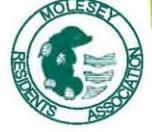
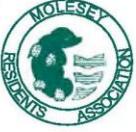


MOLESEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2014
www.moleseyresidentsassociation.org.uk
e-mail contact: mjaxton@live.com



Chairman: Nigel Cooper, 24 Southfields, KT8 0DP Tel: 8224 - 0712

Molesey Residents Association Councillors at Elmbridge

MOLESEY EAST

Nigel Cooper 8224-0712
Elizabeth Cooper 8224-0712

MOLESEY NORTH

Alan Hopkins 8224-1078
Liz Robertson 8979-0035
Stuart Selleck 8979-2466

MOLESEY SOUTH

Ruby Ahmed 8941-9680
Mike Axton 8979-1502
Vic Eldridge 8979-3905

MRA Councillors at Surrey County Council - Stuart Selleck 8979-2466 & Ernest Mallett 8979-6446



MAY ELECTION RESULTS

Molesey Residents Association is very pleased that our candidates in Molesey North (Stuart Selleck)

and Molesey South (Ruby Ahmed) were elected to Elmbridge Council with good majorities.

Stuart is a long standing Councillor but Ruby is a new Councillor so will need time to 'learn the ropes'. She replaces Ian Donaldson who stood down after representing South Ward for many years of really creditable service, particularly on major planning matters such as leading the opposition to the awful Hampton Court Station/Jolly Boatman plans.

However, we were sorry to see Tony Popham lose his Molesey East seat but we would congratulate Tony on the way he has concerned himself with Molesey's amenities and his very effective representations at the planning appeals on the Pavilion site. Rest assured that MRA councillors will continue to do their level best for Molesey and its residents, whether those residents voted for us or not.

Elmbridge Council now consists of 32 Conservative councillors, 6 Liberal Democrats and 21 Residents Associations councillors (of which 8 are Molesey Residents Association councillors).

Detailed Molesey results are shown in the table above.

DAFFODIL APPEAL

Many thanks to those who contributed so generously to our 'Daffodil' appeal in our last newsletter.

As a result of these donations, supplemented by MRA, we were able to send almost £550 to Marie Curie Cancer Care and £200 to Alzheimers. The charities were very grateful for these donations.

Thank You again to all who donated.

The daffodils in the picture, planted outside Molesey Library in Walton Road, were provided by MRA and planted by the ladies from the offices above the Clinic (with help from MRA committee members).

ELMBRIDGE ELECTION RESULTS

MOLESEY EAST (Turnout 42.9%)

BAX, Steve – Conservative	953 ELECTED
DORAN, Marc – Labour	121
MARSHALL, Trevor – UKIP	125
NAGLE, Paul – Lib Democrat	71
POPHAM, Tony – MRA	835

MOLESEY NORTH (Turnout 40.6%)

KELLY, Ray – Labour	111
MONKEY the Drummer – Loony	22
SELLECK, Stuart – MRA	1105 ELECTED
STURGIS, Alastair – Lib Dem	70
THROM-JONES, G – Conserv.	364
WHEATLEY, Paul – UKIP	247

MOLESEY SOUTH (Turnout 34.2%)

AHMED, Ruby – MRA	1157 ELECTED
AJJANE, Jamal – Labour	256
MAHNE, Christopher – Conserv	349



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NO MORE FLOODS!

St Peter's Road, next to St Peter's Church in Walton Road, West Molesey, has always suffered with flooding whenever there's a reasonable amount of rain, as the picture shows. This is just after a short rainfall and has often been much worse than shown.

The drainage system needed to be rebuilt and MRA County Councillor Ernest Mallett used his local project allowance to finance the necessary work which required a new drain to be laid the length of St Peter's Road and connected with a major drain under Walton Road.

All this is now complete and there's been no flooding since. As one resident said 'YIPPEEEEE!'



HUGE HANDOUTS AT SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL



At a recent Surrey County Council meeting the ruling Conservative Group, without warning, tabled proposals that would hugely increase the pay of top Conservative Councillors.

Residents Councillors and Independent Councillors voted against the scheme but it was forced through by the Conservative majority.

The scheme will see the Leader's annual pay rocket from £27,000 to £43,000 while his deputy will see his payment rise from £19,500 to £31,250. Both will also pick up the basic allowance of about £12,000 which is paid to all councillors. This means the Leader of the Council now earns over £55,000. Other top Conservative councillors also got big increases. The total extra cost of all this is over £200,000 - paid for out of your council tax!

The Conservatives had intended to backdate all this to May 2013 (we assume that they didn't want to introduce this scheme when the County Council elections were due in May last year).

However, they were advised that this would be an illegal move. So, what did they do? They artificially back-dated it by giving themselves a legal extra instant 'ex-gratia' payment equal to the whole of each person's yearly increase.

To be clear, the Leader's pay packet, for which he voted, will, for the month of May 2014, give him an extra take-home cheque of £17,333 (£16000 backdated plus £1333 monthly increase) on top of his £27,000 + £11,791 annual previous pay. SO - DO PLEASE KEEP PAYING YOUR COUNCIL TAX!!! Incidentally, to balance the extra cost, the Leader has cut the Community Grants Allowance by £2,500 per councillor. This is the money each councillor can allocate to Scouts, Guides, Art Clubs, Allotments, Elderly Persons Clubs and every type of community project. So effectively your community is going short to pay for all of these so called Special Responsibility increases.

So – what does all this mean? More money for some, paid for by fewer amenities for you.

NEW HURST PARK SCHOOL

A new Hurst Park primary school is to be built to replace the existing school. The new school will be double the size of the existing school with 420 places plus a 30-place nursery. It will be built on the old John Nightingale site (below) on Hurst Road in the form of part two-storey building, with the existing school site probably sold off for housing.

For years residents living around the back entrance to the existing school have suffered the chaos which ensues from many parents



driving to drop off or pick up their children to or from school.

With the new school it was hoped that it would be possible to provide facilities for this on the school site but Surrey County Council Education Department is adamantly opposed to this and intends to provide only 27 parking places on site – enough for less than half the staff with no provision for visitors.

The Education Department assumes that two thirds of the children will walk or cycle to school and has hence calculated that there will be about 142 cars bringing/collecting children (with 450 children that is probably an big underestimate).

It also says that there is adequate on-road parking space for them in Berkeley Drive, Bishop Fox Way, Boleyn Drive,

Freeman Drive, Grafton Way, Lytcott Drive, The Crescent and Weldon Drive. Since the school will require all children up to the age of seven to be physically taken into the school premises, a lot of the parking will not be transitory 'drop-off' type stopping but longer term parking.

MRA County Councillor Ernest Mallett has fought very hard against a similar proposal at the new Cranmere School in Esher, where there is plenty of room on-site and a really impossible parking situation outside. Resulting from his objections a working party was set up to consider the position and came to the conclusion that a decent scheme inside the school premises was quite feasible and all were in favour (including many Conservatives who also sit on the Planning Committee). When it came to the vote the 'whip' was used and the majority party forced through the original plan.

In view of this, prospects for a better arrangement for the new Hurst Park School don't look good.

AT LONG LAST!

For many years Island Farm Road in West Molesey has been in a deplorable state. It was in a poor state before Elmbridge Council passed highways maintenance back to Surrey County Council in 2000.

Since then there have been many promises and, after continuous pushing by MRA Councillors, the road was scheduled to be done in the 2013/2014 financial year. That promise was broken when new schedules were drawn up last year. But, at last, after more pushing, it will be done and, as we go to press, the notices are up with a start date of June 2nd.

The repairs are likely to be more than just resurfacing since the substructure of the road is concrete and this means extra problems, which could cause inconvenience for local residents. However, after all this time they will probably put up with anything to get it done!



PARKING CONCERNS Following long term consultations between MRA County Councillors and SCC Officers, parking will be banned on the South sides of Palace and Wolsey Roads for one hour mid-morning for 70 metres nearest the Bridge Road junction. For most of the day, these areas will be clear of commuters and business people and available for local shoppers.

DEEN'S GARAGE opposite Walton Road Recreation ground in West Molesey has to move since the landlord obtained planning consent (after many objections and a fiercely fought appeal by MRA Councillors and residents) for a retail store (probably Sainsbury's) on the site. We fear for the impact this new store will have on nearby shops and the parking chaos it could cause. Deen's Garage is moving to Island Farm House, Island Farm Road, West Molesey in June.

MOLESEY HOSPITAL

There has been a community hospital in Molesey for more than 120 years and over the years it has greatly benefited from the most generous support of the people of Molesey.

Surprisingly, a recent applicant for a nursing post at the Hospital, though she lived just round the corner, had not known of its existence!

The MRA has consistently helped the Hospital and has now been asked to inform all Molesey residents that they do have a community hospital in High Street, West Molesey and that it provides in-patient beds and consultant and nurse-led outpatient clinics and diagnostic facilities for local people. It is hoped facilities will be enhanced shortly with the installation of new X-ray facilities.

The Hospital's role is likely to expand as the NHS faces the absolute necessity of taking some of the load off the acute hospitals, especially their A & E departments.



COUNCILLOR GRANTS: MRA County Councillors Ernest Mallett & Stuart Selleck are working on getting their (now smaller) community grants out to Molesey and Esher residents.

Some of the current recipients are Molesey Library for garden benches; St. Paul's Church to help with organ repairs; The Friends of Molesey Anchor Care Home to get disabled residents out during the day; Molesey Photographic Club for a new projector; Molesey Carnival for a host of small items, trophies, flags, rosettes, gazebo etc.; Surrey Search & Rescue for 2-way radios.

Last year a large number of projects were supported, St. Barnabas Church new boiler; Molesey History Society for their Thames Bridges history project; Thames Landscape Strategy to promote safety of bats; Surrey Police Young Persons Honours Awards; Esher & East Molesey Garden Society Show; Molesey Duke of Edinburgh Awards Expeditions scheme; Counselling Training to aid help to those suffering mental illness and several other projects.

When funds run out the unsuccessful applicants are given priority on next year's grants.

GREEN LANE BRIDGE This footbridge to Neilson's Field was closed by Elmbridge Council after a structural survey found it to be unsafe and in need of replacement. Following the failure by Elmbridge Council Officers to include this in the 2014 budget, MRA Councillors Mike Axton and Stuart Selleck have been promised by senior EBC officials that options will be presented to the Cabinet for approval before the Summer.



Mike and Stuart will be watching closely to make sure this happens.



MOLESEY CARNIVAL Molesey Residents Association ran their popular entertainment stall for the little ones (small electric trikes to drive round a marked-out course). We were also glad to provide cash prizes for the winner and runner-up of the school float competition and to provide cash support toward the cost of the rig-outs for the Carnival Princess and her supporters. A great fun day for all!

DON'T FORGET!

Our sister organisation, Hurst Park Residents Association, is holding its 'Midsummer Music at the Marker' event at the Hurst Park riverside on Friday 20th June from 6pm. Everyone is welcome! Many people bring picnics for a pleasant summer evening.

Your Membership is Greatly Appreciated

If you would like to pay direct, please return the tear off slip with £3.00 or £15.00 to any of the following addresses:-
20 Walton Road KT8 0DF, 97 Buckingham Gardens KT8 1TN or 42 Beauchamp Road KT8 2PG

We will make sure you get a Membership Card *Thank You*



MOLESEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIP - SUMMER 2014

I enclose £15 for 5 years or £3 for 1 year **Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms.:**

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