

# The Resident

The Residents' Association Newsletter for Hersham Riverside

## HERSHAM GOLF COURSE PLANS FOR 600 HOUSES

**...and on the Green Belt!**

**Social media rumours of plans to build huge housing estate on Hersham Golf Course.**

600 houses and flats would accommodate nearly the same number of people as Hersham Riverside.

Developers seem to think Molesey Road can cope with an extra 1200 cars! Do you and how would other services cope? Are they planning to build more schools and doctors' surgeries?

We don't know yet. The application has not been formally submitted, but talks have been held with planning officers and councillors.

**When we know more we will let you know, but we will stand up to prevent Hersham being overrun by developers.**



*Image: SKHaley Pinterest*

## The Residents' Association for Hersham Riverside...the ERA is serving you now

As a result of boundary changes in 2016, the Hersham Riverside community became part of the Esher ward. Illogical? Absolutely. Unpopular? It still rankles with people in Hersham Riverside, so much so that voting here during local elections is very low.

You should treat us, the ERA, as your residents' group. Hersham Riverside has its own needs, some of which it shares with the rest of Esher, some of which are unique.

In his two years as our councillor, Richard Williams has dealt with numerous enquiries from Hersham Riverside residents: from illegal housing, planning objections, lack of access to doctors and fly tipping. Our job is to sort it out.

We have Hersham Riverside resident, Christopher Goldsack, on our Committee to gain better insights into the issues that face residents on the estate and we work closely with Cllr. Roy Green of the Hersham Village Society to build a stronger Hersham.

**So, in spite of the name, we're as much Hersham Riverside's Residents' Association as we are Esher's**



This newsletter is produced by the Esher Residents Association. We are proud to represent Esher, Lower Green and the residents of the Hersham Riverside community

# A Clean, Green, Vibrant Hersham



## Your candidate for Elmbridge BC

I am David Young, your ERA candidate for the local elections on May 6<sup>th</sup>. One of the three Ward seats is up for election this year and I am hoping to join our other Councillor, Richard Williams to represent you for the next four years.

Many challenges face us and only some are under the direct control of Elmbridge Borough Council. Only 11% of your council tax goes to Elmbridge. But, as a Councillor, I can stand up for Hersham at the higher levels too. Key issues include:

**Revitalising retail.** You may shop in the local store, the Hersham supermarkets, Walton or further afield. As these shops come under increasing pressure and some, unfortunately, close we need to ensure that the Council sets the right incentives for the future. Retail habits have changed over the past year. We need to consider the future “normal” and encourage shops which are affordable and meet the needs of all residents of all ages and all incomes.

**Protecting our Green Belt** which is under constant pressure from developers especially with the central government’s housing algorithm requiring Elmbridge to double the number of houses it builds each year. The ERA has pledged to oppose the loss of the Green Belt and fight the excessive housing numbers.

**Reducing the impact of traffic.** Air pollution in Hersham isn’t monitored (again Hersham is overlooked) but nearby results show pollution along the main A244 breaches official targets. There are no easy answers – whilst a wholesale switch to electric vehicles would reduce NO<sub>2</sub> pollution, particulate matter is produced by the brakes, tyres and road wear of all vehicles. We need change to address this but we have to do it in consultation with local residents.



**Improving Pedestrian Access.** The battle between car and pedestrians is very divisive. The roads around Hersham Riverside cut much of it off from the rest of Hersham and we need to put in appropriate safety measures to protect our children as well as pedestrians of all ages.

Many other challenges face us and we update them regularly on our website and via monthly email newsletters. Please scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to sign up for our newsletter or by emailing me at [dyoung@esher-residents.com](mailto:dyoung@esher-residents.com).



## **Make sure Hersham’s voice is heard -Vote on May 6th!**