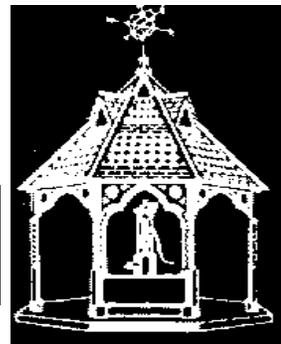


Ickenham Calling

The Newsletter of the *Ickenham Residents' Association* Spring 2012



Affiliated to the Hillingdon Alliance of Residents' Associations.
Member of Herts. & Middx. Wildlife Trust, and London Green Belt Council.

Ickenham Residents' Association:	E-Mail Address ickenhamresidents@hotmail.com
	WebSite www.ickenhamresidents.co.uk

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The HS2 fight goes on. The disappointing news that Justine Greening has given the green light to the project will not deter us from opposing the scheme outright and in this we are supported by our Council which, I understand, is seeking a Judicial Review. One reason for the Judicial Review is that the results of the public consultation have not been properly considered. Lord Adonis, architect of the ill-conceived plan, hopes that the bill does not get delayed beyond the General Election, so that the electorate's views do not affect MPs' votes. Heaven forbid!

You have once again voted overwhelmingly (85%) against Tesco's proposals to build on the Master Brewer site. We have not asked you why, but assume that the lure of another supermarket is more than offset by the fear of yet more traffic on our congested streets. We will therefore continue our objection to the planning application, which is mainly on traffic grounds.

To add to our considerable workload, it appears that Northolt Airport may be sold to private investors to help with MoD budget-cutting. We will follow the story carefully and keep you updated with latest news on our website.

Humphrey Tizard

AGM of the Ickenham Residents' Association:

Please make a note in your diary for
Friday, 20th April 2012, at 8pm
Ickenham Village Hall

AGM Agenda plus Minutes of last AGM
in April 2011 (to be approved) are at-
tached to this newsletter.
Please bring along with you. Thank you.

HS2: IT'S NOT OVER YET!

"It is vitally important to understand that this proposed project is very far from being a done deal. In reality all that has happened is that the Government has expressed an opinion which is at odds with the results of public opinion as expressed in the public consultation." This was how Ray Puddifoot, Leader of the Council, emphasised that the fight against HS2 is not over. The Government has only given HS2 the go ahead to prepare for a Hybrid Bill.

The Hybrid Bill is scheduled to be put before Parliament late 2013. Before then HS2 must prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment and there will be further submissions to a committee of MPs who are not directly affected by the project. The route details have to be finalised and then the project can be put before Parliament for approval. If passed, the project will proceed and the Hybrid Bill will enable any changes to be made without recourse to the general public or Parliament. A description of the Hybrid Bill procedure appears on our website.

STOP PRESS:

The Association hosted a successful *Hillingdon Against HS2 Information Day* in St. Giles Church Hall, Ickenham, on 22nd February, supported by two Council Officers. HS2 opposition groups from Ruislip and Harefield joined Association members to meet over 200 visitors and to explain the latest situation regarding HS2. Also to answer their questions concerning local HS2 issues. The overwhelming opinion of the visitors was that HS2 was unnecessary and should be abandoned. Please visit our website for further information.

Justine Greening, the Secretary of State for Transport, made her announcement on HS2 to a packed and supportive House of Commons on 10 January. She provided a rosy picture of the benefits HS2 would bring and how it would improve rail transport.

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Any questions you may want to raise, or if you have comments on any article in the Newsletter, we would be pleased to hear your views, and you could write to our General Secretary
6 The Chase,
Ickenham, Uxbridge,
UB10 8SR

You can also send your comments to our e-mail address:
ickenhamresidents@hotmail.com

This issue edited by
Hanne Raeder
February 2012



Referring to the 2011 consultation she said: *“The consultation High Speed Rail: Investing in Britain's Future was one of the largest national consultations ever undertaken by the Department for Transport”*, but she neglected to point out that respondents were overwhelmingly opposed to the scheme and that many of the criticisms made both in the consultation and by the Transport Select Committee had been ignored. There were 54,909 responses from individuals, businesses and organisations across the country.

Also ignored was a national petition signed by 108,000 opponents of HS2.

Not so long ago Ms Greening said with reference to Heathrow Runway 3: *“We have had a consultation, to which residents have responded overwhelmingly by saying that they do not want the plan to go ahead. Despite all those points, Ministers still seek to override*



Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, meeting HS2 protesters in The Roundways, Ruislip Manor, supported by Richard Barnes, Deputy Mayor of London, Ray Puddifoot, Leader of the Council and Cllr. for Ruislip Manor, Douglas Mills (With kind permission of the LBH) Jan. 2012

people's will. That is deeply worrying.” It would seem history is repeating itself, but this time she is the minister. In the House she continued: *“There will also be direct links to Heathrow Airport and to the Continent via the HS1 line. It will form a foundation for a potentially wider high speed network in years to come.”* However, the latest drawings of the route – issued the same day as the announcement – do not show any evidence of how Heathrow and HS1 will be connected. The Heathrow link



HS2 Demonstrators in Ruislip Manor meeting Government representatives. (With kind permission of the LBH) Jan. 2012

is of great concern to residents throughout the Borough of Hillingdon.

The following day, on a visit to the Borough, Boris Johnson together with Council Leaders went to Ruislip to meet around 200 residents from along the line who are opposed to HS2. He expressed concerns about the project and welcomed the inclusion of a tunnel in Ruislip. He said he was particularly concerned about the implications at Euston which will have extensive redevelopment. Further mitigation would be possible, he believed, by use of gentle persuasion.

On the 16 January the Department for Transport sent out letters extolling and exaggerating the virtues of HS2 with claims about job creation and how HS2 will drive regeneration, including: *“and delivering around £2 of benefits for every £1 spent”*, a claim who has been refuted by just about every independent commentator that has examined the business case, including our own Council. The letter also mentioned the claims that HS2 would be carbon neutral and that environmental impacts would be minimised. As always they neglected to state that nearly all members of the Green Lobby are either against the project or have serious reservations about its impact on the countryside. So where does all this leave Ickenham? The introduction of a tunnel under Ruislip was a surprise since it had been previously rejected out of hand on cost grounds. The tunnel has been



included says HS2 as a response to the consultation and is a concession to meet local concerns. The tunnel also relieves HS2 of engineering a very difficult over-ground route that would cross the Chiltern Line at Northolt and many busy roads. The tunnel exit at West Ruislip station is cause for concern since this may increase the impact of noise on some residents. The Golf Club will be very heavily affected and the area around the River Pinn despoiled. The Association will campaign vigorously against HS2 with other local and national organisations opposing HS2; please keep looking at our website:



www.ickenhamresidents.co.uk to see the latest campaign activities and what you can do to assist. We are active members of Hillingdon Against HS2 (HAHS2) and working closely with our fellow campaigners in Harefield and Ruislip. We will also campaign for the best possible mitigation of environmental impacts before the Hybrid Bill is put before Parliament. It is vitally important that all residents continue to oppose HS2 by repeatedly writing to their MP, councillors, media and even HS2 Ltd to emphasise the general public's objections to the Government wasting £32 billion of our money on a white elephant.

Write to:

Nick Hurd: nick.hurd.mp@parliament.uk

Justine Greening: greeningj@parliament.uk

or by post to either **MP: House of Commons,**
London SW1 0AA.

David Cameron: www.number10.gov.uk

HS2 Sub committee

TESCO AND MORRISONS AT HILLINGDON CIRCUS

Ickenham has had its say about Tesco's latest plans and rejected them by a thumping margin of 83.3% to 16.7%, based on a return of reply paid cards from the last issue of *Ickenham Calling*... representing 2174 adult residents. The areas of concern outlined by the Sub-Committee have been conveyed to Tesco and LBH, and the latter has decided that a new consultation will be required once Tesco has responded to all the questions and points raised, particularly those relating to traffic issues. We are currently trying to establish the likely timetable. Meanwhile we have been told by LBH that the Morrisons proposal is likely to be for a much larger store than we had previously understood, and much bigger than Tesco have proposed! We are meeting representatives of Morrisons on 20th February to find out more and to give our initial views.

Richard Piper

APPEAL FOR ROAD STEWARDS

We are anxious to recruit more road stewards and desperately require some in the Hoylake Crescent area. The job is vital, if we are to continue to keep our members informed as to what is going on, and to receive information from anyone who wants the Association to raise a problem on their behalf. The job consists mainly of delivering the copies of *Ickernham Calling* to the members once a quarter, and the collection of subscriptions once a year, and all in all it is not a very

time consuming job. Please contact me on 01895 638367, if you are able to be of service.

I would love to hear from you.

John Squiers

ICKENHAM FESTIVE COMMUNITY NIGHT

Despite the recession, the community spirit in Ickenham appears to be thriving. This was much in evidence on December 9th last year, when the annual traders' evening was held. Many of the local shops opened for business, some even offering free drinks and mince pies. Outside in the shopping parade, local organisations either manned stalls, sang carols or produced other festive attractions.

The Residents' Association, as usual, had a stall in the Village Hall. There were maps and diagrams of three principal projects, which are currently causing controversy, namely the HS2 rail link and the latest TESCO planning application and proposed Morrisons' store at Hillingdon Circus. Such occasions are invaluable to us, because we can hear at first hand opinions on these proposed projects and can give information to those who ask. Members of the committee were on hand to answer questions, and there was no shortage of enquiries. It is also pleasing to record that we recruited six new members, and it was gratifying to receive compliments from so many about our work. One lady, who had only moved into Ickenham six months ago and had joined the Association, told us how soon she and her family had felt at home and what a unique community spirit there was for a London suburb.

John Squiers

A Note for your Diary:

ICKENHAM FESTIVAL 2012

16th to 24th June 2012

Gala Day on Saturday, 23rd June 2012.

This year's London Open House Weekend will take place on

Saturday/Sunday 22nd and 23rd Sept. 2012.

Nearer the time the Association will give you more details about open hours for Swakeleys House and Ickenham Manor.

HEALTH MATTERS

It is often said that "prevention is better than cure". Health Screening is an essential part of ensuring our wellbeing, especially in our latter years.

Amongst the most commonly performed health tests are those that check for signs of cancer, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol. Health screening tests are also useful for determining whether or not a person has diabetes. Depending on their age and other factors, women may see their doctors for health screening tests that detect cancers common in females. Men may see their doctors for prostate examination and this may entail a blood test to show the level of PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen) in the blood.

NHS Bowel Cancer Screening is another ongoing programme aiming to detect bowel cancer at an early stage (in people with no symptoms), when successful treatment and cure is more likely. It also detects polyps. These are not cancers, but may develop into cancers over time. They can easily be removed, reducing the risk of bowel cancer developing.

Screening is offered every two years to people aged 60 -69 who are registered with a GP in England. This age range is now being extended to 70-74.

However, screening is not appropriate for everyone, particularly if you have already been referred to hospital by your GP for bowel investigation, or if you have had previous bowel surgery. If more information is required, contact Bowel Cancer Screening Programme on Help Line Freephone: 0800 707 6060 or e-mail nlh- tr.bcs@nhs.net Prevention is better than cure!

The Health and Social Care Bill is gaining momentum. The proposals

for public representation needs looking at, and involves the launch in October this year of "Health Watch", which is a new independent consumer champion created to gather and represent the views of the public. Health Watch will play a role at both national and local level, and will make sure the views of the public and people who use services are taken into account. The Local Health Watch, an organisation at local level, will be funded by and is accountable to the public via local authorities.

This new body will take on the work of the present "LINKS" (Local Involvement Networks) and represent the views of those who use services, carers and the public on the Health and Wellbeing Boards, set up by local authorities. It will also provide a complaints advocacy service from 2013 to support people who make a complaint about services.

David John

POLICE MATTERS

The January meeting of the Hillingdon Community and Police Advisory Group produced some interesting facts. The main presentation was by Richard Nowacki from Trading Standards who highlighted the problems caused by rogue builders knocking at doors and pointing out real or imaginary faults in roofs etc. and offering to fix them. If you agree to employ them, you will soon find the bill rocketing, any work done is likely to be of poor quality. The moral is clear, never employ anyone who comes calling at the door. If you know or suspect a fault, get one or more quotes from local established tradesmen. Age UK, who have an office in Uxbridge High Street, will supply a list of recommended builders etc. Be aware that one firm of rogue builders is calling itself New Wave Development. If approached by this firm, call Trading Standards at the Civic Centre.

At the same meeting the Police presented their usual crime report, this time covering the period 01/04/11 to 16/01/12 for the whole of Hillingdon Borough. A mixed result. The 'business robbery' category was sharply (22.2%) down from 72 cases to 56, while 'personal robbery', mostly young people robbing other young people, was 9.2% up. Residential burglary is still worryingly high, up 27.6%, with a big increase in the south of the Borough. 'Operation Bumblebee' last November resulted in the arrest of 24 burglary suspects of whom 19 were charged (this is for London as a whole).

In addition, Hillingdon police are targeting known criminals on a ward by ward basis, using warning letters, stop and search, home visits and curfew checks in the hope of putting them off their criminal activities. It is worth noting that the burglary figures are not quite as bad as they seem, because attempted burglaries are included in the total, amounting to about 30% of the final figure.

The other rising problem is motor vehicle crime, mostly theft from vehicles, but also including a recent outbreak of stealing old cars that have a high metal content, which are then sold for scrap. Watch out for flatbed trucks and transit vans cruising slowly around, usually with two men in them looking for opportunities. Do not challenge them, but take the registration number and pass it to the Safer Neighbourhood Team (0208 721 2343) with a description of the vehicle.

The recently appointed MPS Commissioner Hogan-Howe is using new tactics to target habitual lawbreakers. One of these is to limit their mobility. In one day – on the 12th of January – 554 cars were seized across London and 81 people arrested. This was not the only occasion, to-date in four

dedicated days over 1900 cars have been seized! Hillingdon police – on the 12th of January – used Automated Number-Plate Recognition at several sites across the Borough and conducted vehicle checks: 13 vehicles were seized and one arrest made. Hopefully, the ability to point a camera at a car and instantly see if it is insured will quickly reduce the plague of uninsured drivers, who from past experience are five times more likely to be involved in collisions and are often found to be involved in other criminal activity.

Following the note in the Winter newsletter about telephone cold-callers (nearly always unwelcome), if you have not yet signed up for the Telephone Preference Service, it is a good idea to do so. Call 0845 070 0707 to join. It will not completely stop those unwanted calls, but will get rid of most of those originating in the UK. Sadly you will still get unsolicited calls from abroad, but even then saying 'I am a member of the Telephone Preference Service – I don't take cold calls' makes it less likely that they will call again.

Finally, something outside our usual remit, but we think of interest. New 5 and 10p coins are coming into circulation. These new coins are made of plated steel instead of cupro-nickel and are slightly thicker. This means that some vending machines and parking meters will only accept old ones and some only new ones. Best to avoid using these two denominations in the meters.

Vic Silk





QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE 2012

Residents will be pleased to learn that Swakeleys Park has been chosen for the installation of a commemorative garden, to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012.

The Green Spaces Team has designed a formal garden, incorporating a box parterre design with benches and a central obelisk feature, which has been approved under our Civic Pride and Heritage Initiative. The garden will be built in the early part of 2012 ready for a Spring opening.

The formal opening of the garden will be attended by the Mayor of Hillingdon. I will keep you informed of the progress as soon as I receive any further information from Green Spaces.

The Jubilee Garden will be adjacent to the children's playground and the design is as below.

Neena Bedi

FRIENDS OF SWAKELEYS PARK

Please note that the next working party for Swakeleys Park is organized for the 6th March 2012. We will meet Dragana Knezevic (from Green Spaces) by the tennis court at 9:30am. We usually work for 3 to 4 hours. Do put it in your diary and come along to lend a helping hand.

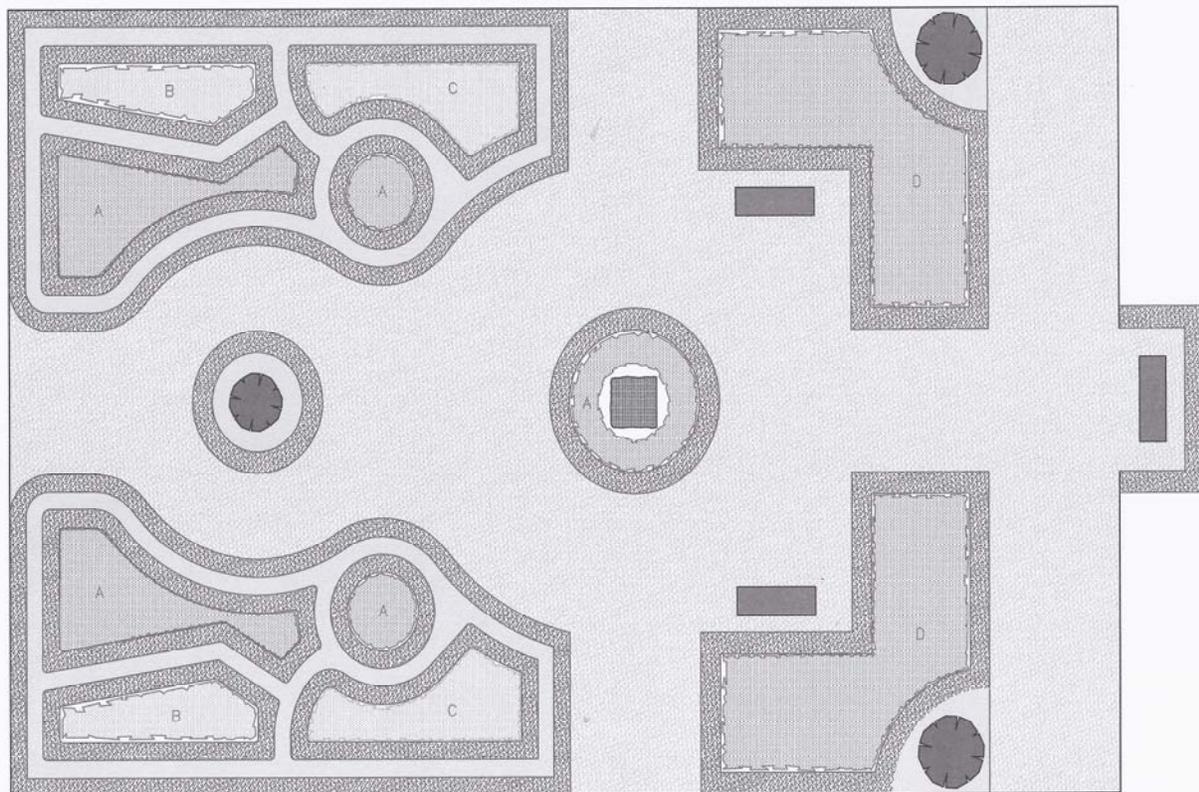
We will also ask the LBH to set up additional working-party days. Do let me know, if you are interested in joining the working party.

ICKENHAM HALL

Friends of Ickenham Hall are looking for two or three volunteers who could help with weeding and general upkeep of the garden. The volunteers will join a dedicated team of two and contribute once or twice a month for a couple of hours. Volunteers are needed from the end of March to late October. If you would like to help, then please contact Maurice Ray, the e-mail address is: mauritaray@talktalk.net

Neena Bedi

DIAGRAM OF PROPOSED JUBILEE GARDEN LAYOUT



KEY

- Box Hedging
- Coloured Gravel / Stone
- Small Trees
- Conical Shape Bay Trees

- Self-Binding Gravel
- Bench
- Granite Stone Obelisk

PLANTING

- A - Lavandula 'Hidcote'
- B - Philadelphusleinoei
- C - Rosmarinus
- D - Rosa (HT) Ice Cream

		Description		
		JUBILEE GARDEN		
Scale	Designed	Drawn	Date	
1:500A3	S.Y	J.H	DEC 2010	
Project No.	Drawing No.	Rev.		
E/A3 2485	2	A		