

# Canning & Clyde Road Residents Association

[www.addiscombe.net](http://www.addiscombe.net)

12 March

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### Association

Website  
[www.addiscombe.net](http://www.addiscombe.net)

## Beat That! Edition



### Beat That!

Did you know that local policing accounts for 72% of the taxes that you pay to the Mayor of London? Are you cross that we don't see any policemen in our area for this expenditure? Well, for once the Mayor seems to have got the message and has advanced his plans for introducing community policing teams in all of London's wards before the April 2008 deadline. Beat that!

Photo courtesy of [www.museum.tv](http://www.museum.tv) and is

From 3 April our ward, Addiscombe, will have a sergeant, one constable and two police community support officers.

They will be joined in September by a further constable and another police community support officer. Because of the size of Addiscombe we could even eventually end up with six police community support officers. They are going to be based in Charity House, at the rear of the large Co-op in Lower Addiscombe Road. Bill Barclay will be the sergeant in charge.

We'll let you have full contact details the moment we receive them. In the meantime, if you need to speak with a local police officer, contact Glyn Brady on 020 8649 1216 or e-mail [Glyn.Brady2@met.police.uk](mailto:Glyn.Brady2@met.police.uk)

## Forthcoming Events

### Annual General Meeting

Thursday 11 May, 7.30 pm, Edward Jobson Court

A useful opportunity to exchange views, catch up on developments and meet neighbours. Business is kept to around one hour followed by something to eat and drink. If you have any items for the Agenda, please let Anne know.

### Barbecue and Book Sale

Sunday 9 July, 1.00 to 7.00 pm

This was such a success last year, we thought we'd repeat it.

### Eat Out

One of our residents has suggested that we organise a meal out at one of our nearby restaurants. If you like this idea, please let Anne know nominating which restaurant you would suggest. We will then arrange a meal at the most popular

Please note that our website is now at:  
[www.addiscombe.net](http://www.addiscombe.net)

# East Croydon Gateway Site Update

As you may recall, Croydon Council wishes to see, and has granted planning permission for, the development of a 12,500 seat arena at this important site. Obviously 12,500 people arriving for an event just a 15 minute walk away would have a considerable impact on our area.

The preferred developer is Arrowcroft, to which Croydon Council is in some way contracted. This planning permission has been referred to the Government Office for London who decide whether to review it themselves or not. Croydon cannot grant actual consent until the Government Office for London make their decision. Should this be the case, then consent for the Arrowcroft scheme would be at least 12 months away.

The Council has hitherto refused to entertain the alternative Stanhope Schroder mixed development scheme including a brand new home for the Warehouse Theatre, residential housing, keynote office buildings, healthcare facility, restaurant, cafes and four and a half acres of publicly accessible park.

With regard to housing, this has been extensively discussed with both the Greater London Assembly and Croydon Council; agreement has been reached with both authorities relating to the numbers, mix and tenure. The provision of 560 new homes, 268 of which are affordable, is considerable. No other development in recent times has happened in Croydon to make a similar contribution to the meeting of housing needs and policy targets. The whole scheme is designed primarily by Fosters and Partners with one office building by Faulkner Browns and landscaping by West 8.

The Council's refusal to properly consider the Stanhope Schroder scheme is against the rules. In January this culminated in a Public Inquiry to hear evidence from both sides. This is clearly an expensive procedure. Croydon Council produced no witnesses, no evidence, nothing.

At the opening of the Inquiry Croydon Council said that it would be inviting the Secretary of State to grant Stanhope Schroder planning permission for its scheme. Basically the Council is not commenting on the application but is asking the

Secretary of State, who has powers for a scheme this size, to decide.

This is important because the Stanhope Schroder application is a detailed application. The Arrowcroft application, although claiming to be detailed, is not.

Earlier in the year a similar public inspection into the Council's new Unitary Development Plan (UDP) dismissed the development of an arena at this site as not being essential.

Given the acceptance of Stanhope Schroder's detailed planning application and given that they are also the owners of the land, you would have thought this much needed redevelopment work could start almost immediately. But no. After inviting the Secretary of State to consider granting permission to Stanhope Schroder, the Leader of the Council, Tony Newman, says that the Council still intends to pursue the arena scheme and use a compulsory purchase order. So again the Council introduces huge uncertainty and delays over the development of the site.

Why? No one has provided a convincing commercial justification for an arena, nor has anyone seen any detailed business plan or viable transport plan. Indeed the Leader of the Council, Tony Newman, was recently reported in the *Croydon Advertiser* to say that after 18 months no one has come forward to fund an arena.

Worse, should the ultimate planning permission be granted to Stanhope Schroder, the Council wishes to determine the phasing of the development - in other words the order in which the site is developed. On closer investigation this seems to have been determined by the competing developer, Arrowcroft. Stanhope Schroder has considerable experience of developing landmark urban sites on this scale. To be told how to set about your job by someone else is nothing short of bizarre.

This is all extraordinary behaviour from Croydon Council. Stanhope Schroder could have claimed



**Andrew Pelling**  
MP and Greater London  
Assembly Member

# Update from our MP and Greater London Assembly Member

As you may be aware, Andrew Pelling is our MP and Greater London Assembly (GLA) Member. Up to May he will remain a Croydon Councillor (not for our own ward).

At our invitation he came to visit our five-person committee in January and we put to him questions that some of our residents had raised:

**Q.** How much is the GLA costing the tax payer? How many staff are employed and how much do quangos cost the tax payer?

**A.** In 2005 the whole GLA family had a budget of £10 billion. The Mayor of London only needs one third of the Greater London Assembly Members to vote with him on the budget to get it through.

In 2006 GLA buildings and staff will cost £848 million. When the GLA started, there were 230 members of staff. Today there are 723 members of staff in the strategic headquarters of the GLA functional bodies. Across GLA organisations there are 150 press officers.

**Q.** What will be the burden of the Olympics on London given the track record of recent construction projects?

**A.** Mayor of London wants to put an additional £20 on Band D Council Tax per year for ten years. The Government has agreed he can extend this by two years if needed. He aims to raise £625 million in total from London Council Tax payers. It is possible the Government will turn to London tax payers to pay for Olympics if there is a cost overrun.

As for construction works, the Government voted down London tax payer being burdened with cost of any overrun.

**Q.** Transport for London - (a) Bob Kylie. How much has he been paid in salary and golden handshake? No real improvement in public transport - merely massaging of statistics.

**A.** Bob Kiley was one year into his second contract. (*At the time of our meeting compensation to him had not been finalised but*

*turned out to be £745,000. It does not, however, end there. He stays on as a consultant to the Mayor in his Belgravia flat and will receive £113, 425 in benefits - source BBC website).*

**Q(b).** Why have fares gone up again but with no practical improvement in services?

**A.** Transport for London have a pricing model but will not show Andrew, an MP and GLA Member. Bus fares are set to increase over a number of years at 10% above inflation. Tube fares at 1% above inflation.

**Q(c).** Why is Oyster not usable on railway network?

**A.** There is mistrust between the railway companies and Transport for London.

**Q(d).** Fare dodging. Why should others pay?

**A.** £28 million is being spent on a revenue protection team in 2006.

**Q.** Policing - why do we keep paying but nothing happens? Danger of vigilante action. Need for zero tolerance of various forms of antisocial behaviour.

**A.** Police service costs £606 million a year from Council Tax bill, 72% of tax bill. When the GLA was set up, the Metropolitan Police made it very clear they would not be held accountable by the GLA. Monitoring body is the Greater London Police Authority, half of whose members are appointed (i.e. not elected by the public).

**Q.** What is the news on the East Croydon Gateway site?

**A.** Andrew, through the GLA, has seen the contract between Arrowcroft and Croydon but it was so heavily censored as to be meaningless. In effect the Council will not show even our MP and GLA Member a copy.

## Other points we raised

John Prescott's and Ken Livingstone's wrongly perceived need for excessive housing density - such developments encourage short term tenants and lead to eroding of community.

Individuals undertaking antisocial developments to increase value of property at neighbours' expense.

**Contact Andrew:** House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA Tel: 020 7219 8472  
E-mail: [PELLINGA@parliament.uk](mailto:PELLINGA@parliament.uk)

# The New Park - Addiscombe

In 2001, planning permission was granted to Bellway Homes for the demolition of Addiscombe Station and the development of the East India Way housing estate.

As part of the planning permission deal, Bellway would donate to Croydon Council the old railway track area between the rear of the station and Black Horse Road with a mind to the Council using the land as a public linear park. In addition, Bellway gave the Council a sum of money for security fencing the new park area and for the park's ongoing maintenance.

We were told that work on the new park would commence as soon as the Bellway development was complete (2002). In fact serious work only started this January with the demolition of the old railway bridge and removal of the embankment at Dalmally Passage. Boundary security fencing is apparently just starting with planting (native trees and shrubs) and a footpath still to come. The first phase of the park is due to open this summer (2006) and will run between the rear of East India

Way and Dalmally Passage.

We are not aware of any schedule for the remainder of the park between Dalmally and Black Horse.



Entrance  
East India  
Way



Dalmally  
Passage  
looking  
through to  
Morland



The park  
from  
Dalmally  
Passage  
looking  
towards East  
India Way

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## Our FREE online service - [addiscombe.net](http://addiscombe.net)

Over the past couple of months we have been field testing our new **ADDISCOMBE.NET** email and web service. The results are excellent and so we have moved over the Association's web site and the committees email addresses.

If you visit our web site at [www.addiscombe.net](http://www.addiscombe.net), you will see that our friends at the neighbouring HOME residents association are also using the new service. The site will also tell you about the email service, but essentially you can have a completely free email address of the form:

**Your.name@addiscombe.net**

This service is introduced by our Association with the backing of a local company, Bygraph.

All you have to do is to let Anne Bridge know that you would like an account. It should be available within 24 hours. The service is suitable for both dialup and broadband users. For dialup users, we will supply dialler software. You can of course use your ADDISCOMBE.NET free account as either your primary email address, or as an additional alternative to your existing.

Give your virtual self a sense of local community! Join **ADDISCOMBE.NET!**

If you require more information then contact Steve Collins or Anne Bridge.

Please, please DO NOT CONFUSE our entirely independent 'for residents, run by residents' service with the newly launched local Labour Party web site ([addiscombe.info](http://addiscombe.info)). Nothing to do with us, guv!