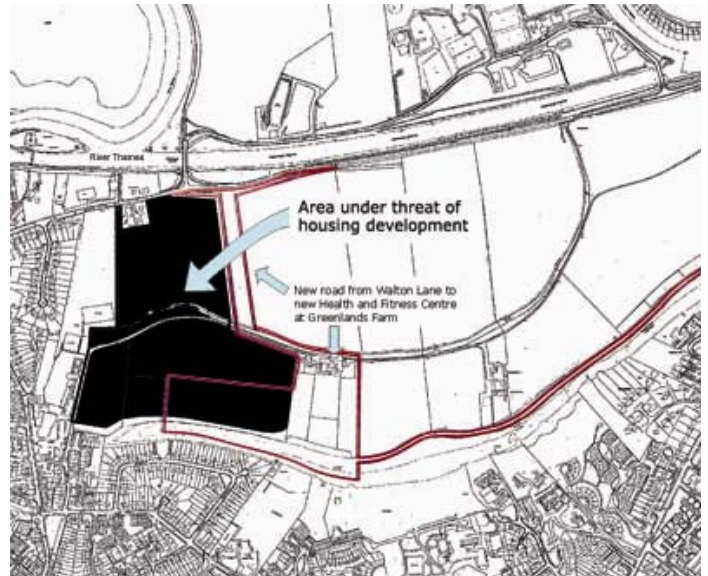
Many local residents have been surprised to see the construction of a road from Walton Lane across the fields to Greenlands Farm.

The new road will give access to a Health and Fitness Club at Greenlands farm. The developers also wanted to build a *second* road, but were refused after strong objections from PP&DRA (see www.portmore.org.uk).

Hundreds of homes on the floodplain?

These roads would provide convenient access for a new housing estate. And developers have asked Elmbridge for advice on an environmental survey, in connection with potential residential development on adjacent green belt land (shaded black in our diagram).

This is just the latest proposal to build on this green belt land. The new plans focus on the Weybridge end of Greenlands Farm, and stretch right down to Walton Lane, parallel with Dorney Grove, over fields that flooded as recently as 2003.



Riverside green belt under threat - proposals for 200-300 new dwellings on agricultural floodplain green belt.

Share your views at our AGM

Wednesday 24 May at 7.30pm in the Church hall,
Christ the Prince of Peace Church, Portmore Way

Bridge Inquiry outcome awaited

The public inquiry into the new Walton Bridge scheme extended into two additional sessions, because of the level of opposition. It finally ended on 2 March.

PP&DRA opposes the scheme because:

- public consultation focused on engineering and roads, and played down environmental issues
- the proposed twin slip road junction would cause wholly unacceptable environmental damage
- the new junction would promote increased traffic on Walton Lane, Thames Street & Portmore Park Road

You can see the PP&DRA evidence and closing address on our website at www.portmore.org.uk

The inspector said he would make his recommendations within two to three months. It is then up to the relevant Secretaries of State to decide on the fate of the scheme.



How is there permission for a new road?

Planning permission was originally granted for the new road in 1996 on appeal (ref 1996/0689) as part of a planning application by Argent Estates Ltd to build a golf course that was never developed. This road was part of later applications for a 'health and fitness club and recreation park' submitted by The Weybridge Club Ltd (registered office in Bristol).

Watch this space!

Many people feel the remaining green belt land should be protected from development and kept as it is – a little piece of countryside on our doorstep. That, after all, was the purpose of green belt. And once it has gone, it has gone forever.

Portmore Park & District Residents Association Committee for 2005-6

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; William Rutherford 850971 Mount Pleasant

What do you want for Weybridge?

Residents' participation can make a big difference

Do you value the quality of life we have in Portmore Park and District, and want to see it retained and improved? If so, why not join PP&DRA, your local residents' association?

Planning

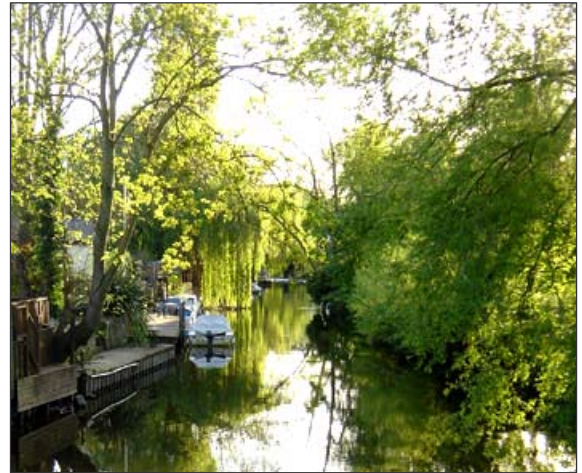
We hear from many people concerned about planning proposals. PP&DRA supports reasonable objections from residents, which can help ensure that undesirable schemes are stopped or improved.

Wider concerns

Wider issues and areas of concern residents have raised with PP&DRA include:

- Liaison with St George's College Junior School, particularly over managing the impact of school traffic
- The Walton Bridge Scheme and its likely effects
- Riverside conservation, enhancement and tidiness
- Fly tipping, particularly in Walton Lane and on Desborough Island
- Introduction of the 20mph zone
- Parking controls, street cleaning
- Policing antisocial behaviour, and the use of CCTV
- Change of use of retirement accommodation

Is there is something that concerns you? Are you willing to participate or contribute in some way?



A tranquil local scene just a stone's throw from Portmore Park Road: the River Wey between Radnor Road and Whittet's Ait, pictured in May 2006

Thames Street developments

New planning application for Crest site

Last December, after many objections from local residents, Elmbridge BC refused planning consent for a development of 14 dwellings plus a small office building on the Crest site at 39 Thames Street. Now revised plans have been submitted.

A prominent site

This site is overlooked by more than thirty properties. Local residents objected to the **mass** of buildings proposed in the last application, their proximity to neighbouring properties, the loss of trees and the potential impact on on-street parking.

New proposals for 13 dwellings

The revised plans (ref **2006/0945**) are for slightly fewer buildings. You can view the new plans online at www.elmbridge.gov.uk. Initial reactions seem to be that this is an improved proposal, but still a very big mass of buildings for a modestly sized site.

What do you think? Elmbridge is inviting comments in writing by 18 May. Write to: Head of Town Planning, Elmbridge Borough Council, Civic Centre, High Street, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9SD.

Share your views at our AGM

Wednesday 24 May at 7.30pm in the Church hall, Christ the Prince of Peace Church, Portmore Way, Weybridge, KT13 8JD

Aims of PP&DRA

We are a voluntary association of local residents. PP&DRA is not aligned to any political party. We care about our locality – its heritage, quality of life and community.

Local Heritage

Help safeguard the long term character of our locality – Our part of Weybridge is graced with attractive homes, tree-lined roads, and the Wey & Thames riversides. We want to hand it on unspoilt to future generations.

Quality of Life

Keep day to day life safe and pleasant for residents – We help represent local views on issues including planning applications, antisocial behaviour, traffic, parking, street cleanliness, local amenities and services, and anything else that affects residents.

Community

Support neighbourliness – Participating in PP&DRA is a way to get to know people, and help build the sense of community.

HOW TO JOIN

Membership of PP&DRA is open to residents of the roads listed at the foot of the page. Please send your name, address and contact details, plus a subscription (£3 or more) to:

Pat Scholey, Secretary PP&DRA
2a Mount Pleasant, Weybridge KT13 8EP

You can view our website at.

www.portmore.org.uk

Contact us via any committee member, or email committee@portmore.org.uk