



Canning & Clyde Road Residents Association

www.addiscombe.net

12 April 2011

Looking Forward Edition

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Police-Our Local Team (not emergencies)
Tel: 020 8721 2473 and 07920 233886
Addiscombe.snt@met.police.uk
Face to face surgeries at various times - for more info phone or visit www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods

Our Councillors
Sean Fitzsimons,
Patricia Hay-Justice
Mark Watson
Town Hall
Katharine St
Croydon CR0 1NX
Email: 1stname.surname@croydon.gov.uk
020 8819 5597
Drop in Surgeries:
Sir Philip Game
Centre, Morland Ave
2nd Sat of month
10.30 am - 12 noon

EVENTS

Annual Residents Meeting

Thursday 19 May

7.30 pm

Edward Jobson Court, Canning Road (3 doors down from the church)

Come along to our annual meeting for all residents in Canning and Clyde Roads. It's a chance to catch up on what is happening, express your views and ask questions of our elected representatives. Our three Councillors and Greater London Assembly Member will be attending. Our Member of Parliament hopes to attend depending on whether there is a vote in the House of Commons. This part of the meeting will last between 45 minutes and 1 hour maximum. We aim to make it informative, interesting and useful.

Afterwards we have a sort of party. There will be drinks and refreshments. These prove to be very friendly occasions and it's a chance to meet neighbours and speak to our elected representatives.

Please let Anne know by 1 May if there are subjects you would like us to find out information on or discuss.

Red Hot BBQ

Sunday 3 July

1.00 – 6.00 pm

42 Canning Road

(bang opposite the church)



Summer is approaching. You are warmly invited to our BBQ. This year the theme is 'Red Hot'. Again, it's a great way to meet neighbours. In the past we've had a good number of people of all ages and it's been great FUN! People are welcome to come along for just five minutes or all five hours. Feel free to bring friends or family. Do please make a note of the date and we'll send round more details nearer the time. Come along and enjoy yourself!

South Norwood Arts Festival

13 – 19 June

People for Portland Road Residents Association are hoping this year's Arts Festival will be the best yet. There will be a wide variety of events at different venues. Details are yet to be finalised but there will be a fair on Sunday 19 June on Woodside Green. For more information, look in libraries and at www.peopleforportlandroad.org.uk

Addiscombe Carnival

Sunday 29 May

11.00 – 4.00 pm
Ashburton Park

Croydon Lions are again organising the popular Addiscombe Carnival. There will be a procession going past the end of our roads between 10.30 and 11.00 am and a whole variety of stalls and entertainment in Ashburton Park. Money raised will go to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution Thames River rescue service.

The Croydon Lions need volunteers for the event. If you would be able to give up just two hours of your time on the day to help out, please contact Anne.

GREEN THINGS

Addiscombe Railway Park

This runs from the end of East India Way (opposite the bottom of Canning Road) to Black Horse tram stop and bridge crossing Dalmally Passage.

Our Councillors are setting up a Friends of Addiscombe Railway Park to give local residents the chance to participate in what happens in the park. Before doing this, they will produce a questionnaire to find out what residents would like. Although this questionnaire will be particularly aimed at people whose homes back onto the park - and who are greatly affected by what happens in it - we are all welcome to express our opinions. Please let Anne know if you would like a copy of the questionnaire when it's available. Once we know what will be the opportunities for residents to become involved, we'll let you know.

Green Waste Collection

Croydon Council will restart the green waste collection towards the end of April. In our two roads the first collection will be on **Wednesday 4 May**. The last collection will be on 5 October.

The Council will deliver two clear plastic sacks per garden before the collection starts. You can buy extra sacks at £1 each from any library. You must use the Council sacks as collectors can see inside them. Please leave in front of your home within an arm's length of the pavement. The Council will collect up to six sacks at a time.

Two new trees

Following a request from us, the Council have replaced two trees in Canning Road with new Maples. These are outside Princess Court and Fourways. As they are newly planted, they will need watering in dry and/or hot weather. Please would anyone offer to do that? Please could you let Anne know if you would.

Locally sold plants and seeds

The Cherry Orchard Garden Centre (by the corner of St James Road and Sydenham Road) is about 10 minutes walk away. It is a social enterprise / local project. Many plants are grown onsite from seed or cuttings. Prices are incredibly cheap. They sell the same kind of plants you'd find in a garden centre plus some more unusual ones. Opening hours are Monday to Friday, 9.30am - 4.00pm and Saturday 9.30am - 2.00pm.

In Addiscombe (Down Town LA) there are at least four shops that sell seeds and/or plants.

PEOPLE POWER THINGS

Parking

Many thanks to those who sent in their letters or emails of protests against the Council's proposals to increase the chargeable parking hours in our roads. The Council have listened to residents' objections and have not increased the hours. The charges, however, have gone up.

Cherry Orchard proposed development (see page 3)

Station in foreground gives sense of perspective to 53-storey tower block



PLANNING THINGS

Two very different planning applications have recently been submitted for the East Croydon Station area.

Cherry Orchard Road (Menta)

Menta are a property company who have bought up land along Cherry Orchard Road: on the west side from the Porter and Sorter to the office block opposite Oval Road; on the east side the Mansion blocks on the corner of Oval and Cherry Orchard Roads.

They have just submitted an application for full planning permission i.e. what they are submitting is what they say they are intending to build.

Their plans are to demolish all existing buildings. On the site of the Porter and Sorter they intend to build an office block. The other buildings will be a 4-star 'boutique' hotel with 165 bedrooms and 22 luxury serviced apartments, more office space, community centre (with no plans as to who will finance or manage the running of it), shops, cafes, bars and restaurants.

There will be two very different residential buildings with flats. In both cases the vast majority of flats are one or two bedrooms. On the site of the Mansion blocks will be about the same number of new flats as before; these will be social housing to rent. The major building of the scheme will be a 53-storey residential tower of 499 flats; these will be largely privately owned or part owned/part rented. The tower has been described as a 'vertical community' with shared roof gardens, games room, craft room and rooms for residents to hire for family celebration. Essentially it will be designed to be self-contained. The tower will be roughly twice the height of the NLA Tower (Number One Croydon).

The plans also include a public square with steps leading down from the planned Railway Bridge. This would give an additional exit to the station.

There are arguments both for and against the proposals.

Arguments for – the area currently looks run down and deters people who might otherwise base their business in Croydon. The proposed development is 'up market' and would improve

the image of Croydon. The 53-storey 'vertical community' block of flats is an exciting, innovative and distinctive piece of architecture. This would encourage businesses to come into the proposed development, creating jobs and providing customers for existing shops etc. This in turn would then encourage other businesses to come into other parts of central Croydon providing jobs and boosting existing businesses. Not to grant planning permission would be a huge opportunity missed for Croydon and the land could remain derelict for years. There would be an extra exit from East Croydon Station directly on to Cherry Orchard Road.

Arguments against – the proposed 'vertical community' would be self-contained and contribute nothing to the existing community. It is not at all certain that people in Britain want to live in such high rise accommodation as their main home and so it is a speculative development. Its 53 storeys would loom over the neighbouring roads which are residential. Most of the roads affected still have a fairly stable population which aids a sense of community. The presence of the tower would drastically change the character of the area and encourage people to sell up to the highest bidder, probably a developer who would turn family homes into flats which would then be let on short-term lets that tend to encourage a transient population, thereby undermining a sense of community. Oval Road, which has already undergone this process, has been a major priority for the last six months for the Addiscombe Safer Neighbourhood Police Team because of the sort of anti-social behaviour that more easily takes hold when there is not a stable community. The loss of the traditional building and distinctive atmosphere of the Porter & Sorter.

We have been given a very short timescale in which to submit residents' views. Do please let both us and our Councillors know your views by **Saturday 23 April at the latest** (contact details on front page). Please also contact the Council directly to give them your opinions. You can do this online www.croydon.gov.uk and select Planning Services. The planning application number is 11/00981/P. Alternatively you can write to Simon Albrecht, Planning, Regeneration & Conservation Dept, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 1JT.

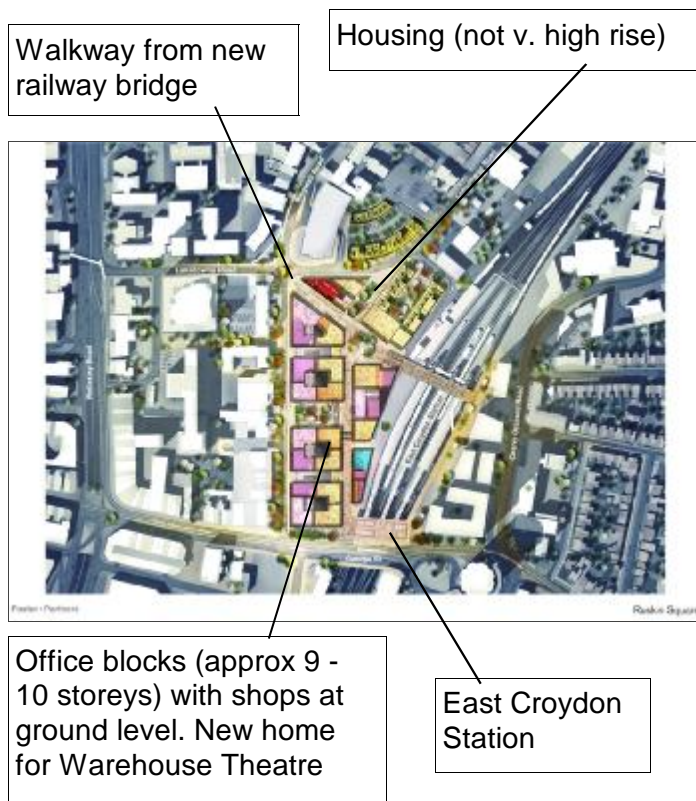
Ruskin Square (Stanhope Schroder)

Stanhope Schroder have submitted outline planning permission for a mixed use residential, office and retail development including a new Warehouse Theatre, very much as we described in our Christmas newsletter.

Outline planning permission means they are asking for permission in principle to build. They could only go ahead and build once they had submitted more detailed plans for full planning permission.

Stanhope Schroder have also given land to the Council to enable a walkway from the new East Croydon Railway Bridge, which has already been granted planning permission, to the roundabout with Dingwall and Lansdowne Roads.

Stanhope Schroder will only apply for full planning permission once they have secured a tenant for the first office block.



FAKE THINGS - Scams

We regularly receive information on people who try to con others. This could be in person, by email, phone or letter.

First of all – **never** let anyone into your home that you do not know, whoever they claim to be or whatever heart-tugging story they give you. You may have to say 'no' to someone saying they are pregnant and/or desperate to use the toilet or for a drink of water. Do not leave your door open while you go away inside for anything. Instead shut the door after saying you will check them out with whichever organisation or company they say they are from. Check using a telephone number from the phone directory, letter or bill, not one that the person gives you.

There are numerous emails circulating from addresses that look as though they have come from a bank, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) or other Government departments. Please be very careful about emails appearing to be from these sources. Remember – your bank, HMRC or other Government departments would never ask for your passwords or personal details online. Be suspicious of offers to refund money. Phone to check using a number you already have from a past letter or statement.

For offers involving money or goods, here is the advice from Consumer Direct.

- Beware of hype and extravagant promises. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- You are contacted out of the blue: You may get a phone call, email or letter from someone you've never heard of.
- You have to make a quick decision: Scammers don't like to give you time to think. They will try to pressure you into making a decision by saying things like '*If you don't act now, you'll miss out.*'
- You have to give away bank account details: Trustworthy firms will never contact you to ask for this information.

If you think a scammer has attempted to con you by phone, letter or email, we suggest you phone Consumer Direct to report them on 08454 04 05 06. If you think someone has knocked on your door and tried to con you, we suggest you contact our Police Safer Neighbourhood Team (contact details on front page).