



NEWSLETTER

Tunstall & Addiscombe Court Residents Association

Jan 2017

Traffic Update Edition

In November and December 2016 TACRA carried out an informal consultation exercise, knocking on neighbours' doors to capture their views and to invite individuals to sign a petition that was initiated at the inaugural meeting of TACRA.

We heard from 118 households and amongst those people available when we were out and about, 85% said they wanted a change and to return our roads to the levels of traffic we had before Lebanon Road was made one way.

A summary of all the views we heard during the door knocking exercise and meetings at Tunstall Road nursery school were gathered together in a document with the alternative solutions that residents put forward. This was emailed to Croydon Council along with a copy of the petition on the 13th December 2016. The petition will be submitted formally at the full council meeting on the 30th January 2017. Canning and Clyde Residents Association also sought the views of people living in their roads about changes to Canning Road and have sent a summary to Croydon Council.

The council officers responsible for traffic are preparing a report with their proposals for what should happen next, likely a Council led consultation on the Council's proposals to resolve the traffic problems. We have asked that any consultation be a significant improvement on the process undertaken prior to the changes to Lebanon Road. Councillor Stuart King who chairs the Traffic Management Advisory Committee (TMAC) has emailed confirmation that the Council's response to our concerns will be discussed at the next meeting 'It will definitely be on TMAC agenda for February. As chair you have my assurance of that.'

Council's Traffic Management Advisory Committee

The Council will present their response to the Council's Traffic Management Advisory Committee at 6.30pm on the 8th February, in the Town Hall, Katharine Street, Croydon CR0 1NX.

To keep the pressure on the Council, join us in attending to demonstrate that we are very unhappy about what has happened, and united in our desire to have the situation remedied. Either join us there, or we are meeting at the Lebanon Road Tram stop at 6pm.

Other ways to keep up the pressure.....

Many residents have complained to the Council, and we ask that those who have, to please continue the process, by raising a Stage 2 complaint, and finally taking it to the Local Government Ombudsman.

Full details of this process are available on our website, as is a host of other useful information which we will be adding to over time. To be kept in touch you can sign up to receive regular updates via the web site. Any suggestions of items you'd like to see on the site please send an email to contact@tacra.addiscombe.net

The story for far.....

Following the introduction of the one-way system in Lebanon Road by Croydon Council in early 2016, over 2000 cars a day were displaced with around 1500 of them using Addiscombe Court Road; a 300-400% increase based on Council figures. Also displaced was the head to head traffic conflicts formerly experienced in Lebanon Road and the change has resulted in risks to public safety around Lebanon Road tram stop.

Residents continue to suffer from a significant rise in traffic noise and environmental pollution, damage to parked cars, traffic congestion, vibration in homes near speed bumps, large commercial lorries using the roads, greatly worsened road safety, offensive and threatening behavior from and between drivers, and vehicles overtaking one another or travelling the wrong way down both streets.

Following two meetings at Tunstall Nursery (July and September), attendance at a meeting with ward councillors and Cllr Stuart King in July 2016 and a walkabout with ward councillors and council officers in September with other Residents' Associations and Groups, to observe traffic from Cherry Orchard to Canning Road the informal consultation was proposed and carried out.

During this time, it became clear that working together to resolve the issues and to engage with the council effectively, a residents' association was the way forward with TACRA being formed.

During the walkabout practical traffic related issues were addressed, like the need for additional road markings in Heron Road to make the one-way system clearer. This was actioned almost immediately.

In response to concerns raised at both meetings that we don't behave as others have done in passing on the problem, we have engaged with both Home (covering Elgin Road to Ashburton Road), and Canning & Clyde Residents' Associations who would be most affected by any changes made to our Roads.

As discussed throughout the past months, piecemeal approaches to the 'rat running' through our area don't work. We have raised this repeatedly alongside the need for the Council and Ward Councillors to own that the problems we are experiencing are the result of an apparent failure on their part:

- to carry out adequate analysis in regards to the displaced traffic associated with the introduction of the Lebanon Road one-way system.
- to notify and consult with residents on Addiscombe Court Road, Tunstall Road and Canning Road of the proposed change despite a formal request by the Secretary of Canning and Clyde Roads Residents' Association on the 5th July 2015 asking for officers to consult with these affected roads.

Whilst an integrated solution is preferable this should not delay finding a solution to the immediate risks that residents in our roads are experiencing.

Meeting our Neighbours

Whilst we were out and about knocking on doors, we heard interest in meeting more of your neighbours and are planning an informal and more social event for the Spring – we will be in touch shortly with more details.

If you would like join us in making this happen and/or have other ideas, get in touch at contact@tacra.addiscombe.net