



Dear Supporters of Riverside Action Group,

It has certainly been an interesting few weeks. We begin with a message of thanks to all of you who supported our open letter to the Richmond & Twickenham Times. You were magnificent! We hope you will have seen the letter in the 10th June edition of the paper. It's also on our website at: www.riversideactiongroup.uk

We believe it is vitally important to keep the issue alive and to the forefront of our Borough news so please keep writing to the paper.

Please add our email address to your address book so our updates are not lost in your spam box: riversideaction@gmail.com

We want to say a special thank you to our local M.P. Dr Tania Mathias who gave time from a busy schedule to talk with us. You will be delighted to hear that Dr Mathias is sympathetic to our cause. She has encouraged us to "keep campaigning" and said the "riverside is worth fighting for". We could not ask for better support.

Please print and display your '**It's Our Riverside**' poster in your windows – house, flat and car. We need to make sure the message that we do not accept the Terry block on our riverside and seek a more imaginative solution is seen as well as heard.

The A4 version of the poster is attached to this email and can also be found on our website [here](#).

News in Brief

On Monday 13th June we presented your petition to Council which you will recall reads:

'PETITION TO RE-OPEN THE TWICKENHAM TOWN SQUARE CONSULTATION'

We, the undersigned, reject the single option approach to consultation on Twickenham Riverside currently favoured by Richmond Council. We call upon the Council to re-open the consultation to include the designs paid for by Borough Council tax payers yet rejected by the Council, along with other proposals such as a riverside park, a town square and the lido.

'This is the people's Riverside and we demand a genuine say in its future.'

The Riverside Action Group's petition will be heard and debated at a full Council meeting on Tuesday, 5th July

Councillor Helen Hill, Ward councillor for the Twickenham Riverside has kindly agreed to present our petition to the full meeting of Council where the subject will be debated and certain Councillors questioned as to their actions. We are grateful to Cllr. Hill for her help.

The Council's second consultation starts on 19th July for 9 weeks

Since hearing of the 2nd consultation and seeing the plans and model, we are more convinced than ever that the Council must go back to the basics. Little to nothing has changed in the design to quell any fears that the Francis Terry block will dominate our riverside. Councillor Fleming has to date blocked our several offers of constructive dialogue. She never had any intention of listening to residents and has for some months been developing a video to present the 2nd consultation. A substantial amount of tax payers' money has been spent on a project that has yet to be accepted by the community.

How You Can Continue to Make a Difference

Tuesday, 5th July

Join us for a photo-call at 6.15 outside York House, Richmond Road, Twickenham

- Please bring friends, neighbours, children and dogs; your umbrella if it rains. We need a big crowd to make sure the Council knows that we are serious. A photograph of our several thousand supporters in the local paper would also serve us all well and highlight the issue to everyone throughout the Borough.

Tuesday 5th July in Council Chamber, York House, Richmond Road in Twickenham

- attend the Council meeting and contribute to questions to Council;
- help us make our message known to all Councillors. Many Councillors enter the building via the rear entrance –if you are in the Chamber they cannot fail to miss you. (Let us know if you want to ask questions).

Wednesday, 31st August

Attend the public meeting in the Clarendon Hall, York House, Richmond Road, Twickenham. Group photo-call at 6.15pm, meeting to start at 7.15pm

- our M.P. Tania Mathias has confirmed she will attend;
- we will be discussing the 'revised' riverside plans and the modifications made since they were last rejected by 88% of those who took part in the 1st consultation;
- we will be discussing the 2nd consultation sham and the costs that have been incurred in the period August 2015 – August 2016.

Please keep sending letters to the Richmond and Twickenham Times

- This is especially important over the summer months when it will be too easy for the Council to think we have all gone away. Letter content: you are the best judge of what you wish to say. We will be highlighting:
 - Cllr. Fleming has not listened to the views of residents. 88% of us rejected the Francis Terry block of flats, shops and cafes at the first stage.
 - Cllr. Fleming has not listened to the views of residents. She and the architect have been planning a costly video of the 'concept' for some months;
 - Widening Water Lane and skimming the back layer off the block will not make the building any more appropriate to residents' demands for our riverside;
 - the Francis Terry plan is totally lacking in imagination, is lazy in its reproduction of Richmond's riverside and says nothing about Twickenham, its history or culture;
 - the massive faux 'Italianate' block will impose itself on the working riverside and loom over Eel Pie island with its wooden houses and boathouse;
 - shops and cafes are not open public space;
 - we reject the plan to incorporate 40 luxury flats into the development with all adjacent issues of parking, traffic flow and lack of infrastructure such as schools and G.P.'s;

- the Council is trying to sell off the people's land.

Help us man our stalls over the summer months

Your help in handing out leaflets and keeping people informed is vital. Please let us know when you can help in either Twickenham High Street, the Farmers' Market, near to the Barmy Arms or Orleans House Gardens.

Donate to the Riverside Action Group's Crowd Funding Appeal

We have already incurred substantial costs for printing, advertising and hall hire. It is likely we may have to take action that requires us to pay for a local referendum and proceed to legal action. For these reasons we are aiming to raise £50,000. More details are available at:
<http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/riverside-action-group>

If there is unspent money we are pledged to donate evenly to two Twickenham and Riverside charities: HANDS (Help a Neighbour in Distress) and SPEAR, the local charity for homelessness.

And please don't forget: add our email address to your address book so our updates are not lost in your spam box: riversideaction@gmail.com

Again, our heartfelt thanks for your continued support – and please feel free to contact us if there is anything more you can do to help.

It's Our Riverside – follow us on Twitter [@ActionRiverside](#)

www.riversideactiongroup.uk

Good wishes from the Riverside Action Group team: Alex, Cathy, Colin, Mark, Rik, John, Marion, James and Susan.