



The Bulletin

October 2019



The Ultra-Low Emission Zone is coming to Putney

**Open meeting Monday 28 October at 7.30pm.
Community Church, Werter Road, SW15 2LL.**

In April, the Mayor introduced an Ultra-Low Emission Zone within the Congestion Charge area in Central London. It is designed to improve air quality in the capital by levying an extra charge of £12.50 a day on the most polluting cars. Lorries in breach of the new emission rules pay even more. Already the number of 'non-compliant' vehicles entering the zone has fallen by 35%.

If re-elected, the Mayor plans to roll out the ULEZ to the borders of the North and South Circulars. So much, but not all, of Putney will be included.

The next Putney Society meeting will have a speaker from Transport for London to explain their experience of the ULEZ to date and their reasons



and plans for the roll out; we hope then to have a representative from Wandsworth Council talking about the practical steps they are taking to prepare for it in liaison with TfL. Finally, we will hear from an expert in air pollution to talk about the medical impact of breathing in toxic air.

Come and find out how the ULEZ might affect you if your car is not compliant with the new air standards but also learn about how it might improve local air quality.



Wandsworth Council's pledge – a Cleaner Greener Wandsworth

In July this year, the council declared a climate emergency and pledged to become carbon neutral by 2030 and carbon zero by 2050.

To this end it has produced the Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy (WESS) setting out the challenges faced and the actions that need to be taken. The document outlines the issues in many parts of the council's remit including sustainable transport, air quality, energy management, open spaces, waste management, water management, and planning and sustainable development. Importantly for the Putney Society,

the council has pledged to work with local residents and businesses to achieve carbon reduction and sustainability. At a recent meeting representatives of local groups, including the Putney Society, started a dialogue with councillors and officers and this exchange of views is scheduled to be ongoing. Our panels will be looking at a number of ways in which we think the planning process could result in more sustainable and energy efficient buildings as well as continuing to investigate further ways in which air quality can be improved.



Buildings Panel

Co-convenor: Andrew Catto
ac@andrewcatto.co.uk 020 8785 0077

As a change from recent months, this report will be mostly about what isn't happening.

Planning permission for the high density 'Levellers' development at the bottom of Putney High Street was granted on appeal in July, but we have yet to see the requests for approval of details that usually signals work about to start. Meanwhile the application for a hotel, also 10 storeys, on the adjacent Putney Bridge Road corner site remains undecided nearly two years since it was first submitted.

On the other side of the High Street there is no sign yet of work to build the 'Pergola' bar on the roof of Putney Exchange. Maybe the promoters felt it was too late for this summer?

The big Redrow planning application for 'regeneration' of the centre of the Alton Estate is now with the case team and not expected to reach the Planning Applications Committee until January. Whatever they decide, the final decision is likely to be taken off the Council's hands. The GLA have written to say that it doesn't meet the requirements of the London Plan, mainly because of a lack of replacement social housing. Meanwhile your Society and others have been continuing to point out other weaknesses in the plans, ranging from the loss of over

170 mature trees (at the hands of a council who have joined in the declaration of a climate emergency), through a lack of delivery bays for the shops to severe loss of daylight to the flats immediately adjacent.

Sadly, the panel couldn't think of any new buildings to nominate for the biennial Wandsworth Design Awards. I would like to hope that this doesn't mean nothing stylish happens locally, just that most of it is out of sight at the backs of houses. Tell us if we missed something – although sadly by the time you read this nominations will have closed.

But we have been kept busy with smaller but still significant proposals. We objected to developers arguing they can turn the Star and Garter into a hotel (good idea) without needing the scrutiny of a planning permission (bad idea) and to proposals for illuminated adverts on the hoardings around two big High Street sites (both refused – thank you Wandsworth) and continued to oppose PVC windows in Conservation Areas.

With new flats not selling because young professionals can't afford them, we have noticed an interesting trend back to providing communal living in multi occupied houses. Good or bad?

Transport Panel

Convenor: Stephen Luxford
Stephen.luxford46@gmail.com

The Council's long delayed plans to improve the High Street are expected to finally begin shortly.

The works will begin by the station and over the next year work their way down towards the Bridge. They include pavement widening on the eastern side of the High Street with a shared loading bay outside Tesco which will respect current loading restriction times. There will be new trees, improved street lighting and more cycle parking capacity. Side roads linked to the High Street are to have granite 'raised tables' at the junction. There is currently no news on proposals to improve the junctions with Putney Bridge Road and between the Bridge and the Lower Richmond Road. The High Street will also have a 20 mph speed limit although few drivers will have ever driven at such speed along it.

Meanwhile it appears it may cost an estimated £120 million and take three years to fix Hammersmith Bridge. Who will fund this has yet to be decided. In the meantime

a Freedom of Information response has revealed that an estimated 4,000 extra vehicle movements a day, displaced by the Bridge closure, are now going over Putney Bridge instead. To try and ameliorate the effects of the closure TfL have rejigged local bus services again. Please let us know if these new arrangements are helping your journeys.

Heathrow recently consulted on their plans to expand the airport. Our response can be seen on our website. The Society strongly objected to the plans which could see planes flying over Putney continuously from 6am onwards on three out of every four days that planes fly in a westerly direction. There will be no respite on two of those three days.

Finally, look out for the forthcoming consultation, expected in October, about Richmond Park traffic. The Royal Parks plans to invite views on possible changes to existing traffic restrictions for park users.

FUTURE PANEL MEETINGS

All members welcome, but please contact Convenor if new to the panel to check if there is sufficient space.

COMMUNITY:
10 Oct. & 14 Nov.

at 6 Norroy Road,
SW15 1PF (18.30)

Co-convenors:

Vicky Diamond
& Val Jones
vickysw15@aol.co.uk,
jones.val@gmail.com
T: 07746 022654

TRANSPORT:
8 Oct. & 12 Nov.

46 Disraeli Road,
SW15 2DS (19.30)

Convenor:

Stephen.luxford46
@gmail.com

BUILDINGS:
2 Oct. & 6 Nov.

at 154 Putney High Street,
SW15 1RS (19.00)

Convenor:

Andrew Catto
ac@andrewcatto.co.uk

OPEN SPACES:
3 Oct. & 7 Nov.

at 28 Howards Lane,
SW15 6NQ (19.00)

Convenor:

Judith Chegwidan
judith.chegwidan@gmail.com
T: 020 8788 4489

Community Panel

Co-convenors: Victoria Diamond & Val Jones
Vickysw15@aol.com & jones.val@gmail.com 07746 022654

At the recent Safer Neighbourhood Police meetings for Thamesfield, East and West Putney Wards it became clear that the shortage of police is affecting us all, including the Police. The following are suggestions for us all:

- Do report ALL criminal activity to your SNT team, either by email, or calling 111. If they aren't told what's going on, they are unable to see where hotspots are, what the issues are and react accordingly.
- When you go away, do tell your neighbour, and if you're away on rubbish night, ask that they put some rubbish in your bin, or put a bag outside your property. It's too easy for would-be burglars to check bins as they walk past, and an empty one is a clear signal to them that it's a good bet the owners are away. Likewise if you have a driveway that normally has a car on it overnight, ask a neighbour to park there whilst you're away.
- Never leave a property in darkness at night. Have lights with timers on them
- CCTV cameras and remote access smart doorbells are effective, for residents and police too. It's good security for you, and often helpful to police identifying, for example, bogus callers.
- If you have a garage, a 'Garage Defender' - metal bar placed and locked in front of the garage deters burglars.
- Check the security on sash windows – several local burglaries have relied on poor sash window security.

- If your street isn't already signed up to Neighbourhood Watch, get together with some neighbours and set one up for your road. When you have a chosen representative, and have signed up, you can request the Neighbourhood Watch stickers (a street with them is more of a deterrent than one without) - there's a bit of legwork involved distributing to your neighbours, but also a good opportunity to sign people up to either a street email list, or a WhatsApp group. Quite a few already have this in place and find it most useful to warn of bogus callers, report issues, or even organise a party!
- The police ask us NEVER to give money to beggars – there are charities in place who have approached them and offered support. If you are concerned you can report them to a charity such as Glass Door – 0207 351 4948.
- Please report dog fouling problems, or other animal issues to the Animal Welfare Service team - they patrol and will visit streets more frequently where there are repeat offences. 0208 871 7132 or email animalwelfare@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk. In an emergency you can call 07860 534733.
- Scams - be on alert for people asking for help with parking meters, and using the helping person's card and, as ever, be extra vigilant with any phone calls purporting to be about your finances. The crooks are getting sneakier and sneakier, and you really have to be on your guard.

Open Spaces Panel

Convenor: Judith Chegwidden
judith.chegwidden@gmail.com 020 8788 4489

Biodiversity – part of creating a greener borough

Our gardens at home make up around a significant percentage of all the land in Wandsworth and they form a corridor of connected green spaces that are vital for many species. This means we can help protect and enhance nature through small actions in our everyday lives. Making gardens wildlife friendly will attract bugs and insects, which are a key part of the food chain and thus help a wide range of animals.

- Don't be too tidy – leave some long grass, deadwood and leaves!
- Do consider having a pond or birdbath and make sure it has sloping sides
- Make small or paved areas, such as the front of your house, green with pots and containers

- Plant insect friendly plants such as :

Spring –

Lungwort, aubretia, bugle, spotted deadnettle, snake's head fritillary

Summer –

Alliums, borage, foxglove, catmint, giant hyssops, Mexican marigold, purple coneflower, jasmine, honeysuckle, sweet rocket, Nicotiana glauca, hemp-agrimony, evening primrose, marjoram

Autumn –

Bugbane (*Actaea simplex*), caryopteris, dahlias (single-flowered), ivy, Verbena bonariensis, sedum

Winter –

Crocus, hellebore, winter heather, mahonia, winter aconite.

PUTNEY SOCIETY CONTACTS

See website for full details:
www.putneysociety.org.uk

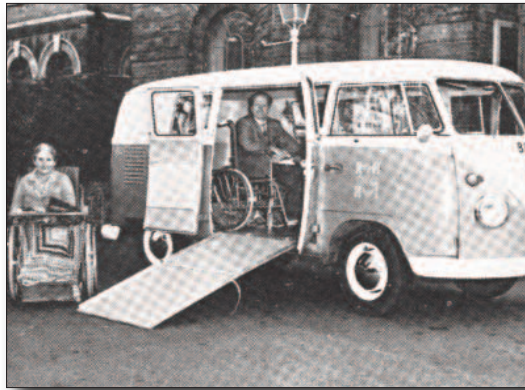
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Opening up the Archives: Disability History and Heritage Conference

Friday 4 October, 9.30-16.30, Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, West Hill, SW15 3SW

Go along to this conference to discover more about the history of the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability (formerly the Royal Hospital of Incurables). Attendees can learn what life was like for Victorian "inmates" about the hospital and have an opportunity to view and explore artefacts and documents in the heritage collection. The conference will also include talks from historians and archivists exploring the wider context of 19th century disability history including papers on 'incurability' in workhouse asylums, treatment and care of people with learning disabilities and representations of tuberculosis patients.



For more information and to book a place, please email: colver@rhn.org.uk or visit our website: <https://www.rhn.org.uk/events/opening-up-the-archives-disability-history-and-heritage-conference-to-mark-the-opening-of-the-rhn-archive-service/>

Wild Life Photography II

Wednesday 16 October, 6.30pm – 7.30pm Putney Library, Disraeli Road

The wildlife photographer Nick Dale will be speaking at a meeting of the Friends of Putney Library about four months he spent in Africa earlier this year. He will show pictures and tell stories from the most exciting and moving moments of his trip. Drinks are available from 6pm at Putney Library in Disraeli Road and the talk is for one hour from 6.30pm. For reservations phone 020 8780 3085 or email charlene.coleman@gll.org

Upcoming Putney Society events

On Thursday 28 November the Community Panel will be showcasing the richness of the arts in Putney – learn more about local theatre groups, dance, choirs and the visual arts. This should be a fascinating event with opportunities to try out some of the skills yourself.

In January we will be looking forward to the growing season with experts on growing vegetables speaking to our meeting on 27 January.

More details on both these events in forthcoming bulletins

Supporting our local open Spaces



The recently launched **Friends of Wimbledon and Putney Commons** bring together all of those who are connected by a passion for the Commons, for the purposes of collective celebration and fund raising. Every path, heathland, bog, stream, pond and woodland has an incalculable value that requires ongoing investment. Without skilled conservation officers, mounted keepers and the very committed staff, our unique Commons would not be as they are today: safe, clean and preserved. That is why every contribution made by those who use and love the commons is so important.

If you are interested in becoming a friend it is easy to join online at <https://www.wpcc.org.uk/support-us>

[/friends-of-wimbledon-and-putney-commons-landing](#)

The Conservators are currently carrying out two consultations on which they would like your views and your help:

- The first is in respect of commercial dog walking on the Commons and they would like your views on their current licencing scheme.
- The second is in relation to their Land Management Plan. They are about to start the preparation of work on this and they want to know what is important to you.

For further information, and to complete the consultations go to <https://www.wpcc.org.uk/main/consultations>

Finally don't forget the Autumn Bird Walk on 13 October 2019 from 8.00am

Meet at the Ranger's Office SW19 5NR to join the local bird watching experts for a fascinating and informative walk on the Commons identifying bird life.

lver@rhn.org.uk or visit our website: <https://www.rhn.org.uk/events/opening-up-the-archives-disability-history-and-heritage-conference-to-mark-the-opening-of-the-rhn-archive-service/>