

# FIELDEND NEWS

WINTER 2023

## CPZ...CPZ...FIELDEND SURROUNDED!!

Since September new Controlled Parking Zones in almost all of our neighbouring roads have been up and running. Despite understandable fears that our own parking bays and perimeter road would be deluged by drivers desperately seeking a free berth, early evidence suggests there has been little increase in these marauding motorists.

The ever vigilant FRAL board has been in regular contact with potentially the greatest source of drivers seeking somewhere to park; St Marys University! The Uni have been very proactive in informing students and visitors of the new rules, also adding some new parking spaces.



It's early days and we will continue to keep a close eye on how this pans out but so far, so good.



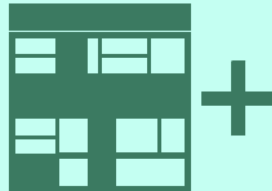
Fieldend is an island of sanity in an ocean of parking regulation and ugly street furniture. Residents and their visitors enjoy unrivalled liberty to park freely and easily. Let's try and keep it this way... "BUT HOW CAN I HELP?" you surely cry out...

In 2015 the Parking Permit discs were introduced, the idea being to create doubt in the minds of dodgy drivers about possible parking enforcement. We can't be sure these do act as a deterrent **but the more cars that display one of these "permits" the more likely they will have the desired effect.**

If you need another permit, they are available from Theo at No 44.

## ARE YOU PLANNING TO EXTEND?

In recent years Fieldend has become increasingly appreciated as one of the best examples of affordable modernist architecture and planning in Britain. This rising status has helped the houses become more desirable and highly valued than they once were.



Part of this value derives from a degree of uniformity in the exterior appearance of the houses. Only by maintaining that essential uniform character of Eric Lyons' original vision can this added value be maintained or even increased. That's why, when adding or replacing extensions, a sympathetic, careful approach is required.

### WE ARE HERE TO HELP.

If you are thinking about undertaking building works that effect the appearance of your house, please first read the 'Planning' section of the Fieldend website.

The FRAL board also encourage you to get in touch with us at the earliest possible stage of your design process (preferably before you engage an architect or builder) so that we can work *with* you to achieve FRAL approval, as required by the Fieldend Scheme of Management. We can also help advise on the latest Richmond Council planning guidelines.

Once your design has the go ahead from FRAL and the Council, it is important that any pre-commencement conditions listed in your planning consent (especially regarding material and colour) are also approved prior to work starting. It's crucial your builder understands and delivers a structure in accordance with the approved design.



Dust off your tuxedos and sequins...

## IT'S BACK, BY POPULAR DEMAND!

This years Fieldend Residents Association AGM will be in the flesh!

If you wish to help out with proposing, seconding or just fancy a gentle heckle, please join your FRAL Board of Directors at **7.30PM AT THE ALEXANDER POPE PUBLIC HOUSE ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 20TH** for the annual look back at the year just gone and, more importantly, to discuss how we can continue to preserve and improve Fieldend for the future.

Your board members volunteer many hours each year to keeping Fieldend running smoothly at minimum cost to residents, your input and support at this meeting is always much appreciated.



## GETTING READY FOR THE 2024 RE-PAINT

It may seem the last coat is barely dry but this quadrennial event will soon be upon us again.

***That means it's time to take stock of the **woodwork on the outside of your house!!*****

To this end our decorator of choice for the last 2 repaints, the mellifluous Mark Tullet, will be on Fieldend to have a close look at your boards, sills and frames from around late February/early March THIS YEAR.

Mark's mission is to assess the condition of your house's exterior woodwork and then create a bespoke survey (to be delivered a few weeks later) that will point out any areas of concern that should be repaired ASAP, before being repainted next year.

As usual Mark will quietly (?) get on with this task but will be using a ladder and need access to your back garden, so please expect a gentle knock on your door late next month.



## BOOK YOUR CARPENTER SOON

Unfortunately it's been a tough 9 months for our painted woodwork. A very dry summer followed by a cold snap, then an endless deluge...

Extreme weather can cause older, damaged wood to shrink and swell, causing cracks in the paint which then lets water in. It's very important to identify these problems early, that's why we survey a full year before the repaint.

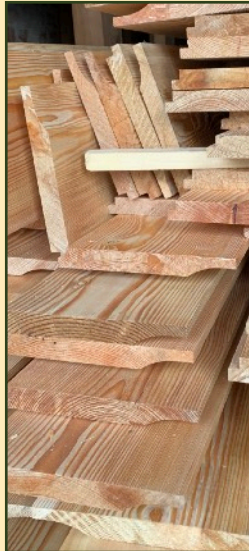
Fieldend's *almost* resident carpenter, Geoff Bates, has availability later in the year but there are plenty of other options out there, so once you get your survey there's no time to lose.

If you can't get the work done immediately even a simple, well-targeted coat of primer this summer could prevent further damage next winter.

## WEATHERBOARD NOW IN STOCK

We have recently taken delivery of lots of Fieldend Profile Siberian Larch Shiplap. Its a good A-Grade batch with very few knots and will be extremely durable. Inevitably the price has shot up and we must now charge £65 per 4 metre length.

While re-boarding an entire fascia looks great these boards will slot into the existing fascias, and remember - its almost always better and quicker to replace these rather than repair.



## PLUG & PAY IN YOUR GARAGE

With the recent sky high electricity bills it's more important than ever that residents let FRAL know if they have an appliance in their garage that is always on, or are perhaps regularly using any other power hungry devices, such as heaters, that may need to be itemised.

These residents should purchase an energy monitor and let FRAL know their usage on a quarterly basis.



## PAIN IN THE DRAIN

Twice in the last 6 months Thames Water have rushed to Fieldend to unblock our sewers. Both times a build up of wet-wipes was blamed.

Many of these wipes are labelled as flushable, but apparently this is stretching the truth.

***Please always bin them instead. Thankyou***

## YOUR FRAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE

Chair & Maintenance: Theo Williams  
Treasurer: Colin Hatton-Smith  
Company Secretary: Patsy North  
Minutes Secretary: Elizabeth Blunt  
Gardens & Trees: Sally Stones  
EV Charging: Tim Bysted  
Conservation: Zoe Fudge

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