

# PENINSULA GREEN NEWS



Dan Garrun



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## AIR POLLUTION ON THE PENINSULA - WHAT IS IT LIKE WHERE YOU LIVE?

This summer volunteers from your local Greenwich Green Party, along with local residents and Clean Air UK, set up kits to test air quality near schools, care homes, gyms, main roads and shops all over the Peninsula. The Results were shocking and confirmed dangerous levels of pollution are damaging our health. So what can be done? A Lot!



- Millennium Primary School 36
- Robert Owen Nursery School 38
- The Gateway Care Home 27
- Meridian Primary School 30
- The Greenwich Centre and gym 30
- Greenwich Park Street 36
- Corner Trafalgar Road and Blackwall Lane 65
- Tunnel Avenue 61
- Halstow Road 30
- Peartree Way 62

## SO HOW CAN WE CLEAN UP OUR AIR?

**Say no to the Silvertown Tunnel** another Blackwall Tunnel will bring more traffic and more deadly fumes

**Protect green spaces** like the Greenwich Eco Park which is at risk from a 20 story tower development

**More public transport** including green cabs, electric buses and better cycle lanes and walking routes

**Charge the most polluting vehicles** and introduce a fair scrappage scheme



Joseph putting up air testing kits

**Cancel the Cruise Terminal** – huge cruise ships mean massive emissions, we need a clean solution

**Introduce lower speed limits** on some roads and pedestrianise others

**Make developers pay for green spaces** – let's make sure a good chunk of profits goes to community led green projects

**Extend the Ultra Low Emission Zone** to cover all of Greenwich

A lot can be done to clean up our air, but we need bold leadership. For real change to happen, we need more strong Green voices in local politics.

## IKEA DEMOLISH POND HABITAT FOR CAR PARK

Residents are outraged after an irreplaceable pond and ecosystem was bulldozed to make space for IKEA's new car park.

The pond located behind the old Sainsburys near Bugsby's Way was an important habitat for newts, specialised plants, invertebrates and migratory birds. It was also an oasis for residents and visitors, who are losing their green spaces with each new development.

Furthermore this ecocide could have been avoided, IKEA themselves promised campaigners they would relocate some of the wildlife in 2014. That promise was never upheld.

Green Party campaigner Dan Garrun said 'Once again we've seen what happens when wealthy developers are allowed to do as they please.

The Peninsula has been a goldmine for these companies, is it unreasonable for our Council planners to insist that they protect our green spaces?'

BEFORE



AFTER



## LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF:

### CRUISE TERMINAL SITE UP FOR SALE

Morgan Stanley has announced plans to sell land on the Peninsula with approval for almost 500 homes and the Cruise Terminal. Flat residential property prices have been blamed for the sale. With continued pressure by Green activists and local groups to ditch the polluting terminal, we're hoping new owners will consider a cleaner proposal.



Activists at the terminal site

### RESIDENTS FIGHT TO KEEP ICONIC GAS HOLDER

Locals have expressed concern that proposals to develop land near the O2 could result in the massive and iconic gas holder being removed. For many it's a symbol of the industrial heritage on the Peninsula and should be kept or incorporated into new buildings.

### BID LAUNCHED TO MAKE GREENWICH LONDON BOROUGH OF CULTURE

The council is hoping that our festivals, museums and diverse communities will see that Greenwich gets picked for the next Borough of Culture. As part of the proposal for 2018, opportunities are being given to local people and young people to help showcase our diverse communities

### PLANS UNVEILED FOR GREENWICH PENINSULA DESIGN DISTRICT.

Developers Knight Dragon have unveiled plans from eight architect firms to create a Design District housing "low-cost, human-scaled" workshops, artists studios and working spaces set around a series of courtyards and a central public square. We're thrilled to hear it will be fully pedestrianised and hope it will be both affordable and sustainable as well. We'll be keeping a close eye!

## LABOUR LETTING RESIDENTS DOWN ON DEVELOPMENT

Greenwich Council is still failing to manage development to ensure it benefits local residents.

As well as not spending the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money each developer has to pay locally, the Council has also failed to deliver social housing for local families. New figures by the GMB union show that over the past year 23.1% of the new homes built in London have been for social rent (council housing). But just 8.3% of homes built in Labour-controlled Greenwich over the same time period have been for social rent – just 130 out of 1,560 new homes.

Socially rented homes are genuinely affordable and allow key workers and families to stay where they belong – at the heart of our community.

The Council could have asked developers to provide a much higher proportion of social homes, but have yet again failed to deliver.

We have a Labour Council that gives, gives, gives to developers and asks for too little in return.

## CAN WE HELP?

If you have a comment or query about our work, Jenny, Matt and Dan would love to know. Here are the ways you can get in touch:



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## WORKING TO CLEAN UP THE GREENWICH PENINSULA