

Dear RAG supporters,

Just an update on the Council's plans for the Twickenham Riverside development. Following a well-attended RAG steering group meeting in late March, along with representatives of the Diamond Jubilee Garden and the Eel Pie Island Group RAG drafted a short position paper summarising RAG's views on the development. This was shared with both DGJ and EPI. There was agreement that stakeholders should agree key points.

The position paper can be [found here](#).

The paper was handed to Council representatives, Cllr Pamela Fleming and Ms. Mandy Skinner at a subsequent meeting in York House during which RAG was informed of progress.

The good news was that those of us who took part in the online consultation (2016) were to receive an email from the Council with a link to the final version that includes the long awaited analysis of the responses to the open questions:

http://www.richmond.gov.uk/twickenham_rediscovered_consultation_survey.pdf

You will have your own views regarding the Council's interpretation of some of the public's comments as 'neutral' rather than 'negative' (page 16, 19, 23 and 29). .

We have made clear to the Council that there should be a formal consultative group, a 'Riverside Management' Committee comprising representatives of local stakeholders in order oversee the development of actual designs, their approval and implementation. This is in accordance with the Nolan Principles of Public Life. We have yet to hear from the Council on this issue and await the Minutes of our meeting.

Other RAG issues raised at the meeting are in line with our above document:-

- the internal design & configuration of the buildings. Architecture is not simply about empty boxes;
- car park/access for services/roads: Ms Skinner said there is to be a traffic and parking survey since the one produced at the 2016 consultation is out of date;
- retail: there is also to be a new retail survey since the one produced at the consultation is out of date;
- space for start-ups: there appears to be a willingness to accommodate new businesses;
- landscaping (urban realm): the Council stated that they have this capacity within their team
- the value of leisure use of the river;
- linkage with the other part of the development at the King Street: apparently there will be no linkage, since plans for the King Street development remain 'sketchy';
- and of course the financial viability of the scheme and developer ownership (as per our previous newsletter).

Ms Skinner has informed us that there is to be further consultation, backdated to June because of the General Election. This will reveal a combination of all three options. A third consultation is planned for later in the year.

Thanks for your continued support. Of course, as ever, your thoughts on the above will be welcomed. We need to be vigilant.

Best wishes from the Riverside Action Group team