

Ruislip Residents' Association **TOWN CRIER**

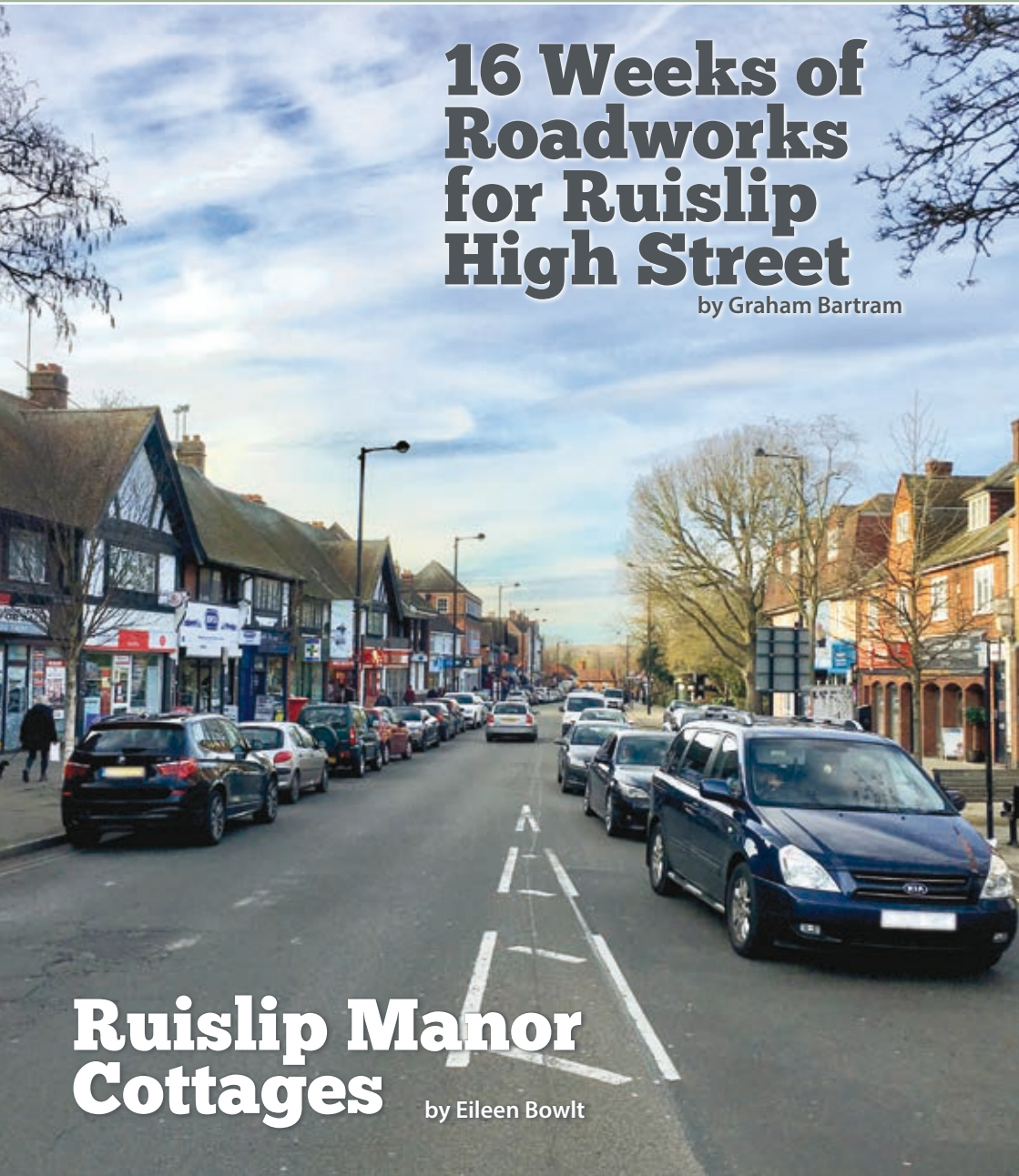
March 2017

www.ruislipresidents.org.uk



16 Weeks of Roadworks for Ruislip High Street

by Graham Bartram



Ruislip Manor Cottages

by Eileen Bowlt

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Editorial

Bumper Issue!

Following the new articles in the last edition, I've decided to carry on the experiment. At the same time there are things happening in Ruislip and the Residents' Association that need to be covered: RAF Northolt is holding a family day, NORFEST, in July; Ruislip High Street is to be re-built between Ickenham Road and Bury Street in an operation that could take 16 weeks; and Ruislip Residents' Association is relaunching its website. So much to cover that I've had to add an extra four pages to this edition so that I can fit it all in.

I know I seem to say this every issue, but we really do need some more help to carry out the work of the Association. If you are interested in helping us with the Traffic, Environment, Membership or Woodlands portfolios, or as the Deputy Chief Road Steward, please get in touch with me.

Graham Bartram

Graham Bartram, Editor Pro Tem

Please note that the views expressed in articles in the Town Crier are those of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Ruislip Residents' Association.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Vacant

POLICE LIAISON

Brian Gunn

CONSERVATION

Paul Mitchell

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Graham Bartram

EDUCATION

Susan Midgley

RAF NORTHOLT LIAISON

Peter Lansdown

ENVIRONMENT

Vacant

RUISLIP LIDO

Peter Lansdown

HEALTH

Joan Davis

RUISLIP RETAIL AREA

Vacant

MANOR RETAIL AREA

Joan Davis

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Vivien Alcorn

MEMBERSHIP

Vacant

TRAFFIC & PARKING

Vacant

MINUTES SECRETARY

Patricia Wardle

WEBSITE & IT

John Swindells

PLANNING

Mike Hodge

WOODLANDS

Vacant

FRIENDS OF EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDEN

www.eastcotehousegardens.weebly.com

Eastcote House Volunteer Gardeners meet on the 1st Friday, 2nd Friday and 3rd Thursday of every month, at 9.30am.

Everyone welcome - tools and refreshments provided - no experience necessary.

Meet in the car park at Eastcote House Gardens.

Gardening dates: April 7th, 14th, 20th; May 5th, 12th, 18th; June 2nd, 9th, 15th; July 7th, 14th, 20th; August 4th, 11th, 17th.

Conservation dates: April 27th; May 25th; June 22nd; July 27th, August 24th.

The Gardens Café is now open daily from 8.30am (10am on Sunday) until 4.00pm.

HILLINGDON DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY

Lecture Programme May-September 2017

Wednesdays at 2.00pm, Winston Churchill Hall - admission £6 to non-members

10 May	The Green Man in Art and Myth	David Bostwick
14 June	Scenes of Domestic Life by Edgar Degas	Kathy McLauchlan
12 July	William Orpen (1878-1931): Still an Outsider?	Ann Clements
9 August	Art UK: Uncovering the Nation's Hidden Oil Painting Collection	Mary Rose Rivett-Carnac
13 September	A Journey through the Imperial Chinese Wardrobe	David Rosier

RUISLIP, NORTHWOOD & EASTCOTE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Lecture Programme March-September 2017

Meetings held in St Martin's Church Hall, 8.15pm. Visitors welcome.

20 March	A History of Harefield Hospital	Andrew Willis, Ex Employee & Patient
24 April	Mr Guy's Hospital and the Caribbean	Jane Bowden-Dan, Fulham & Hammersmith HS
18 September	Henry Smith – 17thC businessman, moneylender & philanthropist	Lucy Lethbridge

Chairman's Message

RRA



The cover of our last issue showed the scenes of flooding in Ruislip Manor in June 2016.

Since then we have been trying to get the Council to engage with us in a meaningful way. It took the Council almost five months to reply to my letter. Resident Stephen Heneker has put a lot of work into the problem, without much success with the Council. Then at the beginning of March this year, one of the events he had warned of happened - the large water main across Park Wood burst and flooded the wood. Fortunately this break was near Cannon Brook and most of the water was safely carried away. Next time, and there almost certainly will be a next time, we may not be so lucky.

This issue's cover shows the next major hassle for Ruislip, the rebuilding of the northern part of the High Street. The southern part was rebuilt in 2015. I have written an article on the plans (see page 24), complete with map, to try and explain what is going to happen and when. These works will be inconvenient, but there really is no alternative. What I would ask is that you try and support the businesses in the area as this could have a very detrimental effect on their trade.

Our nemesis, HS2, has received Royal Assent, and the Chancellor did not state that there was not enough money to pay for it, so it looks like it is going to go ahead.

In November, I appeared before the House of Lords HS2 Committee to deliver RRA's petition. They listened to us politely, asked a number of courteous questions, but I really do not think we made a big difference. We were slightly wrong-footed by the Council agreeing a deal with HS2 the evening before our appearance, so I had to rework my presentation as I went along.

We can expect the first 'preparatory' roadworks this year, as services close to the tunnel are moved or re-inforced. Our next task is to monitor whoever is appointed as the contractor and make sure they keep all the promises that HS2 Ltd made to get the bill approved as an act.

It is that time of year again and you will have spotted the subscription form with this edition. In June, we will start offering online card payments, via our website.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at our meeting in April (see the back page), but in the meantime if you see me on the High Street feel free to stop me for a chat! ♦

Graham Bartram, Chairman, ☎ 01895 673310

Education News

Susan Midgley

ALL CHANGE AT LADY BANKES SCHOOLS

It was with great sadness that the pupils and staff of Lady Bankes Infant School had to say goodbye to their Head Teacher, Mrs Lea Tuffey, who retired in December 2016.

I was pleased that Mrs Tuffey agreed to an interview in which she revealed what motivated her from a young age to become a teacher.

The young Lea attended Old Oak Infant and Junior Schools which are situated close to Wormwood Scrubs Prison. During the four years of her Junior Education she was taught by Mrs Beanland whom she referred to as “a truly inspirational teacher” whom she wished to emulate one day. Having passed the eleven plus examination Lea transferred to Burlington Girls’ Grammar School. After completing her sixth form studies she progressed to St Gabriel’s Teacher Training College in Camberwell to fulfil her ambition to become a teacher.

Her first teaching practice was at Vauxhall Infant School in Kennington. It was here that she met many young children

from deprived and disadvantaged backgrounds, many of whom lived in “half-way” houses. This was when Lea realised that a good early education could form the foundation of a better life and that, as a teacher, she would hopefully be part of this transformation to a better life for such children in the future.

In 1982 Mrs Tuffey came to Lady Bankes Infant School. She was a class teacher, became a Co-ordinator for a variety of subjects and in later years the school’s Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator.

In 1987 she was appointed to the post of Deputy Head Teacher. During this period she worked closely with the then Deputy of the Junior School researching nurseries which resulted in the setting up of the E.Y.E Private Nursery in what was originally the school kitchens. One of the newly qualified teachers who Mrs Tuffey mentored was a local young woman who taught at the school for a number of years then moved on to Minet Infant School in Hayes.

When Mrs Tuffey was appointed to the post of Head Teacher in 1997 she realised



Left to Right: Mrs Susan Dyer, Mrs Lea Tuffey, Mrs Kate Needs

that she needed a good Deputy and contacted the teacher from Minet who had been there for two years and asked her to apply for the post. Luckily for Mrs Tuffey and the school she was the successful candidate and was appointed. This teacher is now the new Head Teacher of the Infant School, Mrs Susan Dyer!

It was not long before Ofsted descended in 1998 and the school was given Good with Outstanding elements. Mrs Tuffey, together with Mrs Dyer and Mrs Sylvia George, the other senior leader, worked tirelessly as a threesome to take the school forward. This strong leadership team and their rigorous drive for school improvement led the school to achieve

the pinnacle – the 2015 Ofsted inspection which graded the school as Outstanding.

Mrs Tuffey has herself made an outstanding contribution to Lady Bankes Infant School and has undoubtedly made a difference to the lives of generations of children which was what she set out to do as a young teacher at the start of her career.

Mrs Dyer and Mrs Needs, who was appointed as Head Teacher of the Junior School from September 2016, will work closely together to ensure the best possible standard of teaching and learning for all pupils at the Lady Bankes Schools in the future.



Cllr Philip Corthorne tries his hand at table tennis doubles



Head Boy, Head Girl and their Deputies



The Sports Prefects

COUNCILLOR CORTHORNE OPENS BWI'S OUTDOOR LEARNING FACILITY

On Monday, November 28th. 2016 Councillor Philip Corthorne visited Bishop Winnington-Ingram to open their new Table Tennis Outdoor Learning Facility. Money for this project came from donations from the school's Parents' Association and funding from the Ward Budget kindly supported by Councillor Corthorne. He was met by the Head Boy, Head Girl, their Deputies as well as the two Sports Prefects. They then escorted the Councillor, members of the Parents' Association and a representative of the Ruislip Residents' Association to the Facility.

Councillor Corthorne cut the ribbon and declared the Facility open. He was then invited to play the first match with three pupils which was enjoyed by everyone present.

The Sports Prefects had devised a weekly timetable to ensure that every pupil has time on the tables.

All the tables are made from recycled materials which enabled the school to support the sustainability of our world.

 education@ruislipresidents.org.uk 

Local Church News

Rev'd Jane Manley & Julie Stimpson

ST PAUL'S, RUISLIP MANOR

A MEMORY CAFÉ AT ST PAUL'S

St Paul's Church in Thurlstone Road has started a Memory Café. This is an opportunity for anyone who is beginning to struggle with their memory, or simply for those who would like some company. The majority of those people who attend, just want the company and enjoy getting out and meeting new people. For some people it is the only time they go out during the week.

We meet every Friday in the Church between 11am and 1pm. There are always plenty of homemade cakes, tea and coffee and people to chat with. Most weeks we have a quiz, sometimes play some games and one week some of the people decided to dance to the background music – resulting in much laughter.

If you would like join us and meet new friends on a Friday come along. As one person said last week: 'It is wonderful to get out and meet other people'. If you would like more information please contact the Vicar, the Rev'd Jane Manley:

☎ 01895 633499

ST MARTIN'S, RUISLIP FESTIVAL WEEKEND

The Friends of St Martin's are planning a special event - a combined music and flower festival weekend running from 7th to 9th July. Under the direction of our very talented Musical Director, James Platt, we are proposing to hold a concert on the Friday evening and a jazz evening on Saturday, culminating in a Festival Mass on Sunday morning and picnic lunch. We will be selling Festival passes for the weekend to include entrance to the Flower Festival. The theme of the Festival is "The Kaleidoscope of Life", which we believe will provide ample scope for different artistic interpretations and arrangements.

We are continuing with our series of Lunchtime Classical Music Concerts, which are held in St Martin's Church Hall, at 12.15pm, on the last Wednesday of the month (except July, August and December). Upcoming performers include Tommaso Carlini (piano) and Evgeny Genchev (piano). There is a retiring collection which is used to defray expenses and for the benefit of the Myosotis Trust.

✉ j.stimpson@btinternet.com ♦

Councillors' Comments

Cllr John Riley

Eastcote and East Ruislip Ward – Catherine Dann, Nick Denys, Becky Haggar
 Manor Ward – Michael Markham, Douglas Mills, Susan O'Brien
 West Ruislip Ward – Philip Corthorne, Brian Crowe, John Riley



We welcome the opportunity to communicate with residents through the *Town Crier* picking up on just a few topical issues.

PARKING & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES AROUND RUISLIP LIDO

We are very much aware from our own personal experiences and the increased “post bag” we receive in the Summer months each year about the levels of resident concerns and the practical problems associated with parking and traffic around Ruislip Lido.

This beautiful venue has become a major attraction to people from far and wide not just for residents. In an effort to discourage excessive visitor numbers your Councillors have engaged with senior decision makers in order to mitigate and improve the situation. The result has been that in

the near future the car parking arrangements at the Lido will change.



Cllrs Corthorne, Riley and Crowe at Ruislip Lido Car Park

The intention is that there will be a specific number of spaces reserved for customers of the *Water's Edge* in the Reservoir Road car park. The rest of the spaces will be subject to a charge for use by out of Borough visitors but with the spaces being free to Hillingdon residents on the basis of their *Hillingdon First Card*. The Willow Lawn car park will be Hillingdon resident parking only, again based on the use of the *Hillingdon First Card*. This we hope will go

some way to limiting out-of-Borough use. We acknowledge that this may move the parking issue elsewhere nearby. However we are to consult with residents on the introduction of a seasonal "tow zone" in the immediate and surrounding area.



The Hillingdon First Card

There will be the re-introduction of matrix signage on particularly heavy traffic days and Council enforcement personnel in attendance when necessary. In order to ease congestion at the mouth of the two car parks and pedestrian movement to and from the Lido onto the road by the Water's Edge, work will be undertaken to make a number of junction improvements. These are creative and helpful developments which will go some way to easing the issues that have become problematical in and near to the Lido.



A Busy Summer's Day at the Lido

FLOODING

There are many lessons to be learnt from the flooding last year. A Review has been undertaken of the issues that arose from the exceptional rainfall and resulting flooding in June 2016.



Flooding in Ruislip Manor in June 2016

We are grateful for all the helpful comments and suggestions from residents and organisations about what can practically be done to prepare for the future; there are a number of measures that are being looked at, always acknowledging the unusual and exceptional conditions that arose last year.

Your Councillors have been working hard with local MPs to ensure that all agencies fulfil their responsibility moving forwards. Once any Review is available we will be at the forefront of moves to ensure that measures are taken to do what is practical, bringing together those who are responsible to act.

We look forward to an enjoyable Summer. ♦

RAF Northolt



RAF Northolt is pleased to announce that tickets for NORFEST 2017 will go on sale on March 13th, 2017, available through the ticketing agency *See Tickets*. The event itself is on Saturday, July 22nd.

The concept behind NORFEST is for RAF Northolt to host a day of entertainments for all the family and give something back to the local communities which support the Station. The 7,500 public tickets priced at £5.00 and a limited number of car parking tickets priced at £3.00 will be available from *See Tickets* agency and can be purchased online or by phone. Tickets, including parking, will all be on a strictly first-come, first-serve basis.

A whole host of entertainments and attractions for the whole family are being planned including a variety of children's entertainments, a food court, a small static display of aircraft and the central Performance Arena. Confirmed so far are: The Queen's Colour Squadron, RAF Regiment; The Band of the RAF Regiment; and 'The Imps', the World's foremost Junior Motorcycle Display team, with many more awaiting to be confirmed.

The Project Officer for the event, Wing

Commander Gaz Littlechild, said: "The organisation for NORFEST continues to progress apace. It's shaping up to be a fantastic day and we are continuing our discussions with a range of performers, local groups and societies. It will be a real festival of the rich and varied communities that make Ealing, Harrow and Hillingdon Boroughs such exciting places to live. I'd also like to again thank Hillingdon Council who could not have been more supportive with the organisation."

Look out for further updates by following the RAF Northolt Twitter and Facebook pages as they are confirmed, and through local media such as Hillingdon People, local papers and GetWestLondon.

With the focus on local communities, the residents of Ealing, Harrow and Hillingdon are our priority for ticket purchasing and so our advertising is deliberately local. Tickets for RAF Northolt's Centenary Open Day in 2015 sold out very rapidly, so those interested in attending are advised to reserve their tickets promptly. No public or car parking tickets will be available on the day.

See Tickets: <http://rafnortholt.seetickets.com>
 ☎ 0871 220 0260 ♦

Ruislip Manor Cottages

Eileen Bowlt

As one walks around the suburban streets of Ruislip, one cannot help but be aware from time to time of groups of rather attractive buildings, that can only be described as cottages, even though they clearly date from the 20th century and have nothing to do with the older rural village. The largest number are spread around Manor Way, Windmill Way and Green Walk and belong to the Ruislip Manor Cottage Society, which was founded in 1911 to provide well-designed and healthy homes for the less well-off people of Ruislip who would never be able to afford to buy a residence in the Garden Suburb then being planned by the Provost and Scholars of King's College, Cambridge.

The need for cheap housing was exacerbated by the neglected state of existing cottages at the back of *The Swan* on Ruislip High Street and those opposite (now offices with the pump in front), where tenants complained that the legs of beds in the upper rooms sank through rotten floor boards into the rooms below. Public concern was expressed locally by the provision of a series of winter lectures on Cottage Homes delivered at Benson Hall

on Eastcote High Road in 1911-12 and at a conference held at the Council Offices at Oaklands Gate in May 1912. The average wage of a working man in the area was 24 shillings a week. It was agreed that a man needed 3 shillings for personal expenses and that rents often swallowed another 10 or 11 shillings, leaving an inadequate amount to feed and clothe a family. After discussion, it was decided that six shillings a week was as much as a working man could afford for accommodation.

The Ruislip Manor Cottage Society was registered on 2 October 1911 under the Industrial Provident Societies Act 1893, as a Society of Public Utility under the Housing and Town Planning Act 1909. The purpose of the Society was 'taking up land and building, letting or selling small houses and cottages under the important dual Town Planning Scheme, then being carried out by RNUDC and Ruislip Manor Ltd, the company responsible for developing the King's College demesne (mainly Park Wood and Manor Farm, the fields of which ran down to the Yeading Brook).

Leading members of the Board included

George Weedon who owned Kingsend Farm and The Poplars Tea Gardens, and Frederick Herbert Mansford, an architect who built the first houses (now 13-15) in Kingsend. He had firm socialist beliefs and helped found the Ruislip Branch of the Labour Party and was very interested in Town Planning and keen to promote Garden Suburbs.

The Society took an option on land between Eastcote Road and Brickwall Lane and decided to start building high class cottages in a new road, Manor Way being built from where the National School then stood. The first pair was built on the corner opposite the school and intended to be a landmark entrance to the estate. They were designed by Bunney and Makins, who worked at Hampstead Garden Suburb, in a Tudor style with particularly attractive and dramatic chimneys. They were built by WJ Page of Northwood and ready for occupation in May 1912. Inside each had a living room, parlour, kitchen, three bedrooms, a bathroom and two separate lavatories, one upstairs, the other on the ground floor! They were meant to impress and at 15-shillings-a-week rent were only suitable to be let to better-off workers. The Society's office was situated in one of them for many years.

On the other side of Manor Way groups of cottages designed by well-known architects, HA Welch, CM Crickmer and A &

J Soutar, who all worked in the Arts and Crafts tradition, were built around a green and each had a private rear garden. All had 3 bedrooms, bathroom and upstairs WC, whilst downstairs some had a parlour, living room and scullery, others had living room, kitchen and scullery – a subtle difference that meant a lot at the time. They were rented at 11 shillings and 10 shillings a week.

Smaller and cheaper cottages were being built around a green in Windmill Way in 1912, designed by Cecil H Hignett. They have a delightful diaper frieze of projecting headers beneath the eaves and are roofed with pantiles. Each had an outside WC and a bath covered with a board in the kitchen and had three bedrooms and a living room. They were rented at 6s 6d and 7s 6d per week. Nowadays they have bathrooms!

The First World War stopped building. Small two bedroom cottages in Green Walk were completed in 1925.

The Society's activities extended to Fore Street, Eastcote and Chestnut Avenue, Northwood in the early days. Now, after more than 100 years, it has spread its wings beyond the boundaries of the old parish of Ruislip and continues to provide 'affordable housing' for those who would have little hope of ever being able to buy a house of their own. ♦

Conservation Concerns

Paul Mitchell

KEEPING AN EYE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

While the majority of Planning Applications are approved by the Council, there are a number that cause us some concern due to the potential impact on the Conservation Areas or Areas of Special Local Character (CA/ASLCs).

If we have serious concerns about a proposed development, we contact the Council Planning Officer and request refusal, giving the main reasons for reaching that view. Under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) there is now a presumption in favour of development, so we look at applications carefully and constructively, and sometimes suggest alternative designs (there is one example in the list below).

In summary, over the last six months there have been 35 application decisions by the Council in Ruislip CA/ASLCs, of which 14 were refusals. Of those, four have so far gone to appeal (to the Planning Inspectorate for England & Wales) with two of them being allowed on appeal and the other two pending.

Of the 35, there were six applications where we (amongst others) flagged up our concerns – and in all cases the Council agreed with us and refused the application. One of these has since gone to appeal, as shown in the list below.

The most common reasons for refusal of applications by the Council were:

- ◆ the development would be harmful to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area,
- ◆ the development would be overbearing, visually intrusive, and dominant in relation to neighbouring properties and the local street scene,
- ◆ there would be insufficient parking provision or amenity space, and/or
- ◆ it includes sub-standard accommodation (eg. lack of outlook, lack of natural light, low ceilings).

To help show how this has worked in practice, here is a list of the Conservation Area planning applications appearing in the last 6 months which were refused after we had highlighted our concerns:

47/49 Ruislip High Street (Specialized Cycles) (ref 46454/APP/2016/427): 1st/2nd floor rear extension to create 5 flats with cycle spaces.

We wrote to the Council expressing our concerns relating to overdevelopment of the site, implications for parking, and the potential unsuitability of the proposed flats for living accommodation. The application was refused for these reasons: a) it would result in an overly dominant and obtrusive residential block in relation to the existing and adjoining property (51 Ruislip High Street) and as such would result in a visually intrusive development in the Ruislip Village Conservation Area and be detrimental to the architectural composition of the existing building harming the character and appearance of the wider area, and b) the proposed development fails to provide sufficient off street parking provision which meets the councils approved parking standards to service the proposed dwellings. The proposal would therefore lead to additional on street parking to the detriment of public and highway safety and is therefore contrary to policy...

178-182 Ruislip High St (previously Quilters) (ref 28388/APP/2016/3332): 1st and 2nd floor rear extension, conversion of roofspace to habitable use to include 3 x front dormers, 4 x side dormers and change of use from Retail to Residential to create 6 x 2-bed and 3 x 1-bed self-contained flats, etc.

Our concerns, and the reasons for refusal were: a) it would be detrimental to the character and appearance of the existing building and the visual amenity of the street scene and the wider Conservation Area, and b) there would be habitable rooms with a lack of outlook and natural light/sunlight resulting in an oppressive environment, to the detriment of the residential amenity of future occupiers. These were in line with the points we had raised with the Council.

26 Kingsend: Part 2-storey part 1-storey rear extension, 1-storey side infill extension, 1-storey front infill extension, conversion of garage to habitable use and new detached garage to side.

This application gave us some concerns, and was refused by the Council, on the grounds that the siting, size, scale, bulk, height and design of the extensions would fail to harmonise with the character, proportions and architectural composition of the original dwelling, and would have a detrimental impact on the appearance, character and visual amenities of the street scene and the Conservation Area. It was also concluded that the rear extension would be detrimental to the amenities of the adjoining occupiers, by reason of overdominance, overshadowing, visual intrusion, loss of light and loss of outlook.

29 Manor Rd (Ref 17788/APP/2016/3664): Two storey side/rear extension and single storey rear extension involving demolition of existing detached garage.

The reasons for concern, and hence refusal, were that the proposed two storey side/rear extension by reason of its size, scale, design in particular the roof profile(s), fenestration arrangement to the principal elevation and secondary entrance, would fail to appear as a subordinate addition and would thus be detrimental to the character and appearance of the original house, the visual amenities of the street scene and the character and appearance of the Ruislip Village Conservation Area and wider area.

Land adjacent to 2 Park Cottages, The Oaks (ref 27553/APP/2016/2829): 2-storey, 1-bed, end of terrace dwelling house. *Our concerns, and the reasons for Council's refusal included the impact on the character of the street scene, issues regarding parking and amenity space, and the sub-standard living accommodation proposed. The application has since been submitted for appeal.*

3 Pembroke Road (ref 64711/APP/2016/1793): Roof conversion to create a 2-bedroom flat (8 rear rooflights, 2 front rooflights, 8 side rooflights).

We wrote to the Council planning officer requesting refusal, and suggesting an alternative design. The application was refused by Council Committee following discussion on the grounds of the sub-standard accommodation proposed.

Other key matters discussed during the last six months included:

- ◆ **Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) building:** This building is in a critical position within the conservation area, between Manor Farm and St Martin's / the Alms-houses, and it is in poor condition. This site was put up for sale by the council, and we understand that a potential owner has asked the council to organise an archaeological investigation of the site, but there is minimal information available to us on this matter.
- ◆ **The Six Bells:** Some residents are concerned that *The Six Bells* is falling into disrepair. The Council are considering a pre-application proposal for the site - their powers relating to the repair of listed buildings are limited. We have written to the owner expressing our concerns but not yet received a response. (We discovered that the name of the 1960's pop group *The Shadows* was thought of by Hank Marvin and Jet Harris while having a drink in *The Six Bells* in 1959!).
- ◆ **Property Developers:** Churchill Retirement Living have been sending letters through doors in Kingsend and Sharps Lane (at least) offering to buy up properties so that they can develop. We believe other companies are also doing this in Ruislip. This trend is of real concern, and we are working with the Council to seek to avoid these developers getting a foothold. ◆

Health Matters

Joan Davis

NATIONAL ISSUES

Conflicts of Interest: NHS England has published new guidance. Staff should decline all gifts from suppliers above £6 in value. Acceptable hospitality, travel and accommodation is detailed. Outside employment must be declared.

Apprenticeships: The Government's apprenticeship scheme aims to achieve 3 million apprenticeships by 2020. The employers' Apprenticeship Levy, from April 2017, will fund training costs from registered providers. The Hillingdon Hospitals Trust has already started 40 apprenticeships and plans more.

REGIONAL ISSUES

Greater CCG Autonomy: All eight NW London CCGs have applied for fully delegated Primary Care Commissioning, to provide greater autonomy from NHS England from 1st April 2017.

"Shaping a Healthier Future": This aims to provide more out of hospital care, but with hospital experts always available. The business case for the outer NW London Boroughs, seeks over £500m of

government funding - about £69m for GP practices, £140m for community hubs, and £300m for hospitals.

Royal Brompton & Harefield FT: The Trust is still threatened with losing its congenital heart disease (CHD) services. It is working with Chelsea and Westminster Hospital to develop a joint local paediatric critical care service. They are also working with Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust towards a joint specialist paediatric service across NW London. Gaps in those services will be reported to the CHD consultation and other reviews.

HILLINGDON CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP (CCG)

Better Medication for Patients with Atrial Fibrillation: A pharmacist is identifying these patients in GP lists so that they can be prescribed new medication to reduce the risk of strokes.

Finance: The CCG expects to achieve its planned surplus of £3.6m by year end, March 2017.

Mental Health Funding: Hillingdon and

Harrow are poor funders compared with other areas served by Central & North West London FT (CNWL). The Community Voice, of which Ruislip Residents' is a member is campaigning for improvement.

HILLINGDON HOSPITAL NHS FT

Car Parking Tariff: There was no price increase for public parking in 2016 but tariffs have increased by 10p in 2017.

Finance: Despite a gain on the value of investment properties the Trust forecasts that it will not meet its Control Total for the year. It has submitted a planned deficit of £15.3m for 2016-17 in its Operational Plan. So the Trust is now classified as being "in distress" and it is applying for "interim support" from the Department of Health for a new revolving working capital facility.

Accident & Emergency January Waiting Times: Significant activity pressures and high levels of bed occupancy led to achieving only 79.4% of patients being admitted or discharged within four hours. London Ambulance attendances rose by 5.2% compared with last year with blue light activity up by 33%.

HILLINGDON LOCAL PLANS

A Brunel Health Campus: The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS FT, Brunel University and Central & North West London NHS FT plan to develop a university health campus

with a new hospital and an Academic Centre for Health Sciences (ACHS), to integrate acute, primary and community physical and mental health services with social care, education for the workforce, and engaging in research. Phase 1 will set up the ACHS.



A General View of the Brunel University Campus

Hillingdon Health and Care Partners:

These are the Hillingdon Hospitals NHS FT, Central & North West London NHS FT, H4All – a federation of voluntary sector partners comprising Hillingdon Age UK, Harlington Hospice, DASH, MIND Hillingdon, and Hillingdon Carers – plus the four Hillingdon GP networks, due to become Hillingdon GP federation from April 2017. This partnership is now named Hillingdon Health and Care Partners. From April 2017, it will operate in shadow / test form with a pooled budget of circa £32m. This involves whole THH departments where patients are aged 65 years and over. ♦



Police Points

Brian Gunn



POLICE WARD PANELS REPORT

Since our AGM in September, our local Police Safer Neighbourhood Panels have held meetings. These are very informative for our members as the police provide details of relevant issues and updates on actions to address local concerns. Inspector Paul Trice now leads these policing teams, comprising for each panel area, a Police Sergeant, 2 PC's and/or PCSO's. A number of the personnel have changed since last summer and the panels provided a good opportunity to meet with the new team members as well as hear reports of their activities in dealing with crime and assisting in crime prevention issues. In particular the West Ruislip Panel has been re-invigorated since the joint panel meeting I reported on in the Summer edition of *Town Crier* and has met twice since that time under the chairmanship of Councillor Corthorne.

At the last meeting on the 11th January, the police team, led by Inspector Paul Trice, explained that his police officers would be wearing body cameras to enable them to have first hand evidence of offences/offenders in action and also serve to record interactions between the officers

and those they are dealing with which can then provide evidence to demonstrate those officers have behaved appropriately in such circumstances and negate accusations of any inappropriate conduct. The Eastcote and East Ruislip Panel meeting, chaired by Michael Simons, which followed on the 18th January, also heard the same presentation.

Both panels heard from the Police reports that there were, sadly, a number of burglaries, attempted burglaries as well as thefts of, and from, motor vehicles. Many of these were opportunist crimes but we heard that the Police were undertaking operations against more organised criminal activity. We heard that they had been successful in disrupting one such team of criminals recently and were taking further action elsewhere. It is hoped that further good news on detections and prevention will follow. Again it cannot be stressed enough to take care not to leave valuables on display in motor vehicles and not to leave vehicle keys where they can be accessed (such as on hall tables within reach through letter boxes). Similarly, checking that household/garage/shed

doors are securely locked, is equally important as the number of Diwali/bonfire night and Christmas-time burglaries and attempted burglaries has shown.

Recently PCSOs Gemma Robinson and Paul Brighton have been cycling around Field End Road, Elm Avenue and other nearby roads dispensing crime prevention advice in the wake of a spate of thefts from motor vehicles in the area. Also police have been conducting speed checks on Cheney Street – hopefully none of our residents will have been guilty parties!

On a more serious note – whilst anti-social behaviour has been successfully addressed in Ruislip itself by the positive actions of the police, at the Eastcote and East Ruislip panel meeting, local shop owners reported their very real concerns regarding the anti social behaviour by some young people, some of whom appear to live outside the area. It was quite disturbing to hear of this – the overturning of shop displays, threatening behaviour towards the shop owners and their staff and similar inappropriate behaviour. It would seem that these perpetrators often indulge in this unacceptable behaviour showing off in front of their friends. The police are fully aware of these incidents, which are being logged and reported to them and they are engaging with the shop owners to gather evidence to enable them to deal with such offenders.

Finally, in the last issue I reported on the issue of poor condition of road signage around the Ruislip area. We corresponded with Hillingdon Council who informed us that they were taking action on this situation and indeed you may have noticed that in recent weeks a significant amount of re-painting of road signage has taken place!

 police@ruislippresidents.org.uk

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAMS AND CONTACTS

West Ruislip

Insp Paul Trice

Sgt Samantha Quinn

PC Darren Rose

PCSO Paul Brighton

 westruislip.snt@met.police.uk

 020 8246 1801

Eastcote & East Ruislip

Insp Paul Trice

Sgt Samantha Quinn

PC Andrew Murphy

PC Satnam Kang

 eastcote.snt@met.police.uk

 020 8246 1801

Manor

Insp Paul Trice

Sgt Alicia Botha

PC Ajay Shah

PC Andrew Phillips

 manorward.snt@met.police.uk

 020 8246 1801 ♦

Harrow Choral Society

Anna Tribick

2017 is a very special year for Harrow's longest-established choir as it celebrates 80 years of high-quality music-making.

This season also marks 25 years under the baton of Director of Music, Simon Williams.

Following a sell-out Christmas concert the 90-strong choir is gearing up for the highlight of its jubilee season at Harrow School on 1st April. To crown Harrow Choral Society's 80th year, Simon Williams has chosen Handel's evergreen masterpiece *Messiah* in which the choir will be accompanied on period instruments by the *Charivari Agréable* Orchestra and, as usual, joined by some of the country's leading professional soloists.

The season started with the popular Christmas concert at Harrow School on 17th December, where every year the Speech Room provides a uniquely atmospheric setting for an evening of wonderful music and seasonal readings. This year, to the delight of the capacity audience, HCS welcomed as its guest reader Old Harrovian James Fox, well-known for his TV and film performances.

A summer concert planned for 1st July at St Alban's Church, North Harrow, will feature music by Byrd, Tallis and Arvo Pärt. Entitled "Music for Contemplation" the concert promises an evening of serene and inspiring sounds.

Chair of HCS, Peter Miller, said "If you've never been to a Harrow Choral Society concert, this is a great year to start! The choir is singing better than ever and we're all very excited about the repertoire." But what if you've listened to the choir and wished you could be part of it all? "Come along to a rehearsal one Monday evening and give us a try," Peter suggests. "If you want to brush up your skills, there's our excellent training choir, *Singing for Starters*, which this year celebrates 20 years of introducing beginners to the magical world of choral singing."

Despite our name, our members come from both Harrow and Hillingdon. Harrow Choral Society rehearses on Monday evenings from 7.45pm at St Alban's Church, Norwood Drive, North Harrow HA2 7PF. For more information visit the website at www.harrowchoral.org.uk or contact Jill Mans on ☎ 020 8248 7625. ♦

A New Website

Graham Bartram

In these days of rapid technological change it has become almost compulsory for an organization to have a website. RRA has had one for several years, but technology has moved on and today many people access websites on devices with much smaller screens than those the websites were designed for, such as phones and tablets. The modern solution to this is to have 'responsive' websites that change their layout depending upon the device being used to display them.

We have decided that the RRA website needs an update, to bring in this responsive design and add some new features.



The Home Page of the New Website

The new website takes its design cues from the *Town Crier*, using the same fonts and colours. Different subject areas have their own theme colours - the same ones that are used in this magazine.

One of the most important new features is the event calendar. This will allow us to keep the people of Ruislip up-to-date with interesting and/or important events. To support this we are looking for a volunteer to collate information from local groups and societies to enter into the calendar. If you are interested, then please contact me. The system is fairly simple to use and training will be given - the most important thing is enthusiasm!

From June, we will be making life easier for members with the ability to pay your RRA membership, and make a donation, online, using your cards (Visa, Mastercard or Amex). This facility will be easy to use and secure: you will be asked for your postcode and house number and then shown when you last paid. You can then enter your name and card details.

We hope to have the website live soon! ♦

High Street Roadworks

Graham Bartram

As you will have no doubt noticed, the second part of the rebuilding of Ruislip High Street began on March 13th. The first part, from the traffic lights at King-send/Pembroke Road to the Ickenham Road junction was carried out at the start of 2015; now the final part, from the Ickenham Road junction to the mini-roundabout at Bury Street/Eastcote Road, has finally started. I do not think anyone can argue that it did not need doing, as the road was literally disintegrating.

The Ruislip Residents' Association and Ruislip Chamber of Commerce have had discussions with both Hillingdon Council and O'Hara Brothers (the contractors) to discuss how the works are going to be carried out and their implications for the residents and businesses of Ruislip.

HOW THE WORK IS PHASED

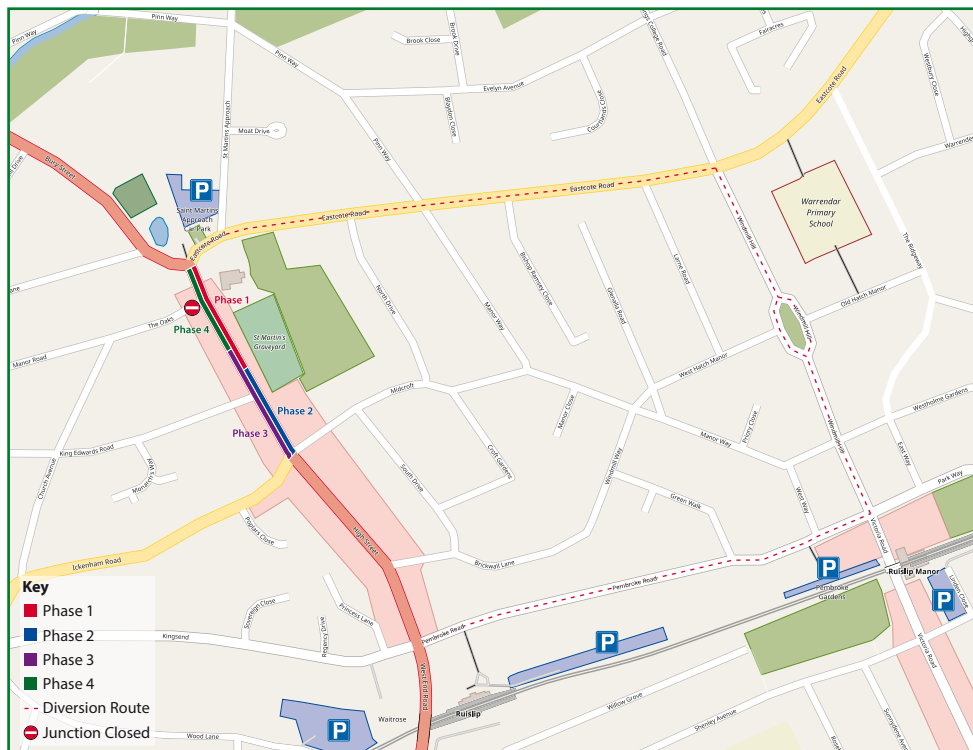
The work is scheduled to take 16 weeks, but if all goes well the contractors hope that it can be done in slightly less time. There are four phases of work, each taking approximately four weeks: Phase 1 is the south-bound carriageway between Eastcote Road and Sainsbury's. Phase 2 is

the south-bound carriageway from Sainsbury's to the Ickenham Road junction. Phase 3 is the north-bound carriageway from the Ickenham Road junction up to just past Sainsbury's. Phase 4 is the north-bound carriageway from just north of Sainsbury's to Bury Street.

For the duration of the works there will be parking restrictions on the High Street between the Ickenham Road junction and the mini-roundabout, 24 hours a day. The junction between the High Street and The Oaks will also be closed for the entire period in both directions - the only access to The Oaks, including Café Rouge's car park, will be via Church Avenue or Manor Road. Access at King Edward's Road junction with the High Street changes during the project: phase 1, 2 & 3 - no right turn out of King Edward's Road, phase 4 - closed in both directions.

TRAFFIC FLOW

During phases 1 & 2 traffic will still be able to travel north on the High Street. South-bound traffic will need to use the diversion route: Eastcote Road, Windmill Hill and Pembroke Road (shown on the map as a red dotted line).



Map of the Roadwork Phases and the Diversion Route

In phases 3 & 4 the opposite situation will apply - traffic will be able to travel south on the High Street, but north-bound traffic will need to use the diversion: Pembroke Road, Windmill Hill and Eastcote Road.

BUSES

In phases 1 & 2, the 331 towards Ruislip will be diverted onto Eastcote Road, along Windmill Hill and then down Pembroke Road to Ruislip Station; the H13 towards Northwood Hills will miss out the High Street, Ruislip Station and Windmill Hill and go along Eastcote Road to join its original route; the U10 towards Uxbridge will not

serve The Oaks and run via Church Avenue and Ickenham Road instead. There will be a temporary bus stop on Eastcote Road, near St Martin's Approach, and we have asked for another on Church Avenue. Buses will run as normal in the other direction. At present we do not have the plans for phases 3 & 4.

SUPPORTING BUSINESSES

The shops, cafés and restaurants will be open as usual, but access to them may be more difficult. Please make an effort to support them during this very difficult time for them, so they can continue to serve us in the future. ♦

Planning Update

Mike Hodge

BISHOP RAMSEY C OF E SCHOOL: The intention of Bishop Ramsey C of E School to extend the opening hours of their Multi Use Games Area has met with strong resistance from local residents/focus groups. Given that the facility was provided for the sole use of the school pupils it becomes more of a commercial enterprise to open it up to the general public. As an association, we are supporting local concerns, particularly regarding additional local traffic, unauthorised parking, pollution and inevitable noise.

35 PARK AVENUE: A single storey extension has been constructed without planning consent. The local authority has taken enforcement action for the structure to be demolished but the appellant has gone to appeal against this action.



35 Park Avenue in October 2016

We are supporting local concerns that the extension does not meet normal planning rules and therefore the local authorities' action is not unreasonable.

LAND ADJOINING WOODMANS FARM, PLOUGH FARM CLOSE: On this separate plot, forming the corner of Plough Farm Close and Bury Street, it is intended to erect a two-bedroom detached bungalow which we consider would not be in keeping with the established street scene and property mix. A previous application for this site to construct a two-bed detached dwelling house was not proceeded with. This new application is now under consideration and any comments should be received by the local authority no later than March 23rd.



© Google StreetView

Empty Plot, off Bury Street

LITTLE MANOR HOUSE, ARLINGTON DRIVE: The original property and all of the land was sold at auction for £1.1 million around three months ago. At the end of February, the house and a small amount of the land was re-advertised for sale at £1.1million! Around three quarters of the land is not for sale and is likely to be redeveloped. This is of obvious concern given the proximity of a listed building and its present setting. We will be monitoring any development closely.



Little Manor House

8 WINDMILL HILL: The revised planning application to convert the loft, incorporating two side dormers and one rear dormer was refused by local planners but the appellant successfully appealed to the Planning Inspectorate to overturn that decision. It is hoped that the outstanding works will be carried out in near future. ♦



8 Windmill Hill

Houses of Parliament Visit

Vivien Alcorn

We have received another special permit from the office of Nick Hurd MP for a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament - a trip that has always proved popular with residents.

The visit is on Tuesday, May 9th, and there is no charge, apart from the tube fare. There is a limit of two places per member household and priority will be given to those who have not been previously.

Please apply, with a contact phone number, as soon as possible to ensure your place! ♦

📧 social@ruislipresidents.org.uk



RUISLIP RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

7.45pm, Wednesday, 19th April 2017

Winston Churchill Hall, Pinn Way, Ruislip HA4 7QL

Doors open at 7.30pm

The Guest Speaker will be Robert Williams,
Waste Development Manager, London Borough of Hillingdon
talking about Waste Services and Recycling in Hillingdon,
followed by an Open Forum, with questions to a panel of RRA representatives.
The meeting will end at 10pm. Wine, fruit juices and snacks will be served.
Open Forum items to the Secretary by Tuesday, 11th April 2017.

