

LITTLE CHESTER RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Aida Bliss site could be bought by council and sold for housing

Extract from Derby Evening Telegraph 12 Apr 2016

"Derby City Council has said it hopes to buy the ex-Aida Bliss site, in Chester Green, and councillor Martin Rawson, said it may be sold to a housing developer.

When asked how many homes could go on the site, Mr Rawson said: "It would depend on the density but about 100 homes could go there."

The authority has now revealed that it is in talks with Aida Engineering about buying the site so it can complete part of its new River Derwent flood wall.

Lee Mountney, said of the council plan to buy the site: "They've expressed an interest but they've not made an offer. We'd like it gone this year for sure. We've sat on it for 12 years as a vacant site and we've decided to let it go."

The Telegraph article went on to say that Andrew Meehan, of Little Chester Residents' Association, said his organisation was carrying out a survey on what local people thought should go on the site.

The Residents' Association feel that only a clear statement from the local community about what kind of development they would like to see in Chester Green, will help to ensure that we get something which hances our area rather than detracts from it.

MORE QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES ARE NEEDED!!

Please return them to the local addresses on the form or ring 298079 and we will pop round with a questionnaire for you to complete.

Speed Hump scheme 'uncertainty'?

In the recent Darley Neighbourhood Board (DNB) ballot, 72% of respondents voted in favour of introducing a speed hump scheme on City Rd & Old Chester Rd to reduce speeding and accident risk."

Cllr Jack Stanton (Chair of DNB) gave verbal assurances that speed humps would be implemented once the main flood defence work in phase one had been completed and that the funding for the scheme, would be ring fenced by Our City Our River(OCOR) in order to safeguard the funding from any future council budget cuts.

The result of the ballot was announced on February 10th. With residents having not yet received any written confirmation from DNB of the result of the ballot, of when speed humps are to be implemented and that scheme funding will be securely ring fenced by OCOR, we wrote to Cllr Stanton to request written confirmation for residents.

Despite an email response to say this would be done, as of yet no written confirmation has been received. There has though, been a party political newsletter from Cllr Stanton, recently delivered to residents, which omits any reference to the speed hump scheme, further adding to uncertainty.

Following the recent serious accident on Mansfield Rd zebra crossing, involving three school children, one of whom sustained a fractured skull, on Easter Sunday a vehicle travelling down City Rd collided with a stationary car parked on City Rd. near the children's play area on the Green. Police attended the scene and both cars had to be recovered.

To contact the Little Chester Residents Association please see our web-site: <http://www.littlechester.org.uk/> Or contact: Andrew Meehan 01332 298079

! The Queen's Birthday Bash !

Where: The Green, Chester Green (or Community Centre if wet!)
When: Sunday, June 12, 2016
Time: 2pm onwards

Bring a chair and a picnic (tables provided).
Fancy Dress Optional. Prize for Best hat!

- ◆ We are asking for budding musicians and entertainers to share their skills and do a turn in our 'Entertainment Tent' (self-powered/acoustic essential!) – music, songs, dance, whatever you like!
- ◆ If you can help with setting up on the day, we'd love to hear from you!
- ◆ If you or a friend/neighbour would like to come but would struggle to get there, please let us know and we will try to arrange transport.

Please contact Rachel on 07968024071/ rach.wiggins@googlemail.com and look out for posters and flyers for more information

Community Group News

We have decided not to have our Summer Fete this year, partly because our garden has been dug up as part of the excavations for the "Our City, Our River" project. However, we are helping to plan The Queens 90th Birthday celebration weekend, culminating with the huge "street party" style picnic advertised above. This is open to everyone in the area, their friends and families, and should be a brilliant afternoon - please can we order a sunny day! *PsPlease do support our AGM on 1June -see over->*

Little Chester Heritage Centre

St. Paul's Church, Mansfield Road, Derby.
Open every Sunday 2-4pm with an exhibition during May about **Chester Green Bowls Club**. Related talks by Joan D'Arcy on May 15 and 22.
Admission free. Refreshments. For further information Tel. 01332 363354.

Little Chester Local History Group

Thurs May 19th at 7.30pm in Chester Green Community Centre, Old Chester Road, for a talk by Brian Stone, 'Derbyshire in the Civil War'.
All welcome. (Non-members £2) 559615.

Future events

June 6th - 'Life can be very funny - humour and nostalgia', Pat Hall. July 21- visit to Kilburn Hall, Cost £10.50. Wed, Aug 17 visit to the University of Derby. Sat. Aug 27 Day trip to Beverley including famous Minster, then over the Humber Bridge to Scawby Hall. Cost £20.

Editor's Note

I am grinding my teeth this month as I have no room to put in any jokes and I've found some good ones (well I think so anyway . . .)

On the other hand, it's great we have so much going on in Little Chester to fill up the space.

I'm so pleased to have Mark Davis article (see next page) reminding us that Chester Green includes the whole area, new builds and old, even though we struggle to get News Letters to all, especially to the flats.

Next month - more on the new flood insurance scheme - fingers crossed it will reduce our bills . .



Café Create

A friendly place try out different crafts and be creative. Featuring tea, coffee and home-made cakes. No entry fee.

Friday Mornings 10.00—12.00 in term time.
St Paul's Church, Seale Street, Chester Green

Chester Green Methodist Church

Chester Green Chums Baby/Toddler Group. Mondays 10-12 in term time.

Sun 15 May 11am Communion Service with separate children's activities

Sun 22 May Messy Church 10.30am Breakfast 11am Informal café style service

Community Centre AGM Thursday 2 June 2016, 7.30 pm

Chester Green Community Centre Old Chester Road

This is a great chance to hear what's happening. We are also always looking for volunteers to help out for an hour or two. Please come along and support the centre.

Victorian Houses to modern flats - all part of the Chester Green Community

All the work and turmoil that Chester Green is enduring, and the forthcoming party on the Green celebrating the Queen's Birthday set me thinking about our area and community, and how it is changing and adapting to that change.

Twenty five years or so ago Little Chester was a community comprising mainly of Victorian houses, with a Church, Community Centre and community pubs and corner shops. We were blessed with ample green spaces to enjoy, and in many ways we were the envy of Derby City.

In the space of one generation a very large number of modern residences have been built. When you consider the estate near the Police station, Magnus Court, the flats at the bottom of Drage Street and Etruria Gardens I suspect that the population of Chester Green has doubled. Are these new developments part of our community? I know that there is a thought that Little Chester is Victorian, and that is all that needs to be said. Some feel that the new builds are not part of Chester Green, and yet the estate by the Police Station is closer to St Paul's Church than most of the rest of the streets. If our area is to continue to flourish it is imperative that everyone feels included.

This is never easy, and certainly there is no magic wand to wave to help this happen. Community events and celebrations like the Queen's Birthday party are a key part of this, and the "Chester Green News" that you are reading now is crucial, but with the greater number of residences that exist it gets harder to ensure that the delivery gets to everyone. Some of the modern complexes are not newsletter friendly, and yet they are still in need of the information.

Our community leaders and elected representatives are the people placed to start the conversation. I look forward to their thoughts.

Mark Davis

ST PAUL'S CHURCH - CHESTER GREEN

<http://www.stpaulschestergreen.org/>

- ♦ May 1 Soul Breakfast in Church Hall
 - ♦ May 22 Holy Communion with Baptism
 - ♦ May 8 Contemplative Communion
 - ♦ May 29 Holy Communion
 - ♦ May 15 Soul Sanctuary
- (All services at 10.00 am)*

Quiz night in St. Paul's Church Hall. Friday 13th May 2016

£3 per person entry, 4 to a team, prize for each member of winning team. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start, refreshments available or bring your own wine/beer (and glasses) if you prefer. Pop along, test your knowledge and have a laugh.

Look forward to seeing you there. Ring Marie on 298079 for more details.

Queens 90th Birthday Celebrations at St.Paul's

Friday 10th June – St.Paul's Playgroup Well dressing. Marcus Steet. All welcome.

Saturday 11th June – Pizza Explore with a Royal theme in the Church Hall 5pm-6pm all welcome, bring a cooked pizza and a drink.

Sunday 12th June - join in with the 'Queens Birthday Bash' on the Green from 2pm

Chester Green Remembers

... the 9 local people who died in the Battle of the Somme 1916. A short Act of Remembrance on Friday 1st July 2016 at 7.30 AM at the War Memorial outside St. Paul's Church, to remember those who gave their lives



St Paul's Pre-School Playgroup

Small School Big Family

St Pauls Playgroup is a caring and creative not-for-profit Pre-School in Seale Street Chester Green. Voted 'Outstanding' by parents (2015) Free are places available.

To find out more, see www.stpaulsplaygroup.co.uk, ring 347375, or find us on Facebook.

Do you love children?

Do you have half a day to spare every week or, just now and again.?

Our lovely pre-school would love to find another volunteer to help us out. You would get a very warm welcome from staff and children! Friday afternoon preferred but we can be flexible. Please call Head Teacher Jo on 347375

Sight Support Duck Race!!

Sight Support Derbyshire's annual Ey Up Mi Duck Race is back on Saturday 11th June when thousands of plastic ducks will race down the river Derwent by the Silk Mill Museum raising money for local blind and partially sighted children and adults.

Companies and organisations can sponsor a giant duck for £30. These can be decorated and entered into the Best Dressed Duck competition as well as the race!

Playgroups, nurseries, toddler groups etc can sponsor a medium sized duck for £15 which again can be decorated for special children's best dressed duck competition.

Small ducks can be sponsored for £1 a ticket and will be entered on your behalf. **For more info contact Abi at Sight Support Derbyshire on 01332 292262.**

