



This newsletter is produced by Wandsworth Council and Redrow Homes to help keep you informed about the regeneration of your estate

## REGENERATION UPDATE



Following on from the drop-in consultation sessions that took place in September and October 2017, the regeneration project team has been reviewing information provided by estate residents in the affected area and preparing a phasing plan, which sets out the order in which the new homes and facilities will be delivered.



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A top priority for the project team is to ensure residents can move straight into their newly-built homes, with minimum disruption.

Drawing up a phasing plan is a complex task, and directly affected residents will be met with during the next few months to go through their needs in detail.

Redrow and the regeneration team have also held a series of pre-application discussions with statutory consultees, including Historic England, the Greater London Authority and Transport for London. Statutory consultees are organisations that local authorities are legally required to consult as part of the planning application process. By holding these discussions now, the project team can discuss and try to resolve any issues that may need to be considered before the application is submitted.

In March the regeneration team will discuss with directly affected residents so that the phasing plan can be finalised with drop-in sessions held in May before a planning application is submitted.

Those attending will be asked to review and comment on the full regeneration proposals before planning application submission.



# First new homes update

Plans for the redevelopment of Sherwood Lodge, on Bessborough Road, were further exhibited on 18 and 20 January in Roehampton Parish Hall.



These properties enable households in the first stage of redevelopment to move directly into their newly-built homes.

Subject to planning permission, the development of ten family-sized, multi-bedroom flats would include maisonettes with rear gardens, as well as a number parking spaces.

## Roehampton Library and the Western Area Housing Office

Roehampton Library will move directly into newly-built premises to minimise any interruption in service.

It is also proposed to move the Western Area Housing Office from its Holybourne Avenue building, which is earmarked for demolition, into Roehampton Parish Hall, from late 2018.



## COMMUNITY VOICES

# The Over 60s Café

In the six years since it was set up, the Over 60s Café has quietly become a Roehampton institution, bringing together older people from the Alton estate and the surrounding area.

Founded and run by long-time local resident Pam Harris, it is supported by volunteers and offers classic café fare at very reasonable prices.

With dance classes taking place afterwards, and a Wandsworth Care Alliance-funded footcare specialist in attendance, the café also functions as a hub for people to find out about what activities are going on locally. Free transport is provided for those with mobility issues.



Dene

Dene, 72, of Minstead Gardens, has been a local resident since 1954, and worked for Queen Mary's Hospital. She said: "Roehampton Lane was a very thin, tiny road, if you had one bus going up you couldn't get another one going



down, that's how narrow it was. We had one red bus an hour, one green bus an hour.

"There were very few shops in the village, if you wanted to go shopping you had to walk to Putney, and there were a few shops down the bottom of Dover House Road. There was a furniture shop because you had everyone moving in at the same time and they needed furniture. On Roehampton High Street there was a baker, a hardware shop, and White's newspaper shop – he used to go out taking photos of the village and put them on postcards, photography was his hobby.

"It's a friendly place, some say it's not, but people are entitled to their opinion."

Maureen, 79, lives in Clarence Lane, and has been coming to Over 60s Café since it opened. She enjoys bell ringing with friends in the Methodist Church, and line dancing in the Minstead Gardens club room over the road, the latter organised by the council's sheltered housing community development team.

She said: "There's lots going on! We're very, very lucky - it's a



lovely, green place."

Gwen, also 79, is from Danebury Avenue and has lived in Roehampton for 30 years. She said she thinks the area is lucky to be quite well served by buses, and would like to move to one of the sheltered housing bungalows in Minstead Gardens.

Jan, 60, moved to the estate three years ago, living at Highcross Way, and takes part in a local community choir and 'knit and natter' sessions in Roehampton Library. She said: "I find everyone is so friendly, it's the friendliest place I have ever lived. There's an awful lot going on around here."

The Over 60s Café takes place on Thursdays from 11am in the Methodist Church at Minstead Gardens



## Free debt and money advice in Roehampton

Do you need help with rent arrears, or debt from Housing Benefit or Council Tax? Come along to free advice sessions at the Western Area Housing Office, Holybourne Avenue, Alton estate.

Confidential advice is available on issues such as rent arrears; money management; and debt, for example from Council Tax; sales catalogues; loan sharks; store cards or utility bills.

No appointment is necessary, and local people are invited to come along between 10am and 4pm on 27 December; 29 January 2018; 26 February; 26 March; and 30 April, with more sessions to follow.

Those who have used the service have found it very useful. Mr Jones – not his real name – was sleeping on a park bench, with serious medical and mental health issues, when he was referred by social services to the council's financial inclusion team.

It turned out that he hadn't felt safe where he had been living due to receiving threats from some homeless people nearby, and this led to destitution when his employment support allowance ran out.

An officer from the financial inclusion team helped Mr Jones into alternative accommodation, and to reclaim employment support allowance to enable him to get back on his feet.

The advice sessions are part of the council's programme of support to help people get on in life through a range of services including financial advice; youth mentoring; employment and training initiatives; as well as cultural and sporting opportunities.

This works in tandem with proposals by the council and partner Redrow Homes to regenerate the Alton estate in Roehampton, with newly-built homes for all secure council tenants and owner-occupiers; a new library and retail area; an improved park; and community hub.

Cllr Ravi Govindia, Leader of the council, said: "Our aim in Wandsworth is to make sure that all local people have the opportunity to help improve their quality of life, and the financial inclusion service plays a vital role in supporting those falling through the net back into security, employment, and good health."

You can contact the team directly on (020) 8871 6953 or email your enquiry to: [financialinclusion@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:financialinclusion@wandsworth.gov.uk)

## Jobs and training

The council's Work Match service is available at Roehampton Parish Hall to help local people into employment.

Staff will know about local vacancies, help with writing CVs and covering letters, applying for jobs, and preparing for interviews.

Workmatch also delivers the New Routes to Work training course for people low in self-confidence or long term unemployed.

Booking is currently by appointment only, so please contact

**(020) 8871 5191** to do so or email **[wandsworthworkmatch@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:wandsworthworkmatch@wandsworth.gov.uk)**

putting the word Roehampton in the subject line of your email.



Work Match



## Your ward councillors

**The Alton estate is in Roehampton and Putney Heath ward.**

Surgeries take place on the second and fourth Saturday of every month, from 11am to 12noon, at Roehampton Library, 2 Danebury Avenue, SW15 4HD.

Your Roehampton and Putney Heath ward councillors are:

**Cllr Jeremy Ambache**  
[jambache@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:jambache@wandsworth.gov.uk)

**Cllr Peter Carpenter**  
[pccarpenter@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:pccarpenter@wandsworth.gov.uk)

**Cllr Sue McKinney**  
[smckinney@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:smckinney@wandsworth.gov.uk)

You can also contact the Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr Clare Salier, at [csalier@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:csalier@wandsworth.gov.uk)

Phone: 020 8871 6207 or email: [roehampton@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:roehampton@wandsworth.gov.uk)

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