

RAWW NEWS

October 2020

The Residents' Association of West Wimbledon

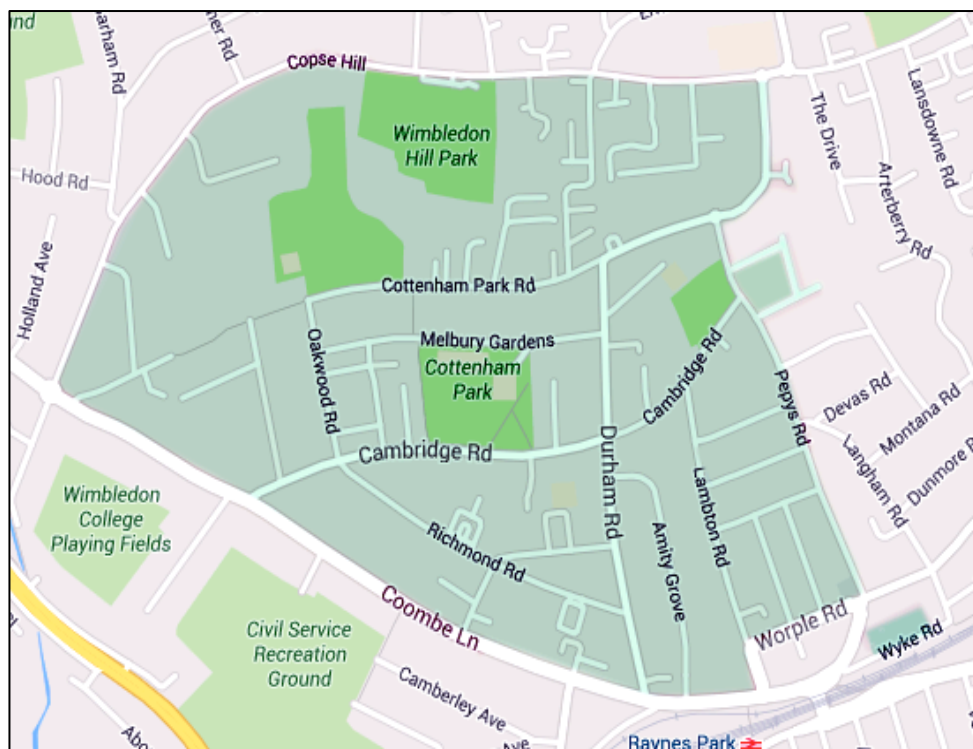
www.raww.org.uk

The 2020 AGM will be held on 27th October at 7.30pm. The meeting will be held using ZOOM this year. To join the meeting, please email enquiries@raww.org.uk for joining details.

The guest speaker at the AGM will be Steve Bound, the Chief Operations Manager of Wimbledon and Putney Commons. Steve will give a brief overview of the commons and the forthcoming triennial election for Conservators (Trustees).

RAWW aims to protect and enhance the local environment and promote the interests of the local community. This includes responding to planning applications and issues raised by local residents, taking part in consultations on major developments or issues in the area, and liaising with Merton Council.

RAWW sends email updates to members as necessary, typically once every one or two months, with information on current issues and to seek views on proposals that will affect our local environment or services. The RAWW area includes the roads between Copse Hill, Coombe Lane and Pepys Road.



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Issues addressed in the past year

Planning Issues

RAWW normally only comments on larger planning applications or those that would have a detrimental effect on a number of residents or our local environment. The four large applications commented on this year were:

58 and part of 60 Durham Road - Application for prior approval for 'change of use from office space to residential'. This application was taking advantage of a change in legislation that permits conversion of offices to residential use without being subject to normal planning controls. RAWW and residents provided evidence that the dominant use was as a warehouse rather than offices. The application was deemed not to qualify for 'prior approval'. Conversion of unsuitable structures and creation of 13 very tiny, poor quality flats, including some without windows, has been prevented.

37 and 39 Cottenham Park Road – Application for demolition of two detached houses and replacement with a terrace of three four-bedroom, four-storey houses and a four-storey building with five flats. This application, which has been approved, was a slight improvement on an earlier version that was rejected. It still marks a step change in the intensity and type of development on this road and that adjacent to Holland Garden.

Wyke Road, opposite Langham Court – Application for a four-storey detached house and

a four-storey block of six flats on an exceptionally narrow nature conservation area adjacent to the railway lines. This proposal, which has not yet been determined, would create very poor living conditions due to the noise, vibrations, lack of amenity space and privacy.

46 - 50 Coombe Lane (Little Lives charity shop, Olive and Raw Deli) – Application for additional floor above these shops. The application was withdrawn.

20 mph speed limit

Following implementation of the 20 mph limit RAWW took up issues raised by residents regarding signage (particularly in Durham Road), legacy 30 mph signs and the speed of buses, particularly on Copse Hill. These have now been addressed by the Council. However, we will continue to monitor and seek improvements to implementation of the speed limit.

Aircraft noise

Pre Covid there was a significant increase in aircraft noise over our area when planes were taking off to the east. We met with Heathrow Ltd and our MP to identify reasons for this. Our MP also raised questions with the Secretary of State for Transport. It appears that the increase is due to a change in flight paths with more planes departing from Heathrow flying at the southern limit of the 3km wide Detling 'Noise Preferential Route' and, thus, closer to West

Wimbledon/Raynes Park. We are pressing for enforcement of noise control measures and a more even distribution of flights across the flight path.

Other local issues

Members of RAWW are actively involved in other local issues, both individually and in collaboration with other local groups including the Wimbledon Society, Raynes Park Association (RPA), and the Wimbledon Union of Residents Associations (WURA). Currently, the key issues are:



- Working with the Council and others to reduce the incidence and severity of flooding in our local centre, Morley Park, Richmond Road (see pictures below) and elsewhere, as necessary. The flooding in August 2020 can also be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYddXZkxotQ&t=4s>

Sewage and water spilling onto Morley Park from manholes

Water flowing down Richmond Road and into a property

- Protecting our area from development proposals where the infrastructure, including drainage, is inadequate to sustain it, or which would be detrimental to the environment;
- Monitoring proposals for the remaining potential major development sites in the RAWW area - old language school in Amity Grove and the former health centre, also in Amity Grove;
- Re-activation of the Raynes Park Safer Neighbourhood Team meetings with the local police;
- The possible establishment of a Neighbourhood Plan for Raynes Park under the Localism Act 2011.

RAWW Membership Form

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

TITLEFIRST NAME.....

LAST NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....POSTCODE

HOME TELEPHONE.....MOBILE.....

E-MAIL

ADDITIONAL MEMBER NAME

ADDITIONAL MEMBER EMAIL

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RAWW Updates

RAWW sends out e-mail updates to residents as issues arise. Quite often the e-mails are about issues where a quick response is required, so e-mail is the ideal method of communication.

All RAWW members who provide an e-mail address will automatically be added

RAWW contact details

If you have any questions or comments about the articles in the Newsletter, would like to know how you can help to protect the local area, or for enquiries about anything except membership you can contact the RAWW committee at: enquiries@raww.org.uk

Please send any membership enquiries to: membership@raww.org.uk

2020/21 Annual Subscriptions due now - Join/Renew your membership here

The RAWW annual subscription is £5 per household. Your subscription and any additional donations you can make will go directly towards assisting our campaigning activities to protect your environment on your behalf.

To join or renew online, please go to our website www.raww.org.uk/join.

Alternatively, you can complete the subscription/donation amounts below and the form overleaf and return it to RAWW Membership Secretary, 57 Cottenham Park Road, London SW20 0DR, or email this information to membership@raww.org.uk.

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