

# Kew Village Plan Review



## Consultation Document

## **Kew Village Plan Review**

Over the past few months residents in Kew have been helping shape future of the area through an update to the Village Plan and the development of local planning guidance.

The Council would like to hear your views on the key issues identified and the proposals the Village Plan Review covers. What is not covered are some of the more detailed suggestions and ideas that have been put forward. These are being looked at as part of the Council's on-going work on Village Plans.

The Village Plan reflects wider community needs, aspirations and activities that the community, Council and partners will work together on to shape and deliver. This could include tackling isolated elderly issues, strengthening opportunities to get involved, improving green spaces or planning school places.

### **Key issues**

#### **Shopping Centres**

##### **What you said:**

- It is important to improve the shop fronts (Station Parade and Sandycombe Road).
- You said that the range of shops could be improved and independent shops should be encouraged.
- Consider encouraging pop-up shops.

##### **What we have done/ will do:**

- We will develop local shop front guidance and work with traders to improve / update shop frontages and increase conformity (Station Parade and Sandycombe Road).
- Maintain a balanced approach to retail provision in Planning, taking account of identified needs and constraints of regulation to keep high streets healthy. We are now commissioning a new study on retail capacity to inform future policies and actions.
- Work with local groups to identify needs and potential new retailers.
- Continue to provide a grant scheme to aid the set-up of pop up shops and advice available. More details on scheme e.g. link or how to apply

#### **Parks and Open Spaces**

### **What you said:**

- Care of trees is important to you, including replacement of trees with new ones when they are taken out.
- There are some trees in the Village that are obstructive to peoples' access of footpaths if they are wheelchair or buggy users.

### **What we have done/ will do:**

- Every year trees are inspected and recorded by the Council. Any appropriate work is identified and instructions are given to the Council's contractor. Routine pruning maintains the trees in safe condition and addresses many residents' concerns such as overhanging branches, controlling the growth and size of the tree, improving light to houses.
- Residents are encouraged to report where trees are obstructing footpaths. This can be [reported](#) via the Council website.

## **Rivers**

### **What you said:**

- The riverfront is important to you and needs to be maintained.
- You see flood defences as a priority.
- There is an opportunity to better connect the community with the river as an asset to the area. Information provision on the river for the public should be increased.

### **What we have done/ will do:**

- Continue to maintain river front/flood defences. There is advice on [flooding](#) on the Council website.
- A new London River Park is proposed to link parks and cultural heritage along the River Thames. The Council is prepared to invest £300k into the scheme and hopes to gain support of other organisations to make contributions in partnership funding. More info [Link to Cabinet Report](#)

## **Schools**

### **What you said:**

- There is a shortage of non-religious state school places
- The Council should enhance schools and education establishments.

### **What we have done/ will do:**

- The Council is currently consulting upon increasing the number of non-faith primary school places in Kew / North Richmond by expanding Darell Primary School from 43 to 60 places in Reception in September 2014. If approved, that would mean that 90 non-faith primary places would be available in the area, as there are already 30 places available at Kew Riverside Primary. At secondary level, Richmond Park Academy does not admit children on the basis of any reference to faith.
- The borough has a ten-year primary school expansion strategy to increase the number of permanent additional forms of entry, also resulting in improved school facilities. There is also a 6th form programme underway, and millions of pounds have been spent on developing modern, cutting edge and high quality Sixth Form buildings in the boroughs schools.

### **Health**

#### **What you said:**

- Lack a medical centre for those in Kew, in particular in Kew Riverside.

#### **What we have done/ will do:**

- The Council is liaising with NHS colleagues on the options for GP services in Kew.

### **Children and Young People**

#### **What you said:**

- Enhance support activities for young residents and set-up a youth centre.

#### **What we have done/ will do:**

- The Council's Youth Service will be undertaking a short project to identify what young people want locally and potential facilities.

### **Traffic congestion**

#### **What you said:**

- There continues to be too much congestion in Kew.
- Further restrictions are needed to limit access to large delivery vehicles.
- Additional 20 mph zones should be introduced.

- Lorries should not be allowed to make deliveries at peak times.

**What we have done/ will do:**

- The intention is to go out to consultation in March 2014 on the possibility of a wider 20mph zone which will include Kew Village.
- The Council will follow up on an area wide HGV strategy.
- We will consult on a proposal to remove the bus lane on the Kew Road in off peak hours and at weekends .

**Public Transport**

**What you said:**

- Make Kew Station more pedestrian friendly potentially through an increased area of pedestrianisation and through a review of parking arrangements to improve efficiency.
- Potential for some public realm and environmental improvements around Kew station.

**What we have done/ will do:**

- The Council is liaising with Network Rail and London Underground with regards to the issues raised about the station.

**Cycling**

**What you said:**

- You would like more cycle parking at Kew Station on both the east and west side, as well as outside Kew Library.
- Review the cycle lane along Kew/Mortlake Road - extend hours of permitted cycling.
- Ennerdale Road cycle route – review signage.
- Investigate potential for pavement along Kew Bridge to be used as a shared pedestrian/cyclists route.
- Identify quiet cycle routes away from main roads to enhance cycle experience.

**What we have done/ will do:**

- Surveys have been undertaken recently to identify sites for extra cycle stands near to the station. Discussions will be held with Network Rail and London Underground regarding installing extra cycle parking in the car park.
- The Council has a limited fund for cycle measures. However a bid for funding has recently been made to Transport for London (TfL) and if successful this could be used to improve and provide new cycle storage facilities.
- Kew Bridge is owned and operated by TfL, there is already provision for shared use of footways by pedestrians and cyclists but there are no plans to introduce a formal cycle lane...
- In regards to suggested sites for new foot/cycle paths, this depends upon land ownership. If the Council does not own the land, then negotiations could be carried out between the land owner and the Council.

## **Parking**

### **What you said:**

- You said that parking should be improved in Kew with less parking restrictions.
- There are parking issues for parents collecting children from schools.
- The Car Club space in Kew High Street should be moved.

### **What we have done/ will do:**

- The Council will review and consider any requests to remove or add any new parking spaces and the extent of existing CPZs.
- The Travel Planning that many schools undertake is largely aimed at reducing the impact of parents transporting their children to and from schools. School expansion has to be carefully planned as to not aggravate this problem further.
- The Council will review and consider any requests to remove or add any new Car Club parking spaces.

## **Maintenance of roads and pavements**

### **What you said:**

- Gloucester road needs re-surfacing.

- Ennerdale Road pavement needs maintenance.
- The footpaths from The Avenue to Sandycombe Road need repair.
- Pavements are narrow, broken and uneven (near to Kew Bookshop).

**What we have done/ will do:**

- Ongoing street inspections will pick up paving issues and defects will be prioritised against available funding.
- An annual community road and pavement funding pot has been made available for highway maintenance in each of the fourteen village areas in the borough. This is in addition to the maintenance work being carried out by the Council, and each year local residents are invited to suggest how the money should be spent in their area. This will be increased in 2014/15. The roads that most recently benefited in Kew were Marksbury Avenue Footway and Sandycombe Road.

**Recycling and streetscene**

**What you said:**

- Sweeping of leaves/detritus should be increased in Kew Village.

**What we have done/ will do:**

- In the area of street cleanliness the Council's contractor Continental Landscapes performance has increased in the last year and the Council will continue to monitor to ensure standards are maintained in Kew and throughout the borough.