

Newsletter - February 2025

There has been a dearth of significant local developments and Ealing Council seems to have gone very quiet. For all the government talk about the planning system, the local issue in the centre of Ealing is that developers aren't building the things that have been approved.

University of West London (UWL)

UWL have now started work on their new St. Mary's Road frontage. There was a concern that their temporary Portacabin in their car park might displace some parking onto our streets. UWL have put up notices asking their users not to park near the car park entrance, but I am not convinced some users are taking much notice of those.

Local planning applications

There have been a few of these recently and we try to inform neighbours about any that may be of concern (so long as we have their email addresses). It is pleasing to see that work on 29 Kerrison Road is getting underway, having been a building site for the last 10 years.

Crime issues

Our committee member Jim McWilliams has become a member of the Ealing Common Ward panel and goes to local meetings with the police. One local issue is the table theft of mobile phones. People leave their phones on a table in a bar or café, are distracted by a thief, and then their phones are gone. Some details of crime figures, local police priorities and "meet the police" events are available at https://www.met.police.uk/area/your-area/met/ealing/ealing-common/about-us/crime-map.

Speeding vehicles

Some concern has been expressed about vehicles speeding on our roads, particularly when there is a danger to pedestrians or cyclists. Offences by both motorists and cyclists don't seem to be a police priority. A new initiative called 'Community Speed Watch' is aimed at helping to curb some of these offences. It is a scheme where volunteer members of the public working in pairs are trained in the use of handheld speed measuring guns. Details are at https://www.trafficchoices.co.uk/traffic-schemes/community-speed-watch.shtml. The scheme has been used in one part of Ealing. The council is planning to offer training probably in February/ March. Anybody interested in participating in this can contact Jim McWilliams at jimmcw1975@btinternet.com.

County badminton championships in Kenilworth Road



On 2 January 1905, the Middlesex County Badminton Association organised the first-ever County Open Tournament at the Ealing Badminton Hall, Kenilworth Road. With its three courts, the tournament consisted of men's, women's and mixed doubles, and a veterans' handicap men's doubles section. The National Badminton Museum records that the tournament was supported by all the best players in England, and the winners were All-England champions. The picture, from 1947, shows the courts between Kenilworth Road, Kerrison Road and The Park.

If you have any other interesting historical information of the immediate area that you are willing to share, please mail us at theparkcommunitygroup@gmail.com

Richard Chilton Chair of The Park Community Group

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