# WEST WIND

Established 1962 Representing 1100+ households in West Windsor

West Windsor **Residents' Association Newsletter** 

Christmas 2014

### Keep calm and visit the website at www.wwra.org.uk

#### Dear fellow residents,

2014 has been an eventful year for the WWRA which started with the successful inclusion of West Windsor into Windsor Neighbourhood Plan Forum, the death of our dearly loved Councillor, Cynthia Endacott, the resounding victory of our sponsored candidate in the ensuing by election, the launch of our influential website at www.wwra.org.uk, and our ongoing campaigning against Heathrow's broken promises on unfair flight and noise distribution over Windsor.

2015 will be a pivotal year for Windsor, with many things coming to the boil, including; Heathrow's unfair flight noise continuing, & the proposed third runway; the construction of up to 1,000 houses at the West end of Windsor; the development of resident friendly planning regulations with the two Neighbourhood Plans to counteract the Government's & Borough's builder's charters; the retirement of two of the three Independent Councillors; the May 2015 elections; & the need for a new WWRA Chairman.

In 2014, much was done by a handful of people, to the benefit of us all, however, in 2015 your help will be needed to overcome the challenges.

Your actions could help make or break our wonderful town and our community. Together we can keep Windsor wonderful, but only together. So I urge you to get involved and volunteer to help the WWRA, or act as Chairman, or stand for election as an Councillor. If you and we don't, those in currently power will do what they want to do.

Have a great Christmas,

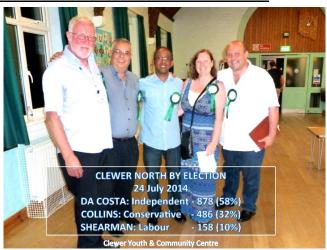
#### Wisdom Da Costa

Chair WWRA

Email: wisdomdacosta@hotmail.co.uk

Blog:: www.wwra.org.uk

#### Election news & a BIG "Thank You"



With help from members, our WWRA sponsored Independent candidate beat the might of the Tory machine, gaining nearly twice as many votes, on a turnout of 1,525 voters (26% of the electorate).

The magnitude of the victory was exceptional when you consider that the might of the Conservatives, and the hundreds of their volunteers who flooded Clewer North in July – this included most of the 47 Councillors, and MP Adam Afriyie. And then there were the "dubious" tactics they employed! You can read about these on the website at www.wwra.org.uk

It was a fitting tribute to the late Councillor Endacott. So, thank you residents of Clewer **North** for voting to put people first, and maintaining Cynthia's legacy.

#### May 2015 Elections

The May 2015 elections are fast approaching, and Councillors John Fido, and John Penfold, will be standing down after three decades of serving the residents of Clewer North. Feel free to contact them to say thank you and wish them well.

"The search is on to find..."

So, the search is on to find candidates to replace them. But the all out elections also presents our sponsored Independent Councillors with a chance to expand their influence possibly also to Clewer South, Park Ward, and Clewer East.

Do you know someone who you think would make a great councillor?

Tell us, and get a huge dollop of gratitude.

**NB** This is an urgent issue, as Windsor needs more Independent councilors who will put people first. *RSVP wisdomdacosta@hotmail.co.uk* 

#### Help us help you

Can you spare 2-3 hours a year? We are an entirely voluntary organisation and we need more collectors / distributers to collect the annual subs from our members and post three newsletters a year.

You could take on 10, 20 or more houses in the area - any contribution would help – and it's a great way to meet the neighbours and support your local community! Everything you need is delivered to your house by Mike and Izzie the Dog.

To volunteer or discuss this further please call Mike Moss, our Membership Secretary, on 01753 840698

# Heathrow; aircraft noise and the proposed third runway

Four years later than they promised, and after much lobbying by the WWRA, Heathrow Airport Ltd (Heathrow) has taken steps to implement a fair runway alternation that will reduce aircraft noise over Windsor – if Heathrow wins a planning appeal with London Borough of Hillingdon.

So, fairness will still be at least two years away, and more active campaigning is needed, by all.

And, as the spectre of the proposed Third Runway is beginning to loom from the Government's bureaucratic mist, we continue to lobby Heathrow, the Davies Commission, and through local authorities to block this cataclysmic proposal.



More info at www.wwra.org.uk

#### Legoland development & traffic

Legoland's application to build a 65 metre high indoor ride called the Haunted House was turned down by the Windsor Urban Development Control Panel (WUDCP), including Cllr John Penfold, on 16 July 2014, because of the anticipated negative effects on Windsor's difficult traffic flows, and the potential harm to the Green Belt and the amenity of the Windsor local community.

The WUDCP chairman also opined that he did not think enough had been done to mitigate the traffic congestion, so further traffic trials were requested on four routes identified.

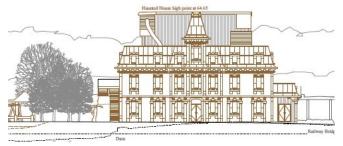
However, when you look at the road map of Windsor, there are only five routes in, and only the chosen four could take the volume of nationwide visitors that Legoland attracts. Also, there is only one entrance and exit into the site.

**Note:** Let's hope that Cllr Burbage gives the go ahead to the western Bray ward route as well as the routes to south, east, and north, to ensure that traffic is spread equally around the borough.

So it would seem that our roads are close to reaching their peak capacity, even with clever real-time traffic management, though there is some talk of creating an extra entrance/exit, possibly over Crown Land to Drift Road., or to Winkfield Road.

Furthermore, Legoland is seeking to expand the resort's ability to become an all weather, all year attraction, by increasing the number of enclosed rides. Economically it is in Windsor's interests that the resort expands, but logistically, and environmentally, for Legoland to continue to grow, a revolution will be needed, perhaps in the form of a Park & Ride, or a tunnel/flyover, or a rail link. All of these options would need some serious capital investment from Legoland and the Royal Borough.

We will keep you posted.



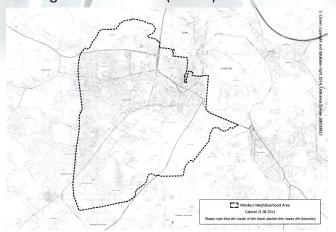
Legoland's proposed four storey, Haunted House ride

#### **Windsor Neighbourhood Plans**

There are three tiers of planning regulations, two of which, including the Local Plan, seem to be a developers' charter, with scant provision for the wellbeing of residents.

However the third tier of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP), can mitigate this inherent bias, especially if it is resident led, and people like you are involved.

Following a successful campaign by John Holdstock and the WWRA, the residents of "Central Windsor" voted to include their neighbours in West Windsor, much to the consternation of certain individuals. A number of them formed a an alternative, "business" led, group called the Central Windsor Neighbourhood Plan (CWNP).



Map of the final Windsor Neighbourhood Plan area

The Windsor wide plan (WNP) continues to take shape, and Claire Milne and John Bastow, and their team of volunteers continue to work hard to shape a vision of Windsor that benefits all, including ideas to improve the Sawyers Close area.

They will shortly issue a major consultation on the Vision for the WNP area based on what people have said so far, to go out to all households and businesses in the area.

Topic (focus) Group members are analysing each area of Windsor in detail, and are contacting landowners, with the aim of producing draft policies that will develop Windsor (excluding the town centre) in a sustainable way to the benefit of all, especially the residents.

They aim to complete the draft WNP by early in 2015.

Please volunteer to support the incredible WNP group and the work they are doing to protect you. It is a key document that be in place for 15 years. Visit their website at www.windsorplan.org.uk. I commend them to you.

# Borough Local Plan, Sawyers Close, & proposed Windsor Link Railway

The Local Plan is well behind schedule, and is beginning to take shape nicely from a developers point of view, with up to 1,000 new houses earmarked for West Windsor to replace greenbelt land and the two garden centres.

There are great pressures from Government to build, build, build, so we will monitor the situation, but we need more help from expert members (you), and we all need to LOBBY HARD at the current ruling group in the Council to get our point across. Watch the website for calls to action.

Then there is Councillor Bathurst's proposed Windsor Link Railway development, to join up the Waterloo and Slough railway lines with a tunnel under Windsor, a new station in the Goswells, an underground car park beside the river, and hundreds of prestigious river facing homes.

The final outcomes look laudable, but the construction phase is likely to bring Windsor to its knees for the three years when major construction will clog up or close major roads. A heart attack for the town, tourism, and our local economy?!

We are as yet unclear about the Council ruling group's intentions towards Councillor Bathurst's proposed £1bn development. An open discussion is needed.

#### **Planning applications**

Have you seen the new interactive "Planning Application Map" at <a href="www.wwra.org.uk">www.wwra.org.uk</a>? Tell us what you think, help us improve it, or help us update it.

For the latest information, please go to the Website or visit our Facebook page (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/westwindsorresidents">https://www.facebook.com/westwindsorresidents</a>), or monitor our Twitter account @WWRA1

Find out more at Facebook,



Twitter & www.wwra.org.uk

## Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

### The WWRA now on the web, Facebook and Twitter

The next exciting phase of development for the WWRA website will be led by Peter Brown and Rebecca Curley, and will include more features, and social media; Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/westwindsorresidents); Twitter @WWRA1

Wisdom also posts regular updates on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/cllrWisdomDaCosta

#### Receive news by email

We would like to be able to communicate electronically to our members. This would allow us to send you alerts on important WWRA issues and local topics (e.g. events; elections, key planning issues etc) by email. We can then also email you our regular newsletter.

If you are happy to receive e-mails please complete the form below (in clear handwriting) & return it to the Membership Secretary (see contact details) below. Please be assured that e-mails addresses will be kept private and not shared with any other organisation. Membership fee remains as is per household.

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WWRA Contacts											
Name		Address	Phone	Name	Address						
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John Harris, Treas	ohn Harris, Treasurer		857172	Sara Berwick	50 Washington Drive						
Mike Moss, Mem	bership	6 Butlers Close	840698	Kevin Chapman	17 Whiteley						
Franco De Luca, V	ice Chair	Oakley Green Road	07917 303131	Peter Brown	24 Birch Grove						
Hilary Hopper, See	cretary*	20B Tudor Way	855803	Catherine Brown	24 Birch Grove						
				Tony Rawlins	26 Testwood Road						
Clewer North Independent Ward Councillors											
Cllr John Fido:	860148	Cllr John Penfo	ld: 861712	Cllr Wisdom Da Costa: 840040							