

## **FUPPF Newsletter 35 - 26th March 2018**

**A publicly-funded university (Imperial College) sells playing-fields, gifted to them for sports use, to a property developer funded by a small group of rich individuals who benefit from generous tax breaks in order to build 107 expensive flats which the borough does not need. It then argues that giving back 2 pitches - and losing 7 pitches - is adding to the community.**

### **WE HAVE HEARD YOUR COMMENTS & QUESTIONS AND WOULD LIKE TO REPLY TO THE MAIN POINTS**

1. The whole aim of our objections is to ensure Quantum do not get planning permission and have to sell the site for sports use. There are potentially several sports and leisure use buyers (this is 'Plan B') and it is obvious that with 8/9 pitches, about 4 or 5 times the amount of community leisure and sport can be accommodated than under the Quantum plan. A new owner will make the whole site available for sports and community use from a refurbished pavilion. We know that several potential new owners are interested and have the funding to buy the site. There were 3 community bidders before they were gazumped by Quantum; we are building interest in a new ownership model to replace Quantum when they fail.
2. We believe TRFC and TAFC jumped too soon and are now unable to back-track because they are legally tied to Quantum. Presumably TAFC and TRFC would never have considered supporting Quantum had they known that pitch space would be halved and with no cricket. Clearly such a massive reduction in area will mean that there will not be enough space for all the teams that have played at Udney Park up until now. Had they joined us in opposition, we together could have more easily and quickly defeated Quantum and won the whole site for community sports and leisure use.
3. If the whole site is retained, then all sorts of sports and leisure activities can be accommodated. Yes, this could include horse-riding for the disabled, pétanque tracks and so on....The scouts could use a refurbished pavilion too. The point is to keep the whole 12.5 acres for the use of the local community and clubs. Why settle for 2 pitches, when we have every chance of keeping all 9?

4. The Doctors' surgery is not new capacity. It is the Park Road Surgery moving from Park Road - against the wishes of its patients. It will move nearer to an existing practice and away from the area where it serves most of its patients. There is an alternative. The site it has looked at in the past - North End car park (behind Tesco) - has been newly classified as available for development as a doctors' surgery. Why can't it go there where it's most needed?
5. Whilst the fields were 'private' before in the way any school playing field is not open 24/7, the fields were available for hire and actively used by several clubs and schools. What does it matter who owned and used them before? The future is key. Quantum's plans only make 2 pitches public and will cater for disabled horse-riding and pétanque. Plan B - a new local owner - will make the whole site, 12.5 acres / 9 pitches, available.
6. There will be 3-4 years of construction with entry off the High Street followed by a dramatic increase in traffic flow and pressure on parking. Teddington is already close to being overbuilt, especially in light of the Teddington Studios development.

**Please object now:**

**Go to [www. richmond.gov.uk/planning](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/planning)**

- click on the tab 'Planning'**
- put the planning application number 18/0151/FUL in the box 'view an application'**
- click on 'make a comment' and and provide an objection.**

**Or put this link into your browser**

**[http://www2.richmond.gov.uk/PlanData2Planning\\_CASENO.aspx?strCASENO=18/0151/FUL](http://www2.richmond.gov.uk/PlanData2Planning_CASENO.aspx?strCASENO=18/0151/FUL)**



## The Friends of Udney Park Playing Fields

Please support us on

Facebook: Friends of Udney Park Playing Fields

Email: [fuppf.teddington@gmail.com](mailto:fuppf.teddington@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.saveudneypark.org.uk>

Twitter: @UPPFFriends

Petition: Save Outdoor Sports-Fields

## UDNEY PARK FIELDS FOREVER!

*"Errors & omissions excepted. Every attempt has been made to paint a true and fair picture of what is being proposed for Udney Park Playing Fields. If you believe a fact has been misrepresented, please email [fuppf.teddington@gmail.com](mailto:fuppf.teddington@gmail.com): and, if we have got something wrong, we will correct. Opinions of course are our own!"* **You are getting this email because you requested it or have had dealings or communications with FUPPF and/or its supporters or represent local media or are Councillors or planning professionals. If you wish to be removed from our list please respond to this email with a "Please remove my name" in the subject line.**