

Share your views at our AGM Annual Meeting

Meet other residents and local councillors

Thursday 13 November
7:30 for 8pm

St Charles Borromeo School
Christ The Prince Of Peace (Portmore Way)

Join us and local councillors

There will be light refreshments. on arrival
and, if any left, afterwards!

7:30 – Chat and light refreshments
8:00 – Hear about and discuss local matters which affect our
community.

All local residents are welcome

Is there is a local issue of concern to you?

Let us know! Email contactus@portmore.org.uk

We will focus on the top local issues at our AGM.

Portmore Park & District Residents Association covers the area between the rivers and High street (roughly the dotted line in map, page 2).

Our newsletter has over the years been delivered to most homes in the Portmore Park area, and homes around Thames Street and Walton Lane. In response to interest, we have extended coverage to Grotto, Grenside and Greenlands Roads.

Hear more and share your views at our AGM - 13 November

SEE INSIDE

for more about local issues

- Local traffic survey
- Friends of Desborough Island
- Walton Lane options
- Riverside

Morrisons Weybridge Meet the New Store Manager

With the new Morrisons store due to open before Christmas, our AGM will give you a chance to ask questions about plans and arrangements.

We are happy to say that the manager of the new store, Gary Hunt, has agreed to be at our meeting to tell us about what Morrisons are doing and to answer your questions.

There were differing views in Weybridge about the impact of the new store on our community, with particular concerns about traffic and staff parking.

Hear more and share your views at our AGM - 13 November

Get Elmbridge news and views from our Local Councillors

Elmbridge Borough Councillors Andrew Davis and Ramon Gray plan to be at our AGM. There is a long and valued tradition of local councillors attending the PP&DRA AGM. The meeting is not in any way party political (and our councillors represent different parties). Together, they listen to the things that matter to the people here, tell us about plans, and answer questions.

Surrey County Council topics

We have also invited the Surrey County Councillor for Weybridge, Christian Mahne. If he is unable to attend we can pass questions on to him. In July he met the PP&DRA committee and discussed a range of local issues.

See inside this newsletter for more on our Surrey County Councillor's stated views on

- Speed of traffic and 20 mph zones
- Surrey's Parking Review
- Walton Lane options
- Cycle Routes
- Flooding

Local traffic surveys

PP&DRA conducted a baseline local traffic survey in 2013 before the new Walton Bridge opened.

We plan to conduct a new survey now that the roadworks in Monument Hill have finished, then again after Morrisons opens. The aim is to see how the new Walton Bridge and Morrisons affect traffic in our roads.

Friends of Desborough Island

Desborough Island is a wonderful asset for the community of Weybridge, with its acres of tranquil meadow and miles of beautiful riverside.

Friends of Desborough Island (FoDI) is a local initiative to help keep the island a beautiful open space the public can enjoy.

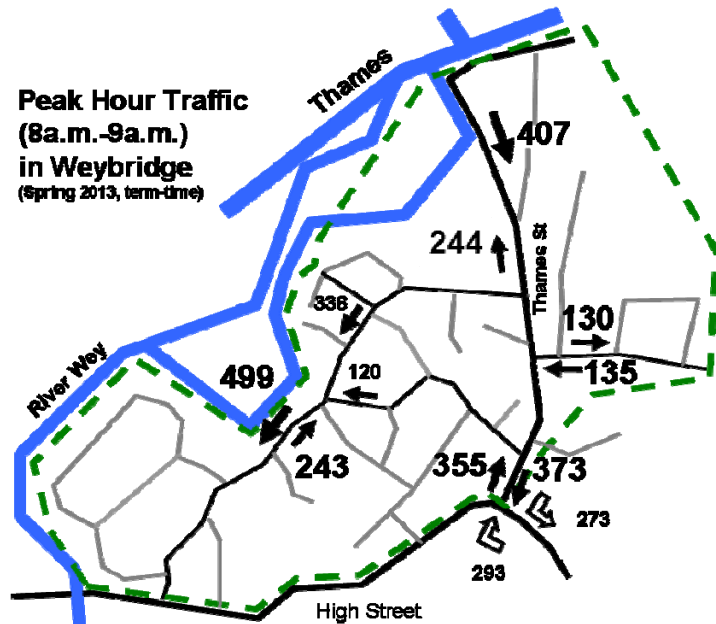
Parts of the island belong to the Environment Agency (responsible for the Thames bank), Surrey County Council, Elmbridge and others. FoDI aims to help keep an eye on the Island, and link in with the Councils, EA, and organisations and groups with an interest in the island.

Community involvement is vital to prevent the lovely Desborough Island regressing into an area for litter, anti-social behaviour and neglect.

For more information see www.fodi.uk or email info@fodi.uk

Planning application

<p>2014/0884: Development of warehouse in Thames Street. Refused, but taken to appeal.</p>	<p>Planners were particularly concerned about the impact on neighbouring properties, as the building forms the boundary walls. Side windows would affect neighbours' privacy.</p>
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There was more peak hour traffic in Portmore Park Road (St Albans/ Oakdale junction) than Thames Street. A government survey in 2010 showed 15% more traffic in Thames Street over 24 hours.

Why are we doing the surveys?

Traffic may increase with the new bridge – against the edict of the public inquiry – and Morrisons.

Surrey is looking at traffic flows at Walton Bridge, and we understand there may be plans for a strategic review of Weybridge traffic. We want councillors engaged on how our roads adapt.

Volunteers urgently needed

If you have the odd hour or so, please email contactus@portmore.org.uk if you can help.



Thames Street warehouse, October 2014

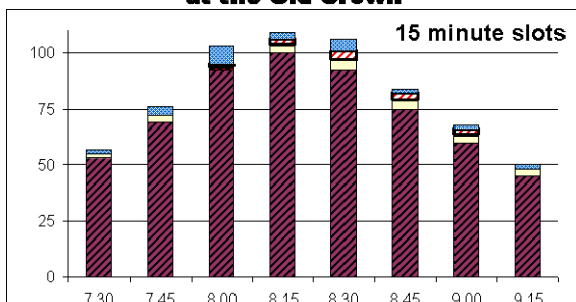
Believed originally to have been part of the site of Montrose House (demolished in the 1930's for Montrose Walk), some residents remember this as a bus garage and a warehouse for Luxfords.

It is a legacy of a time when much of this part of Weybridge had small industrial sites adjacent to Victorian and Edwardian housing.

This is not an attractive building at present, but the impact of side windows would be undesirable.

Could conversion to dwellings become a more appealing proposition if the design incorporated a central light well, rather than side windows?

Morning peak entering Weybridge at the Old Crown



REPORT: Meeting with Surrey County Councillor, Christian Mahne

In July Mr Mahne met the PP&DRA committee. Some highlights were:

Meeting comments	Commentary
<p>20 mph speed limit signage</p> <p>Mr Mahne said he would enquire to see what funds are required and available and may apply to the Elmbridge Local Committee funds for clearer signage for the next financial year.</p> <p>Mr Mahne will also enquire whether portable electronic signs are available for temporary use.</p>	<p>In our view, the first priority is to raise awareness, and '20' zone signs on the road surface would help.</p> <p>Volunteers might collect speed data (e.g. via Community Speed Watch). We also discussed the possible extension of the 20 mph zone to Grotto Road / St. James School.</p> <p>Funds will be very limited so where do you suggest are the priorities?</p>
<p>Walton Lane speed survey</p> <p>A monitor will be put in the 40mph section of Walton Lane as part of the Walton to Haliford Study. This only records statistics and is not a speed detector for enforcement.</p> <p>Mr Mahne will promote the idea of another monitor in our area.</p>	<p>Two locations near schools have been suggested for a second speed monitor. Thames Street and Portmore Park Road.</p> <p>We might only expect one of these. We think the second survey should be where speed appears greatest to establish the maximum extent of the problem.</p> <p>Where would be most useful?</p>
<p>Walton to Halliford Transport Study</p> <p>Traffic flow into Walton Lane is part of this. Theoretical options in order of difficulty for Walton Lane are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Width restrictions • Turn bans (traffic entering/ leaving Walton Lane can only turn left) • Closing the road (e.g., at Cowey Sale). 	<p>Surrey's policy is that everybody has to share roads.</p> <p>There will be no new restrictions on vehicles in Weybridge.</p> <p>Walton Lane is a potential exception, as part of the study of traffic flow at the bridge.</p> <p>We can place bets as to what Surrey might recommend, but what do local residents think?</p>
<p>Parking Review is coming to Weybridge</p> <p>There will be a review of Weybridge on-street parking, once the parking review in Walton is completed.</p> <p>There will be no new parking schemes beyond those already approved, until the next Weybridge review.</p>	<p>The general view is that <i>more</i> parking is needed in Weybridge, but the challenge is <i>where?</i></p> <p>Oakdale Road will become a Residents Parking Area like Elmgrove Road because the proposal was already well advanced.</p>
<p>Weybridge – lacking adequate cycle routes</p> <p>Encouraging cycling is a central government focus, and Surrey are looking to improve cycle routes in Weybridge. Initiatives are under consideration for linking the Station to the High Street, West Byfleet and Addlestone.</p>	<p>Thames St and Portmore Park Roads are part of the National Cycle Routes.</p> <p>Previous discussions by residents have noted that these roads have limited space for separation of cyclists from other traffic. What are your views?</p>
<p>A Flood Task Group is publishing its report including Weybridge. Stop press: Just available – see our website.</p> <p>An expectation was a proposal for local wardens with local knowledge.</p>	<p>Because we have two rivers, Weybridge can be affected by different flood patterns. We were lucky that peak flood waters on the Wey and Thames did not coincide last winter.</p>

Other topics covered included **Green Belt, footpaths**, Surrey's view of **gravel extraction** in the area, and **traffic disruption** caused by building work (e.g., Morrisons and St. George's Junior School).

Public access to the riverside

Five years ago, a plan to improve the moorings in our local stretch of riverside resulted in new concrete moorings, funded by the general taxpayer. But it had side effects.



Riverside trees were cut down, and the public were barred by a mesh fence from a riverbank they had previously enjoyed as a public amenity.

On many other parts of the Thames, the public are not barred from riversides where there are moorings.



BEFORE: Our local Thames riverside, Autumn 2009



AFTER: The same length of riverside, Autumn 2014

What are your views? Would you like to see this stretch of riverbank open again for public access?

Meanwhile, there is now an £82,000 proposal to divert the Thames footpath and cyclepath around the riverside edge of the 'Thames Point' car park (next to Weybridge Ladies ARC), halving the parking spaces. **Share your views at our AGM.**

Local Green Belt land for sale – as a 'development opportunity'

Land at Greenlands Farm has been offered for sale as a 'strategic development opportunity', despite being Green Belt, working floodplain, and an important element of Thames riverside landscape. This farmland, with its traditional field pattern and hedgerows, is a significant piece of local countryside which helps separate Weybridge from Walton. It is included in the Strategic View from historic Oatlands Park. It serves an essential function in helping moderate flood risk. A 'strategic development opportunity'? **Share your views at our AGM, or at portmore.org.uk.**

Aims of PP&DRA

We are a non-political association for local residents, supporting local heritage, quality of life and community. By joining, people in our locality are more able to make our voice heard. We focus on issues which affect us and visitors to our area: for example, town planning, green spaces, traffic, parking and recently the new streetlamps.

How to join – Come to the PP&DRA Annual Meeting on 13 November, or use the form below.

Contact us – contactus@portmore.org.uk – PP&DRA c/o 3 The Swansway, (64) Portmore Park Rd, KT13 8HU

Why not join us? Membership of PP&DRA is **open to residents between the High Street and the Rivers Wey / Thames**. We have a nominal subscription of £3.00 to help cover costs. **Getting involved:** We are always keen to hear from people who would like to get involved, whether by representing your road, establishing an interest group, or helping in any other way.

Membership Form (Subscription normally due at the AGM. Subscription year Jan – Dec)

Please return at the AGM or to PP&DRA Membership, 3 The Swansway, (64)Portmore Park Road, KT13 8HU.

Name(s)

Address

Postcode..... **Email**
(to receive newsletters and any updates)

I enclose (please tick): £3 Other Please enter amount:

I am interested in: Helping the traffic survey Joining the Committee/ representing my road Other: