



Greside Road traffic jam at school collection time (19 Oct 2018)

## Greside Road parking (again!)

In the last issue we reported school traffic and parking issues faced by residents of Greside Road, which need urgent action in the form of on-street parking controls, so that traffic wardens can police the situation.

Things have not improved – see above. Yet Surrey Council Council’s 2018 Elmbridge parking review (confirmed in November) omitted the hoped for Greside Road school entrance zigzags and yellow lines. Residents won’t give up!

[Read more and share your views at portmore.org.uk](http://portmore.org.uk)

## Broadwater Path – a significant walk

Tranquil lakeside walks along Broadwater Path are now being enjoyed by many residents and visitors.

The public access brought by the new path brings an extra benefit. It opens the way to public funding for works to conserve the historic lake. PPDR voted at our AGM to become affiliated to Broadwater Conservation Society. We strongly support the society’s objectives and activities.

## Better pedestrian safety a step closer for Grotto Road

There was good news for users of Grotto Road at the November SCC Elmbridge Local Committee meeting. The prospect of improving pedestrian safety, which stalled earlier this year, is back on track.

Residents have been campaigning for over ten years for something to be done about the missing pavement on the approach to Thames Street.

Councillors’ efforts last year to get CIL funding for improvements were thwarted by lack of funding for a feasibility study. Now Surrey has agreed to find money for that essential study from its roads budget, with a view to subsequent CIL funding of improvement work.

## Dorchester & Gascoigne Rd parking

Following intensive lobbying from residents and local councillors, Surrey County Council has agreed to look again at the case for residents-only parking in Dorchester and Gascoigne Roads. Residents of these roads have a very strong case, as they are close to the town centre, most houses have no off-street parking, and residents are often displaced from parking anywhere near their home.



Broadwater Path in September 2018

**Aims of PPDR:** We are a non-political voluntary association of residents, supporting local heritage, quality of life and community. **We help residents have more of a voice on local matters.**

**How to join/renew** Please use the form that came with this newsletter, or visit [www.portmore.org.uk/join](http://www.portmore.org.uk/join)

**Contact us –** [contactus@portmore.org.uk](mailto:contactus@portmore.org.uk) – PPDR c/o 3 Clinton Close, Weybridge, KT13 8NU

**PPDR Committee 2018:** Miles Macleod (Chair) Clinton Close, Tel 844449; Jane Heard (Secretary) PPR; Ian Bonnett (Treasurer) The Willows; Eleanor Butler, Church Walk; Pippa Graeme, Elm Grove Rd; Sarah Jane Groves, Greside Rd; Barbara Molony, Greenlands Rd; Doug Myers, Walton Lane; Pauline O’Sullivan, Wey Road; Diane Phillips, PPR; William Rutherford, Mount Pleasant.

## Do you think our newsletter is worthwhile?

The best way to support us is to join PPDR, or renew for 2018-19 !

We have a nominal subscription of £3 or more per year, to help cover costs

Membership of PPDR is open to all residents between the High Street and the Rivers Wey and Thames

The more paid up members, the stronger our voice on behalf of local residents

Please use the enclosed membership form

Would you like to subscribe by standing order?

**Bank details:** Sort Code 60-23-34 Account number 81676611 Please use your SURNAME and the 2nd part of your POSTCODE as the Reference. Let us know your details by email to [membership@portmore.org.uk](mailto:membership@portmore.org.uk), or post to PPDR Membership, 38 Portmore Park Road, Weybridge, KT13 8HU

Want to become more involved? Just let us know!

# NEWSLETTER

[www.portmore.org.uk](http://www.portmore.org.uk)

WINTER 2018-19

A voluntary association supporting local heritage, quality of life and community

## Big changes planned for Weybridge

Major redevelopments are coming (see below & inside). Can residents help ensure that these complement the character and charm of Weybridge, in the face of pressure for high density housing?

### Redevelopment proposals for St Catherines, Beales Lane



Proposals for new flats in Beales Lane were unveiled in November at a public consultation in Weybridge. The architects were seeking local reactions, willing to listen and willing to consider adjusting designs.

Residents saw plans for 30 flats, comprising 1, 2 and 3 bed dwellings, with a total of 59 bedrooms.

The plans propose parking spaces for 28 cars behind the block, accessed via an entrance mid-building.

#### Unlike any other local building

The style of the building is uncompromisingly rectangular, vertical, and flat roofed. No gables, no eaves. Its central section would be four storeys, stepping down to two storeys where it adjoins existing Beales Lane houses.

The bulk of the building would be much closer to the road than currently, although the section nearest Thames St would be set back to accommodate the existing tree.

Initial reactions from residents have included:

- surprise at the proposed density and appearance
- concern at excessive height and mass
- worry about impact on parking for local residents

We have heard strongly expressed views that the design does not fit with the local street scene and is oppressively massive. Most local buildings are traditional, and Beales Lane leads into historic and diminutive Church Walk.

We hope local views will sway the architects (contactable via [info@harperplanning.co.uk](mailto:info@harperplanning.co.uk)) and that any planning application will reflect local reaction.



The existing two storey St Catherines is set back from Beales Lane. The proposed block would be four storeys and closer to the road.

[Read more & share your views at portmore.org.uk](http://portmore.org.uk)

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**Roads covered by Portmore Park & District Residents Association:** Portmore Park Road, Beales Lane, Cedar Road, Church Walk, Clinton Close, The Crescent, Darnley Park, Devonshire Road, Dorchester Road, Dorney Grove, Elm Grove Road, Farnell Mews, Gascoigne Road, Glencoe Road, Greside Road, Greenlands Road, Grotto Road, Holstein Avenue, Jessamy Road, Lincoln Grove, Minorca Road, Montrose Walk, Mount Pleasant, Oakdale Road, Portmore Way, Radnor Road, Round Oak Road, St Albans Avenue, Thames Street, Walton Lane, Wey Road, Whittets Ait, The Willows.

# What kind of development for Weybridge High St?

Do you want taller angular buildings, or something more in keeping with our conservation areas?



The Southern part of Monument Green Conservation Area, with the current Bridge House in the background

There are mounting objections to planning application 2018/2989 to replace Bridge House (opposite Waitrose) with something much taller and more massive.

### Conservation Area

Central Weybridge has conservation areas separated by some poor quality post-modern planning of the 1970s. Bridge House is one of those 1970s buildings. It sits next to Monument Green Conservation Area, and is visibly out of keeping. Thankfully it is low enough not to dominate entirely, but some people think it is an eyesore.

Many residents hope that any redevelopment of the 1970s mistakes would be more in sympathy with the character of our historic Weybridge townscape.

### Dominating height and mass

Sad to say, the current application is not in sympathy. The proposed new five storey building would be over 50% taller than the current three storey Bridge House (reaching up to the label in our picture above), and would stand out far more prominently next to the conservation area.

The streetscene plan shows it alongside its neighbours, and the contrast in bulk, mass and height.

People are asking if its appearance was inspired by a multi-storey car park. Its strong horizontal and vertical elements overwhelm its neighbours' historic brick, slate and gables. It would loom over the southern part of the conservation area, and dominate the view from the north.

### 28 flats, with 17 parking spaces

The new building would include three retail units. It would extend a long way back to accommodate 28 flats (total 37 bedrooms), which would share 17 parking spaces.

Many local residents are seriously concerned about the impact of more new dwellings without their own parking, in a town which already has a parking crisis. The 28 new flats may accommodate up to 73 occupants, according to the developer. How many cars would they have?

### Time to comment

To find out more about the plans and make comments: search for 2018/2989 at [www.elmbridge.gov.uk/planning](http://www.elmbridge.gov.uk/planning)

Comments to Elmbridge Borough Council are invited by 14 Dec, but will be accepted at [tplan@elmbridge.gov.uk](mailto:tplan@elmbridge.gov.uk) after that. The application will be considered by the planning sub-committee at some date in the new year.



The proposed new building (no, it's not a multi-storey car park) for the Bridge House site would dwarf its neighbour

# Community Hub proposals – and car park questions

There's a lot to be said for bringing community facilities together in a hub, but where to park?

The Weybridge Hospital site and possibly the library building are up for redevelopment, and a lot of local energy is going into ensuring that it benefits the local community.

Weybridge Society proposals for co-locating a community hub alongside health facilities on the Weybridge Hospital site were outlined by Weybridge County Councillor Tim Oliver at our PPDR AGM in September. This would bring together on a single site multiple community facilities including a library and a community centre.

### Recreation Ground or Car Park?

The idea of a hub was warmly received, but the parking plans caused great concern to residents. Parking would be limited on the Hospital site, and Tim Oliver spoke of potentially creating a second car park at Churchfields by demolishing the Centre for the Community, to make a car park of the former bowling green (currently touch tennis).

There is strong resistance to the suggestion of turning part of the Recreation Ground into a car park. It is a hugely valued, much used green open space in the centre of our town, sheltered from cars and traffic. For many people it is unthinkable to start paving over any of it for parking.

The fact that a fence was put around the bowling green in 1993 to protect its grass surface doesn't justify now hiving it off, putting down tarmac and filling it with cars.

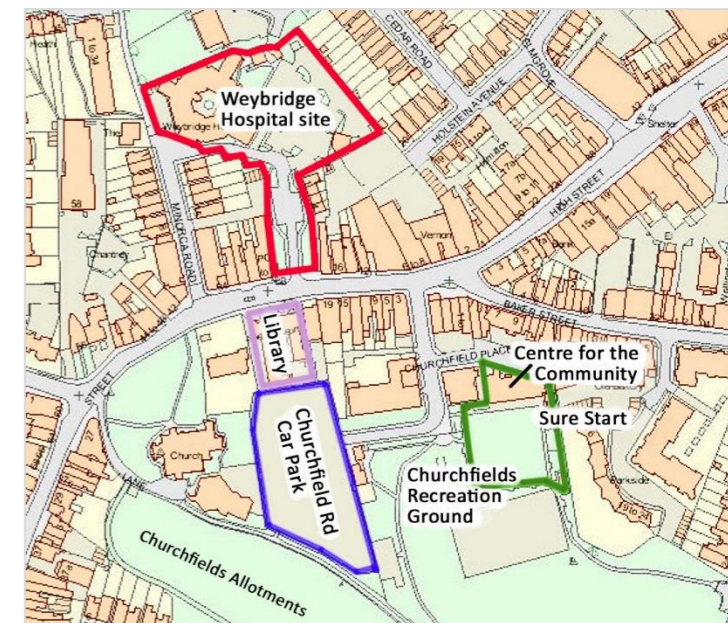
### Undercroft parking

PPDR has suggested that undercroft parking (at ground level) at the hospital/hub might be a much better solution. Patients and community hub users would not have to cross a main road to get from car park to facilities. And Churchfields Recreation Ground could be saved.

Tim Oliver has agreed that this will be included in the feasibility studies. Elmbridge, as the planning authority, and owner of the Recreation Ground, are central in what happens. Residents have a voice.

### NHS Urgent Care consultation

The Hospital site is owned by NHS Property Services, but its future use is in the hands of NW Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). They are currently deciding where urgent treatment centres would be best located across NW Surrey. The old walk-in centre was a hub for urgent treatment, serving Weybridge and beyond.



Key places in current proposals

CCG public consultation workshops on future needs for urgent care services have been held in Weybridge, Staines and Woking. CCG are actively considering locating urgent treatment centres in multiple local communities, and the Weybridge Hospital site is an obvious possibility.

Themes coming out of the workshops include people's need for access to urgent care without having to travel to other towns, that it should integrate multiple services, and be properly linked to follow up care. So there's hope that Weybridge may get back walk-in services and more.

### Churchfields allotments at risk

Meanwhile, on another part of Churchfields, Weybridge Charity's plans to build on part of the allotments are causing great concern to many residents. It is 'only 5.4%' of the land, but once built on, it would be lost for ever: the central green open space so important to the character of our town being lost one bite at a time.

A justification for development is that the allotments are underused, that there is not sufficient demand to retain all the land as allotments. So a really good way of helping keep the land green is to apply for an allotment!

Find out more at [www.weybridgeallotments.org.uk](http://www.weybridgeallotments.org.uk)

## Help inform future plans: PPDR Traffic & Parking Survey 2018-19

PPDR is gathering information about traffic and parking in our residential roads, and how they affect residents

Your experience, good or bad, is what matters!

Please join in our survey

It is quite comprehensive, and should take 15 minutes or so

You can **DO IT ONLINE (preferred)** via [portmore.org.uk/survey](http://portmore.org.uk/survey), where you can also get a survey form to print out

Reporting of findings will be anonymised

Your identity will be kept confidential

If you need a printed form, please phone 01932 844449

**FIND YOUR TRAFFIC & PARKING SURVEY**  
at [portmore.org.uk/survey](http://portmore.org.uk/survey)