

TDRA NEWSLETTER

TDRA Coffee Morning

White Lion Hotel Saddlery, Tenterden High Street on Saturday 17th October from 10–12pm. This is open to both members and non-members and is the perfect opportunity for you to chat with us on any of the ongoing issues affecting Tenterden – or any fresh thoughts you wish to share. We hope to see you there.

Announcing Our New Website!

We have been working hard to improve the effectiveness of our website - www.tdra.org.uk. This will allow better communication with our members, with more frequent updates; a chance for members to voice their concerns and thoughts about Tenterden; regular committee meeting minutes; upcoming events and local news. We hope this will provide a useful medium to encourage proactive participation in our local community by all ages.

Community Project Award

We launched our competition in May this year to encourage the young people of Tenterden to submit their ideas for improving the town. We are offering substantial prizes worth a total of £750! Time is running out, so please encourage all eligible children to have a go, it may result in a fantastic early Christmas present! Go to our website for further details – www.tdra.org.uk.

TENT 1A – The Latest

Following approval of the TENT 1A application by Ashford Borough Council (ABC) just under a year ago, much has been happening behind the scenes. All relevant parties (Local Authority, landowners and banks) have approved the Section 106 Agreement. This is a legal agreement which details the steps necessary to make a development proposal acceptable in planning terms and is drafted when it is considered that a development will have a significant impact on the local area which can be modified by means of 'developers contributions' towards highway and community infrastructure investment.

For those who wish to apply for money from the Community Infrastructure Levy, it will be required that a proper business case is submitted in support of the claim. Tenterden Town Council (TTC) should be contacted for further advice on this.

Amendments to the Tenterden Leisure Centre lease permitting access to the TENT 1A site via Recreation Ground Road have been agreed by all parties.

The part of the site not owned by Taylor Wimpey is currently being marketed to developers by Batcheller Monkhouse and will have space for 138 residential units. The money from the sale of the 'Wild Flower Meadow' will go to TTC when completed. Taylor Wimpey will develop the remaining area of land and are expected to build 112 residential units. The building programme is not known yet.

We will endeavour to keep members updated on the TENT 1A development as much as possible over the coming months.

Planning Report

We have been actively monitoring planning applications over this period, and have formally issued our comments to Ashford Borough Council for a number of key applications including the following:

15/01017/AS Homewood School and Sixth Form Centre *'... We are supportive of this application and acknowledge that the proposal has responded to many of our previous comments concerning impact on the constrained site and large size of the foot print. Unfortunately many of the existing trees will still be felled, however we acknowledge that there is provision for replacements. We had hoped for more justification in an executive summary to understand the reasoning for this accommodation in more depth, both current and in the future. On a further note, we would like to see more use of the Library and the Theatre facilities given for the local community, as originally agreed with the previous applications.'*

This application has been permitted.

15/00930/AS Breton Court ‘... The proposal is not sympathetic to the adjacent listed building. The scale of the proposed building will adversely impact the historical setting of the listed building. Insufficient detail and description of proposed quality of materials to ensure the highest quality construction and design in such a sensitive location. There will be significant impact on traffic levels on an already congested road. There is insufficient parking provision as a whole, with a consequence of more congestion on surrounding roads by overflow parking in these areas. The proposed entrance does not meet Highways requirements for adequate visibility. Likely over intensification of limited access points to the site by staff, visitors, residents and service vehicles.’

This application is ongoing.

15/00863/AS Cloverbank Stables ‘... We believe the mobile home and buildings occupy a prominent position and would be inappropriate in an AONB. We believe that this proposal would set a dangerous precedent, undermining the protection offered by the AONB status. This site lies outside the Tenterden rural development zone. This situation appears not to warrant a permanent residence for overseeing the animals, as these animals are predominantly privately owned, and this is not a significant commercial enterprise. This site is located in a very low risk crime area.’

This application has been refused.

14/01420/AS Land South and East of, Tilden Gill Road ‘... I am writing on behalf of the TDRA, to object to this planning application for up to 100 dwellings. This would be a complete disregard of previous agreements with the Council for the town's Core Strategy, limiting growth within Tenterden to the circa 450 dwellings to be located on the TENT 1A and B sites abutting Smallhythe Road until at least 2030. There are no effective proposals to upgrade the local infrastructure, mitigate the probable impact of the additional cars on local traffic and parking and expansion to community services. This is not what a majority of local residents want. The Council should keep to their promises or risk losing residents' trust and support.’

This application is being appealed.

14/01252/AS 5 & 7 East Hill ‘... I am not convinced about the proposed parking strategy (or lack of), having a likely impact on nearby on street parking as well as yet another impact on local traffic density. I am also concerned about likely impact on Ivy Court Surgery, as it is already at capacity. Although there is some description of proposed materials, I would expect to see the council requiring specific conditions to ensure that appropriate detailing and

materials are actually used in the final construction. It would also be nice to see the use of handmade roof tiles as well as the proposed handmade bricks being used. Signage will need to be closely controlled and limited to avoid unsightly additions to the streetscape. The design is neither innovative nor notable and does not appear to promote the highest architectural design standards that Tenterden deserves, unfortunately there are still many pastiche elements. Why a fake GRP chimney?? Construction traffic would need to be strictly controlled and managed to avoid huge traffic build up and inconvenience to the local residents. What will be the potential contribution to local infrastructure investment as a result of this development? Tenterden would at least require reasonable compensation/ investment from the developers.’

This application is being appealed. We would encourage members to post their objections to the ABC website at <http://planning.ashford.gov.uk/Planning/>

Tree Fund

We have allocated a sum of money to finance the planting of several trees over the next few years along the main routes into Tenterden. We are doing this in consultation with an Arborist to establish the most appropriate trees to be planted in selected areas and we will organise regular watering of the trees once they are planted.

Publicity Flyers

As part of an initiative to promote the TDRA and its objectives to as many residents as possible, we will be printing new publicity flyers, which will be circulated by Estate Agents and Letting Agents to reach newcomers to Tenterden. The flyers will also be placed on appropriate notice boards around the town.

Email Addresses Please

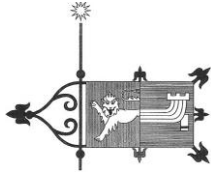
As you will see we have attached a letter requesting email addresses from all members to assist in improving our communications. Please respond to this request as soon as possible so that we can update your contact details.

Join Us

We welcome new members, please support us by joining the TDRA at www.tdra.org.uk. The more members we have the stronger our voice will be.

Help Needed!

We need members who would be willing to help with distributing our annual magazine and collecting annual donations each Spring. If you can help please contact Mike Lyons at www.tdra.org.uk



TENTERDEN & DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity No. 1121579

September 2015

Dear Member

Please Provide an E-mail Address

I am writing to ask your assistance in helping the Association to communicate more frequently and effectively with you, our members.

As you are aware we produce our annual publication, The Resident, and two or three newsletters per year.

Alongside an upgrade to our website, we now wish to move to more frequent and timely news items, which can only be effectively achieved via email and our website.

Additional benefits of e-mail communication include the capacity to raise issues and question members of the Committee as and when needed, as well as being a more sustainable form of communication, helping our environment and reducing costs.

The production and hard copy delivery of The Resident will remain unchanged.

I appreciate some of you may not have e-mail addresses; in that case may I ask you if a relative can assist, or even a neighbor who is a member and prepared to print out the communications on your behalf.

To advise us of your details, would you please send your full name, home address and e-mail address to michaeljohnlyons@tdra.org.uk or contact Mike Lyons via our website **www.tdra.org.uk**.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Nepp". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Siggi Nepp
Chairman