High Speed rail route gets approval for next stage

High Speed 2 (HS2) is a proposed high-speed railway between London and the Midlands, with possible future extensions to the north of England. In January, the Government announced that it would continue with designs for this scheme.

The council shares the frustration and disappointment of local residents over this announcement. Despite making various representations about the proposal, the route in Ealing remains unchanged, except for a very short section of tunnel to the far west of the borough.

Although the scheme may create job opportunities for local people, it is expected that especially during the construction phase East Acton residents will be adversely affected by the work.

There are plans for an interchange just outside the borough’s boundary, near Old Oak Common, the rebuilding of road bridges along the railway’s route and the modernisation of Hanger Lane Gyratory. Disruption will be particularly acute for premises that back onto the existing Central Line rail track.

Over the next 18 months, HS2 Ltd, the company doing the work on behalf of the government, will produce more detailed designs on the route and plan to hold various consultation events, including community forums, which are expected to give local people in the affected communities the opportunity to raise their issues about the environmental impacts in their areas and how these issues can be mitigated.

The council will be seeking further changes and improvements to the route. To keep updated and make your voice heard, watch the council’s website or email: mywardmatters@ealing.gov.uk with the subject “HS2 and East Acton Ward Forum” to be added to the electronic mailing distribution list.

Future Ward Forum Meetings
5 March, 7.30pm-9.30pm
St Dunstan’s Church,
Friars Place Lane,
Acton W3 7AW
The Carers Club

East Acton Ward Forum has provided £1,000 exclusively for local residents who care for relatives with a disability or a special need in their own home.

The money is being used to provide respite opportunities for local carers so they can meet, socialise and foster a network with other carers in their community.

The Carers Club meets for regular social events in the church hall of St Dunstan’s Church, Friar’s Place Lane. The events are supported by representatives of Ealing Carers’ Centre, based in South Ealing.

The Carers’ Centre also provides a free information and advice surgery on the third Wednesday of every month at St Aidan’s priest’s house in Old Oak Common Lane. Up to three one-to-one appointments are available to talk about and advise on support needs, including benefits and how to complete claim forms. An appointment must be booked in advance by calling 020 8840 1566.

Carers’ Centre Supervisor, Cecilia Coleshaw, said: “There are about 6 million carers nationwide, but many of them don’t see themselves as such – they are wives, sons, mothers, rather than ‘a carer’. We want to ensure they are receiving all the benefits they may be entitled to and provide a listening ear, general advice and social contact.”

If you know someone who is a carer, please ask them to contact the Carers’ Centre on 020 8840 1566 or email carers@ecil.org. Further information can be found at www.ecil.org.

“Coming out to one of these events allows me two-hours to be who I am, not just a mum.”

Donna, an East Acton carer

How your ward’s budget was spent

East Acton Ward has an annual budget to spend on projects that help improve the quality of life in the area.

Since June, last year, more than £31,000 has been allocated to the following local schemes:

- Landscaping improvements to the grass verge in Horn Lane, running between Noel Road and Cecil Road.
- Additional lanterns on street lamps, focussing on lighting the footway in Old Oak Common Lane between Brassie Avenue and Long Drive.
- A contribution to buy chairs for the East Acton Bowling Club, to mark its centenary year.
- An extra street lamp in Glendun Road.
- A mobile digital CCTV camera to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Yellow line parking restrictions in Wells House Road at its junction with Old Oak Common Lane and in Old Oak Lane at the junction with Victoria Road and Old Oak Common Lane.

Further information about ward budgets can be found on the council website at www.ealing.gov.uk/wardforum.
With the London Olympic Games fast approaching in the summer. Temporary road changes including a temporary Games Lane will be made in East Acton.

The Games Lane will run along the A40 Western Avenue, from Old Oak Common in the east and meet the A406 North Circular Road at Hanger Lane in the west to form part of the wider Olympic Route Network (ORN).

The Games Lane will enable athletes and officials to get from their accommodation to venues, such as, Wembley Stadium and Wembley Arena.

Operational times could run from 6am to midnight to coincide with the latest competition times, but will typically run from 7am to 7pm when competition is taking place.

The ORN will commence in July, two days before Olympic events begin and cease in August, two days after the Games ends.

A smaller Paralympic Route Network (PRN) will begin in August and finish in September. Emergency vehicles on call will have full access to the route network throughout this period.

Transport for London (TfL) responsible for operation of the ORN and PRN in London, have made some changes to initial plans to mitigate local concerns following feedback from their public engagement activity in East Acton, last year.

TfL now plan to remove the proposed westbound Games Lane between Old Oak Common and the A4000 Wales Farm Road to ensure traffic can use the road’s two lanes.

The bridge linking Coronation Road and Park Royal to Western Avenue will now remain open, rather then its proposed temporary closure. Traffic signals will manage vehicles travelling in and out of Park Royal Industrial Estate.

Organising a street party for the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee

The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee will be taking place on 4 June, with an extra Jubilee bank holiday on 5 June.

As with many royal events in the past, some of you will be planning to hold a party in your road.

If you and your neighbours would like to hold a street party, you need to apply to Ealing Council for approval.

You need to let the council know what you are planning, and for how long, so it can make arrangements for any necessary road closures or other measures.

Because it is a special occasion, most small events will not incur a cost. But, this depends on the application and the size of the party. The Highways department will decide once it sees the application.

If you are planning a party on a larger scale, with live music or alcohol, you may need to apply for an alcohol or entertainment licence.

To obtain an application form or for further advice, contact Izzy Brumpton at the council, either by email at izzy@theeventumbrella.com or call on 020 8825 6064.
From 2 April 2012, Ealing Council will have a chargeable garden waste collection service for residents across the borough.
For a yearly subscription of £40, you can get either a green wheelie bin or three reusable sacks for the new fortnightly collections. There is a 25% discount available for concessions. You can sign-up to the service online by visiting: www.ealing.gov.uk/gardenwaste or by calling: 020 8825 6000.
Alternatively, if you do not want to subscribe, garden waste can be disposed of free by composting it, or by taking it to Acton Re-use and Recycling Centre, Stirling Road, Acton.
The council’s special service for one-off collections can still be used for large volumes of garden waste.

The Controlled Parking Zone for the Vale Estate - CPZ Zone KK is set to be operational from 1 April. Ealing Council’s Parking Services will notify each premise in the zone with information about parking permits and visitor vouchers before the CPZ begins.

East Acton councillors have secured £10,000 to create a new Information Technology suite in the community centre of Acton Vale Estate.
Local people will soon be able to use the equipment to attend training courses and develop skills that can prepare them for work. It will also help to tackle the social divide that exists in the poorer parts of our ward.

Safer Neighbourhood Team
East Acton
www.met.police.uk/teams/ealing
Tel: 020 8721 2708
In an emergency always dial 999. In a non emergency call 0300 1212.

Envirocrime
Tel: 020 8825 6000 Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm Report it online at www.ealing.gov.uk Email: customers@ealing.gov.uk for litter, abandoned vehicles flytipping, graffiti removal, and flyposting.

Your Neighbourhood Co-ordinator
Kofi Nyamah
Tel: 020 8825 5818
E: mywardmatters@ealing.gov.uk
www.ealing.gov.uk/wardforum

SURGERIES
1st Sunday of the month,
10.30am-11.15am, St Dunstans Church, Friars Place Lane, Acton, W3 (contact Cllr Crawford on (020) 8992 9353);
2nd Friday of the month,
6pm-7pm, 1st Floor Atrium, Ramada Encore Hotel (Red Hotel), 4 Portal Way, Acton, W3 (contact Cllr Said on (020) 8992 0383 or 07939 028 123);
3rd Saturday of the month,
11am-12noon, Bromyard House, Bromyard Avenue, Acton, W3 (contact Cllr Tailor on 07990 637 183).
Please note: There will be no surgeries in August or bank holidays.