

EGHAM GATEWAY WEST

The plans for the rebuilt Egham Leisure Centre resulted in a planning application in April. The new development is certainly a striking project, with the main objections being its planned location nearer to Vicarage Road? The application was approved at the RBC Planning Committee on 21st June after the officers recommended to grant subject to conditions.



The other development, Gateway West (covering Station Road North), was the subject of a preliminary consultation session on 19th & 20th May, during which some early “artist impressions” of the plans (see opposite) were presented. The outline was for retail on the ground floor everywhere & then separate buildings for the theatre, the performing arts academy & the 3 student accommodation blocks.

The 2 big issues, which were fully appreciated by the architects & RBC, relate to :

- i) Height - the current idea is for 3 floors above the retail level & then for a smaller, stepped 5th floor & a possible 6th floor on the accommodation blocks. This looks out of place in some of the views & is being reviewed again.
- ii) Parking - for some reason, the architects have decided to plan for no underground parking & only put in a 25 place ground floor carpark! They use the RHUL-based argument that new students don't use cars & that the theatre (750 seat capacity) is in the evening when there are no problems in parking in the Town!! This was universally laughed out by the consulting groups.....

The base assumption for the development is that it would be operational by Autumn 2020 & with Station Road North becoming a pedestrianised “realm” & a Town square.

RBC & its associate, Places for People, are planning a follow-up session for late July, ahead of a planning application due in September.

SCC ELECTION RESULTS



For those who may have missed the results, Chris Fisher, as the Independent Residents candidate, finished a commendable 2nd to the Tory incumbent in the SCC election in the Englefield Green division on May 4th. The votes were :

Marisa Heath	(Conservative)	1,169	(41%)	
Chris Fisher	(Independent Residents)	809	(29%)	
Ben Tozer	(Labour)	307		
Will Coles	(Liberal Democrats)	255		
David Hunt	(UKIP)	148		
Lee-Anne Collett	(Green)	138		Turnout 29%

Chris added : “The force proved not to be with me. It was a shift for former supporters of UKIP, which came second in the division 4 years ago, to the Conservatives that did for me. In the end I was sunk by a political shift that has absolutely nothing to do with Surrey County Council!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my election agent, Steve Williams, for all his help - especially on the excellence of the website he set up for me. Thanks also to all the members of the ERA Committee who backed the campaign - some of you were just brilliant”.



ERA DOES LICHFIELD

On April 22nd a party of 36 members & friends attended this year's Coach Trip to Lichfield & the nearby National Memorandum Arboretum (NMA). The weather was good & everyone had a glorious time in one of the smallest cities in England. The cathedral at Lichfield was very substantial & dominated the whole area. The NMA is very remote, free to entry & the amount of memorials are quite astounding.

Hope to see you at next years event?



MAGNA CARTA DAY (17th June)

The weather for MC802 , the 27th year of its existence, was extremely hot but the turnout was up as well. Full use was made of the 2 performance areas (outside the Lit & outside Tescos) by a range of bands & entertainers. The ERA stall was a success raising £120 & increasing membership - many thanks to those that helped man the stall on the day.

Magna Carta Day is organised by a small group of volunteers representing the Chamber of Commerce & Egham Residents' Association, including our very own Cynthia Reilly. They would like to

thank everyone who supported the programme and look forward to successful event in 2018.



HIGH STREET ENTRY BOLLARDS

After weeks of "technical issues", the rising bollards finally went operational on 16/5 & seem to be working well - only 2.5yrs since they were recommended!!



RUNYMEDE ROUNDABOUT

After months of delay, SCC Roadworks have confirmed initial tree felling & vegetation clearance occurred in mid-June, with the Buckingham Group starting on the site, the most congested roundabout in Surrey, on **8th July**. Night-time road works & traffic management will continue throughout the project, which is scheduled for completion in eight months (**early March 2018**) - subject to weather & operational conditions.

Despite inevitable traffic control during the construction phase, the project is planned to improve traffic management & the efficiency of vehicle flows across the roundabout. These measures include widening & resurfacing the carriageway, providing a new 'U-turn' facility between the A30 'Glantly Loop' off-slip & the A308 to Staines, introducing signals at each of the junctions, installing toucan crossing facilities across the junction arms and creating a new shared-use path to the north-east of the roundabout.



GRAVEL EXTRACTION

Unsurprisingly, SCC have delayed further their Planning & Regulatory Committee's review of Hanson's application for gravel extraction at Milton Park Farm until **13th September**, probably "at the earliest". SCC Minerals are increasingly under pressure to resolve this long-lasting situation, as no reason for the delay has yet been given (although this is now 8.5yrs since the application was lodged)!



Saturday 26th August (7.30 - 11.00 pm)
Community Tent, Egham Royal Show, Whitehall Lane

The ever-popular ERA-run Barn Dance returns to the Egham Royal Show ground this year with our regular band, the Local Yokels, playing until 10.30pm & no increase in ticket prices.

TICKETS : £13 per person (£6.50 for under 16s)

(to include Fish & Chip Supper - vegetarian option available)

Tickets available shortly from :

Jim Pearcey (432805), Veronica Cresswell (435133) or Sian Williams (439744)

Sponsors :



The Egham Royal Show is on:
26th and 27th August 2017
 Patron: H.R.H Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh KG KT

The 159th Egham Royal Show takes place over the August Bank Holiday weekend on Mrs Caddey's Field in Whitehall Lane. Founded in 1857 to encourage and enthuse local farmers & labourers in their work, the show has been revamped since then to also mirror the 21st century. Keeping with traditional elements, for example, the many marquees packed with horticulture, intricate model engines and craft stands, plus the popular animal shows, are designed to appeal to people of all ages!

Admission is between 10.00 & 17.30 & prices will be : Adults £10 per day (£15 for both), Children (under 14) Free with a paying adult & OAPs £9 (£13.00 for both) - free parking available. Advance tickets will be available at a 10% discount.

We will be at the Show with an ERA stall, where we will be selling cakes etc and offering games on both days. If you are available for two hours to help on the stall on either day, please contact :

Jim Pearcey on 01784 432805



OUR CHANGING HIGH STREETS

This summer Egham Museum is setting up a temporary exhibition in the Museum, located nearby on the High Street. The title and theme will be Our Changing High Streets, with a main focus upon how the High Street is changing as time passes (see the High Street in 1910 in photo opposite), as well as looking at shops in the areas of Virginia Water, Thorpe, Englefield Green and Egham Hythe.

The exhibition will bring to life how Egham High Street would have looked in the nineteenth century and earlier, using drawings, photos, advertisements, magazines and artefacts showing some of Egham's long-standing buildings and what was housed in them before the present day. Within the exhibition, there will be a section for all residents of Egham to write down what they remember Egham was like in days gone by. All memories are welcome, whether it is of a relative who set up shop in Egham or what it was like to grow up in a different time than the present.

From 22nd June until September the exhibition (with free entry) will be open Tuesday & Thursday 10am - 4.30pm & on Saturday from 10.30am - 12.30pm.



EMAIL ALERT

Alerts on issues that arose between Newsletters this quarter covered :

- a) 5/4 - Student Meeting (26/4)
- b) 8/4 - Egham Leisure Centre plans
- c) 13/4 - Greenfingers of Runnymede competition
- d) 21/4 - Cage Cricket
- e) 21/4 - High Street Bollards Operation
- f) 25/4 - Student Meeting Agenda
- g) 26/4 - Affinity Water Resources
- h) 26/4 - Student Meeting Agenda - UPDATE
- i) 2/5 - M3 Junction 2-3 Closure
- j) 3/5 - Festival of History
- k) 5/5 - Magna Carta Day
- l) 6/5 - Egham Gateway Update
- m) 12/5 - Runnymede Local Plan - Additional Sites
- n) 15/5 - High Street Bollards (Again)
- o) 19/5 - High Street Bollards (Yet Again)
- p) 21/5 - Egham Gateway Consultation
- q) 25/5 - High Street Bollards (Finally)
- r) 1/6 - Runnymede Roundabout Delay
- s) 5/6 - Mrs Caddeys Field & Green Belt Review
- t) 9/6 - Egham Blood Donation
- u) 12/6 - Runnymede Roundabout - Tree Felling
- v) 15/6 - Runnymede Rdabout - Construction
- w) 22/6 - SCC Community Recycling Centres

To be sent email alerts please contact Glenda Thisdell on 07905 917440 or glenda.thisdell@hotmail.com

Community Fair

Promoting local charities and groups

Saturday, 23rd September
10.00 - 12.00

Just a reminder for your diary that this year's charity Community Fair will be held on Saturday 23rd September (from 10am to Noon), in the Main Church of the United Church in the High Street. The idea of the Fair is for the ERA to sponsor local charities to market their wares to the general public.

Local groups & charities interested in taking part should contact

Kim Callaghan on 01784 435678



ERA COMMITTEE

Chairman

Jim Pearcey

Vice-Chairman (& Planning Co-ordinator)

Chris Fisher

Secretary

Adrian Skelt

Treasurer

Aneesh Gupta

Membership Secretary

Glenda Thisdell

Other Members

Graham Basset

Bill Bessant

Patrick Macavoy

Isabel Mullens

Cynthia Reilly

Julian Richardson

Geraldine Rodrigues

Monica Whynot

Social Media Co-ordinator

Leah Robson



MAYOR CHARITIES

As one of the last acts of his Mayorship, Cllr Alan Alderson presented cheques to his chosen charities as Mayor.

The presentation saw charities; Home Start, Dementia Carers - Runnymede and Woking and Sam Beare Hospices, receive over £25,000.

The money was raised across four big events held throughout the year for a total of 380 guests. The Mayoress hosted an afternoon tea and floral demonstration in November for 105 guests. There was a Valentines Soiree in February and a Mayoral Ball in March, which had 164 people attend. Most recently there was the Mayor's Golf Day which saw 30 people play.

Runnymede Borough Councillors

Alan Alderson	5 Mead Close	435292
John Ashmore	31 Rusham Park Av	432819
David Knight	4 The Grove	07854 843239

Surrey County Councillors

Marisa Heath		07971 666317
Yvonna Lay	24 Goring Rd, Staines	457170

Website : www.eghamresidentsassociation.org

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