

August 2022  
Issue 3



Welcome to the summer edition of Ravensbourne Valley Residents (RVR) newsletter, a printed copy of which is delivered to all households in our catchment area whether the residents are members or not. Please note, if you are reading the paper version, that all the hyperlinks are clickable in the digital version available to members in the 'Download' section of our website.

## Bromley Town Issues

There follows a paraphrased version of Bromley Council's response to the Transport for London (TfL) consultation on the proposal to extend the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to outer London, including Bromley. The full version, which presents the council position, is available to RVR members in the Miscellaneous section in the Download area of our website.

### Bromley Council's response to TfL's ULEZ consultation

Bromley Council supports the objective of improving air quality and to this end has published a comprehensive Air Quality Action Plan 2020-2025 with a matrix of twenty-five actions. The Council is committed to ensuring that its operation is carbon net zero by 2027. In addition, a further 5,000 trees are being planted and we are also continuing our rollout of LED street lighting, installing new electric charge points, and investing in renewable energy.

The Council, however, disagrees strongly with the proposal to extend the Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to outer London by August 2023. Bromley is, geographically, the largest London Borough, and contains many rural areas which have little public transport and where, unlike inner London, residents are dependent on their cars. The imposition of a daily charge to drive in the borough will be an additional financial burden to those already facing substantial increases in fuel costs. The Council therefore calls on Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London, to abandon his plans to extend the ULEZ. We would like to see the budgeted £200m better spent.

### The Case for ULEZ expansion

Bromley is estimated to have the highest number of premature deaths related to air pollution of any London borough (204 a year) owing to its elderly population. Their health needs protecting! Researchers from Imperial College London found that London's toxic air contributed to the deaths of more than 4,000 Londoners in 2019. The greatest number of deaths attributable to air pollution were in outer London boroughs, See: [bit.ly/3dOHYd6](https://bit.ly/3dOHYd6)

TfL estimate that, as a result of ULEZ expansion, in Bromley there will be a reduction in harmful Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) emissions of 11% from cars and 7% from vans.

Furthermore, 82% of vehicles in outer London are ULEZ compliant and the poorest households don't own a car.

A paper with additional facts is available to RVR members in the Miscellaneous section in the Download area of our website.

## Planning Applications

Regular readers of our newsletter and viewers of our website are kept informed of our efforts to comment on, or object to, planning applications that we believe to be detrimental to our environment. A history of these is maintained on our website and can be viewed at <https://www.ravensbournevalley.org/news.php> with supporting details in the “Planning Applications” areas of the website.

Recent cases include:

**Shortland Station Lifts:** Permission has been granted in principle for the erection of three new 16-person lift shafts, one to platforms 1/2, one to platforms 3/4 and the other on the other side of platform 1/2, erection of one new stairwell on the far side of platform 1/2; and erection of one steel footbridge between the lifts. Owing to our comments, and others, the approval is subject to the council agreeing the actual materials to be used. This will be important and we will be campaigning for the highest quality materials. For example five storey towers will look very different if they are made of the cheapest possible brick compared to being made of ‘heritage’ brick.

**The Chalet, Kirkstone Way:** This site has been an on-going eyesore for some time. We are pleased that the council has raised a S215 enforcement notice to get it all sorted out.

**Beckenham Place Park:** The application to develop the fields east of the railway line in Beckenham Place Park to provide improved leisure facilities and a flood water storage area has been approved.

**Land Behind 21 Bromley Avenue:** Permission has been granted for the construction of a detached two storey dwelling.

**2 Warren Avenue:** A third application has been made to develop this site, this time for an extension to the existing building. We have made what we believe to be constructive comments. An appeal against the refusal of the earlier application to demolish and replace the building has also been submitted.

**79 Coniston Road:** Two new applications have been submitted. One is for 7 bedsits in the existing house and one is for retrospective permission for a garden out-building. We have objected to both these applications.

We would emphasise (yet again!) the importance of getting planning permission – failure to do so can be expensive. For example, an application to get retrospective permission for decking at **65 Farnaby Road** has been refused permission. However, a slightly revised application has been submitted and awaits a decision.



**Romany Ridge and 15 Hillbrow Road:** We have objected to the horrible application to demolish these two properties and replace them with a massive and inappropriate block of flats.

If you are interested in obtaining a weekly list of new planning applications you can apply to be added to the mailing list by sending an email to [margaret.morse@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:margaret.morse@bromley.gov.uk)

To obtain full details of any planning application go to the Bromley Council website planning area at [bromley.gov.uk/planning](http://bromley.gov.uk/planning), follow the “Planning applications” link and do a search by post code, road name or address. You can also follow the “Planning enforcement” link to ascertain what action the Council has determined for developments carried out without proper planning permission.

## Community Projects

### Warren Avenue Playing Fields

We campaigned for a new bench in Warren Avenue Playing Fields and now we have got one. (Members will remember we were going to buy one with our own funds, but got Lewisham to buy it instead!)



As a future project we are considering park bench purchase for areas beyond the Beckenham Place Park Mansion House where there are no (or scant) facilities for people to enjoy the Park.

### Members' Wellbeing

A proposal was submitted by Richard Fagg on the involvement of a company specialising in helping people needing support with physical and mental or emotional issues. The costs involved were deemed too specialised and too high for RVR to take this up.

However, the following links may be of interest to members or their contacts seeking this kind of support: events held at Beckenham Place Park (e.g. Mindfulness Walk and fun runs for adults & children) <https://beckenhamplacepark.com/events>; resources on the Bromley website under 'Talk Together Bromley' (<https://www.talktogetherbromley.co.uk/>). This is a free NHS evidence-based talking therapy service for people aged 18 years and over, who are anxious, stressed, have low mood or suffer from depression.

### RVR Street Friends

RVR Street Friends continue to meet regularly to clear litter and tidy tree pits and common areas. This year we planted daffodil and narcissus bulbs in a few selected tree pits in Crab Hill, Downs Hill, Farnaby Road, Madeira Avenue and Warren Avenue. We are very pleased with our new high-vis jackets which let passers-by know who we are, keep us safe and advertise RVR too.

We hope to have a Street Friends session monthly, in Autumn, Spring and Summer. We now start our sessions with a coffee at Ravensbourne station before working for around an hour and a half. It is always motivational and enjoyable working as a team. Our work is appreciated by passers by and it is always good to do a little to clean up the streets we live in. Our litter picking efforts have been noted by LBB and Veolia have invited RVR to apply for a grant towards this task – potentially up to £1000.

If you are interested in joining one or more sessions, please contact our Street Friends Coordinator, Monica Wiltshire, and she will add you to the contact list. [trees.rvr@outlook.com](mailto:trees.rvr@outlook.com)

### Shortlands Village Conservation Area

Shortlands Residents' Association (SRA) and RVR are planning an Open Meeting on the Future of Shortlands Village at Harris Primary Academy in Mays Hill Road on the morning of Saturday 19th November from 10:30 - 12:30. Further details to follow.



## Beckenham Place Park (BPP)

### Jubilee Parks Fund

Friends of Parks groups and local stakeholders, including Resident Associations are invited to apply for funding to improve their local park, with monies from the £1 Million Platinum Jubilee Parks fund.

Details of how to apply are at the following weblink: <https://bit.ly/3uXg5fe>

### Mansion House

An extensive programme of activities is scheduled at the Mansion House, including those relating to: Fitness and Wellbeing; Sewing and Crafts; and Food and Drink. Details of these and other activities can be found at <https://www.beckenhamplace.org/>

### Park

The range of events and activities in the park expands all the time. Details can be found at the following webpage: <https://beckenhamplacepark.com>

The annual flower and dog show took place on Sunday 31st July. It was very well attended and, as usual, the dog show in late afternoon was extremely popular.



Music festivals, with capacity for up to 12,000 people, are scheduled as follows:

- Naked City - Saturday September 10th
- Black Coffee - Sunday September 11th
- Hospitality in the Woods - Saturday September 17th and Sunday September 18th

Details of these events can be found at:

<https://krankbrotherbppevents.com/>

<https://hospitalityinthewoods.com/>

<https://beckenhamplacepark.com/news/music-events-in-september-faqs>

These events will be noisy until 10pm and we expect to be able to publish in due course a 'noise hotline' telephone number for people to call if they are inconvenienced by it.

## Roads and Transport

### Road Safety Working Group (RSWG)

Following a proposal made at the last members' meeting a group of 12 RVR members met for the first time on the 29th June. There was a lively debate and the group has produced a draft discussion document which enjoys the consensus of all those who attended. It is not intended as campaigning agenda of any kind but is only designed to stimulate debate.

The document is lodged on our website and can be downloaded by members from the following link: [https://www.ravensbournevalley.org/resources/August\\_2022\\_Uploads/RSWG%20Discussion%20document.pdf](https://www.ravensbournevalley.org/resources/August_2022_Uploads/RSWG%20Discussion%20document.pdf)

We would appreciate any comments or further suggestions so please download the document and send your comments to: [roadsandtransport.rvr@outlook.com](mailto:roadsandtransport.rvr@outlook.com)

In the last week a resident reported the following traffic incident..... "Whilst driving along Ravensbourne Avenue and turning into Downs Hill, a car came at speed from the other direction. The road is congested at this point with parked vehicles, so there was nowhere to safely pull in, necessitating braking sharply to avoid a head-on collision."

This kind of behaviour is one of several that the RSWG focus on. Others are: the increasing traffic volume; the size of vehicles using residential streets; and sat navs sending vehicles through residential streets.

Residents can help by gathering photographic evidence of dangerous situations (including date / time / road / speed limit) and forwarding these to Nicholas Ansdell-Evans (RVR Roads and Traffic Officer) [roadsandtransport.rvr@outlook.com](mailto:roadsandtransport.rvr@outlook.com).

Road incidents can also be reported to the Police here <https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/rti/rti-beta-2.1/report-a-road-traffic-incident/>

### Shortlands Station Road Junction

On 12th July members of RVR and Shortlands Residents' Association (SRA) attended a Bromley Council street meeting, at Shortlands Rail Station, to discuss road safety and pedestrian crossings at this busy junction.

The meeting was chaired by Angus Culverwell (Assistant Director, Traffic and Parking, Bromley Council.) Also present were two of our councillors, Felicity Bainbridge and Aisha Cuthbert.

The Council's Traffic Engineering team will consider the possibility of a zebra crossing on Station Road near to Martins Road and improved signage to discourage drivers jumping red lights at the junction. The council's recommendations will be made in September.

We hoped for more road safety measures to be considered but this isn't currently possible with the council blaming financial considerations.

On a more positive note, Councillor Felicity Bainbridge has just reported that an issue that has been under active discussion with the council for a number of months has been, at least partially, resolved. The issue relates to the issue of Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) for offences in the yellow box junction at Shortlands Station. These were issued under a strict interpretation of the normal rules. After complaints that the road geometry and other issues meant that it was virtually impossible to abide by the strict rules, LBB has now agreed that, from 21st July 2022, "although motorists turning right at this location, from Shortlands Road, who enter and stop in the box junction commit a moving traffic contravention, a penalty will not be issued going forwards if it is deemed that an obstruction has not been caused for other road users."

We are aware that there is a campaign to have PCN's issued before 21st July to be rescinded and we will bring news of this when we have it.



## Jubilee Street Parties

RVR contributed to the costs of street parties for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at: Downs Hill/Crab Hill; Coniston Road/Ullswater Close; and Calmont Road/Ashgrove Road/Belgravia Gardens.

Additional sponsorship for the Downs/Crab Hill party was provided by Brownhill Insurance Group.

### Photos from Downs Hill/Crab Hill Party



Events included; crown making; photo booth with Jubilee props; Jubilee quiz; tea, cake and prosecco at Nos 33 and 35 Downs Hill.

Each child aged 16 or under was given a Jubilee 50p coin (final two photos above).



## Photos from Coniston Road / Ullswater Close Party



A video of the Coniston Road / Ullswater Close party can be downloaded by members from the Miscellaneous section of the website download area.



## Subscriptions

We encourage members to initiate a Standing Order for their £5 annual subscription. Your Road Rep will give you a sheet with the details of the bank account to which the Standing Order should be made payable, along with reference information you should add so that we can identify your payment. The subscription year has changed to coincide with the society's financial year, i.e. from January to December but we will continue to collect subscriptions mid year for the following year.

**If you are not already a member, please join via the following link on our website:**

<https://www.ravensbournevalley.org/join-us.php>

### Twitter

Do follow us, if you don't already, on Twitter [@RVResidents](#) where we tweet local news daily.



## Meeting Dates

Normally, meetings are held on the first Thursday, every other month, at 8pm at Bromley Court Hotel. Members will be emailed the agenda and joining details for each meeting two weeks in advance. The dates of imminent meetings can also be viewed on our website.

All members and prospective members are welcome. The meetings normally last 60 to 90 minutes and focus on local community and planning issues. The current Bromley councillors have expressed an interest in attending our meetings so there will usually be at least one of them in attendance to answer questions and log concerns.

We would like to thank our new Bromley Town Ward, Shortlands and Park Langley Ward and Beckenham Town & Copers Cope Ward Councillors for their support in the last few months. All have been helpful but a special mention to Graeme Casey, Julie Ireland and Felicity Bainbridge.

### Forthcoming members' meetings are as follows:-

Thursday 1st September 2022;

Thursday 3rd November 2022.

### Officers

Chair	Peter Saunders	<a href="mailto:chair.rvr@outlook.com">chair.rvr@outlook.com</a>
Vice Chairman	Beatrice Osborn	<a href="mailto:vicechairman.rvr@outlook.com">vicechairman.rvr@outlook.com</a>
Secretary	Jacqueline St Quinton	<a href="mailto:secretary.rvr@outlook.com">secretary.rvr@outlook.com</a>
Treasurer	Dave Wiltshire	<a href="mailto:treasurer.rvr@outlook.com">treasurer.rvr@outlook.com</a>
Planning Officer	Clive Lees	<a href="mailto:planning.rvr@outlook.com">planning.rvr@outlook.com</a>
Membership Secretary	Linda Müller	<a href="mailto:membership.secretary.rvr@outlook.com">membership.secretary.rvr@outlook.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Euan McMaster	<a href="mailto:editor.rvr@outlook.com">editor.rvr@outlook.com</a>
Webmaster	Alastair Holmes	<a href="mailto:webmaster.rvr@outlook.com">webmaster.rvr@outlook.com</a>
Roads and Traffic	Nicholas Ansdell-Evans	<a href="mailto:roadsandtransport.rvr@outlook.com">roadsandtransport.rvr@outlook.com</a>
Street Friends	Monica Wiltshire	<a href="mailto:trees.rvr@outlook.com">trees.rvr@outlook.com</a>
BPP Rep	Liz Logan	<a href="mailto:bpp.rvr@outlook.com">bpp.rvr@outlook.com</a>
Hon. Legal Advisor	Richard Thomas	
Auditor	Alan Williams	

### Road Representatives

Bracken Hill Lane and Close / Highland Road	Linda Müller
Bromley Ave / Grasmere Rd	Jane Willcocks
Calmont & Ashgrove Roads / Belgravia Gardens	Rita Smith
Coniston Road / Ullswater Close	Sandra West
Downs Hill / Crab Hill	Wendy Watmore
Elstree Hill / Erin Close / Hillbrow Road	Mick Pinson
Farnaby Road (1-81)	Jaki Moody
Farnaby Road (82-194)	Cathy Davies
Madeira Avenue (Evens)	Judy Adcock
Madeira Avenue (Odds)	Anne Lancaster
Oaklands Road / Spencer Road / Hawkshead Close / Lullington Garth	David Page
Ravensbourne Ave. (Evens)	Monica Wiltshire
Ravensbourne Ave. (Odds)	David MacKenzie
Ravensmead Road	Peter Saunders
Warren Avenue	Clive Lees

If you wish to contact your representative please email the RVR Secretary.