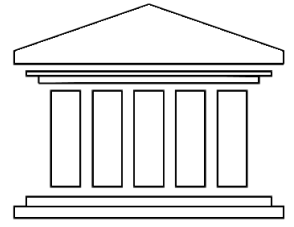


Merton Park Ward Independent Residents

for the residents of: Morden | Merton Park | Wimbledon Chase



No One Knows Merton Park Ward Better than We Do!

We are locals - the Committee of the Merton Park Ward Residents Association (MPWRA), the Councillors and candidates have all lived in the Ward for years and care deeply about it. We:

Have looked after the Ward as its elected Councillors for more than 30 years—this Ward and this Ward only is our one priority—we are not constantly trying to win other seats.

Keep you informed through FORUM, our bi-annual newsletter, our monthly meetings with the Merton Park Ward Residents Association (MPWRA) and our regular email alerts

Walk through our parks and roads on a daily basis, so we know what's looking good and what needs fixing.

Know many of you personally, and we're proud of our diverse community in Merton Park Ward, where everyone gets on well together.



Daffodils planted in Mostyn Gardens by the Muslim Women of Merton friends group.

*“Many thanks for your help
with this –
I am sure that you becoming
involved helped” RJ*



Rainbow picture by one of the local children in support of the NHS during the pandemic

No One Else On Merton Council Is Independent As We Are

- Here solely to represent you, our residents
- Do not have to take directions from any national political party, so can judge each issue on its merits
- Act in the best interests of the residents of Merton
- Proud to represent all of you on matters affecting Merton Park Ward, regardless of national party political affiliations

5 Reasons to Vote for Your Independent Resident Councillors

ACCOUNTABLE TO YOU

It's your opinion
that matters - not
political ideology.

32 YEARS

You have elected us for
32 years. As a result we
have one of the
strongest voices on the
council

ACCESSIBLE & VISIBLE

You can contact us
directly, and we hold
monthly residents'
meetings

GET THINGS DONE!

Influential on local
planning and policing.
Protecting and
enhancing your
neighbourhood

POSITIVE POLITICS

No negative
campaigning and
No undeliverable
promises



Cllr Ed Foley as Deputy Mayor opening a new post office in the Ward



Poster for Merton Park Heritage Trail



Volunteer litter pickers helping to keep our parks and public gardens tidy



New Park Bench in Kendor Gardens paid for using the Ward Allocation Fund

What Your Independent Ward Councillors Have Championed for You Over the Last Four Years

DORSET HALL – Grade II historic asset

Dorset Hall was the home of Rose Lamartine Yates, Suffragette and first independent on the London County Council, but the building was left to deteriorate after Clarion Housing Association moved the last tenants out.

We alerted Merton Council to the leaking roof. We support the restoration of Dorset Hall, and now look forward to working with the National Trust's Innovation and Partnerships Team on its options appraisal for the future of this important landmark.

MORDEN REGENERATION – we're still waiting ...

Meanwhile, we are calling for a more community focussed High Street in Morden:

Not just shopping, more socialising with priority for pedestrians over through traffic

Open up routes to link the town centre to local parks; celebrate the history of Morden

New buildings must be much smaller than the Civic Centre and respect the neighbouring residential suburbs

Ensure the council honours its commitment to include affordable housing in its regeneration plans to 2030

PLANNING – the garden suburb character of Merton Park Ward is precious to us. We:

Support the right of residents to object to individual planning applications that may have an adverse effect.

Successfully challenged unrealistic housing targets for Merton in the draft Local Plan

Voted against permission for excessive 55m office block in Wimbledon

Spotted and successfully challenged the proposal to make Grasmere, Windermere and Sandbourne Avenues and Daybrook and other roads open to significant redevelopment

ROAD SAFETY We:

Worked with parents at Park Academy to achieve a new zebra crossing over Dorset Road

Campaigned for new pedestrian islands in Dorset Road and Kingston Road by the Nelson Health Centre

Lobbied Merton's Traffic & Highways to improve School Streets restrictions without reducing safety benefits for children

- Less restricted hours
- Wider concessions (eg. for carers)
- Improved signage

Insisted on residents being consulted on a Low Traffic Neighbourhood for our Ward; as a result, it did not go ahead

Continue to work with police to enforce 20 mph speed limits across the Ward, and call for more frequent speed patrols

IMPROVING PARKS AND GREENSPACES We:

Support “Friends” groups in John Innes Park, Kendor Gardens and now Mostyn Gardens

Successfully resisted attempts to totally close the footpath between John Innes Park and the Recreation Ground in winter months.

Asked YOU and acted to:

- Repaint and regild the railings around the pond in John Innes Park
- Install new benches in Kendor Gardens and Mostyn Gardens
- Purchase 15,000 daffodil bulbs for volunteers to plant in verges all around our Ward
- Cut back vegetation and plant bulbs alongside the Tramlink path from Dorset Road
- Create new flowerbeds and plant bulbs in Mostyn Gardens with the Muslim Women of Merton friendship group.

STREET LIGHTING

Residents (particularly women) express concern and feel unsafe walking on our streets at night. We want more action, particularly on Dorset Road and other black spots

We believe you should not have to put up with any street lighting that is demonstrably sub-standard.

ALL street lights should be upgraded to the higher standard of proposed new luminous elements and properly maintained

We will press for a schedule of annual attention to trees which need to be regularly trimmed back where they obscure street lighting.

SUCCESS IN COUNCIL

If they are to mean anything, council meetings should debate proposals to improve our residents’ lives Too often they degenerate into party political grandstanding and achieve nothing. We argued that:

- All future motions should follow SMART principles (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-Bound)
- Council should receive an annual report showing the outcome of every motion measured against SMART objectives

Our motion in Council was agreed **unanimously** so we can expect change for the better meaning:

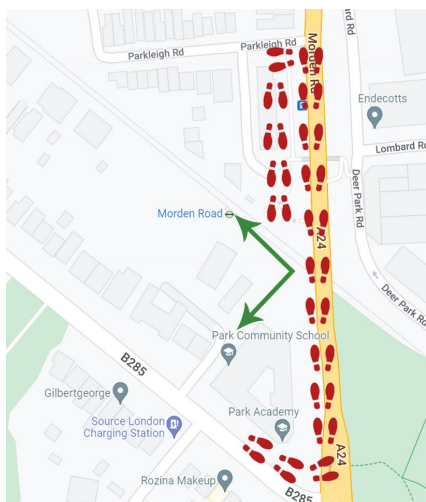
- Better outcomes
- Less negative party politics
- More accountability

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Four years ago we set out to open the last link in the path from Dorset Road to Morden Road Tramstop It’s not there yet, but we have no intention of giving up, rather we will redouble our efforts to overcome the bureaucratic obstacles in our way.

Contact us at: mpwra@mertonpark.org.uk for more information

Diagram Shows wheelchair users, parents with pushchairs and cyclists must all use the current, convoluted, ramp access. Versus, our proposed path from Dorset Rd to Morden Tramstop.



Meet Your Independent Candidates

Edward Foley has been living in Merton Park since 1999. Until recently, he owned and operated an estate agency business in Wimbledon Village for many years.

He joined the MPWRA committee twelve years ago and became vice-chair in 2012. Edward takes an active role in the Merton Park community; he was on the Diamond Jubilee committee and sponsored the Cobham Brass Band for the celebrations on the Glebe Field. He is also a governor at Ricards Lodge High School and has been Chair for the last four years. He is an active member of the Ward panel of the local Merton Park Safer Neighbourhoods Team for the last ten years.

Edward was married to Miranda who sadly died last year, and has two grown up children. His daughter went to Ricards Lodge High School and was a Wimbledon ball girl in 2013. His son attended Rutlish School. Edward coached rugby at Old Emanuel Rugby Club for ten years and referees rugby most weekends for the London Society. He also enjoys walking the other member of the team, their black Labrador, Truffle.

Edward has been a Merton Park Ward Independent Residents Councillor for the past eight years and was recently Deputy Mayor of Merton.



Stephen Mercer has been a resident of Merton Park since 1999.

He originally qualified as a solicitor and worked in the City and in Hong Kong, but used the opportunity of studying an MBA at London Business School to move into a business role. Since 1998 Stephen has run his own business. The company has grown and thrives, and is located in Merton, (next to the new Dons football stadium) so that Stephen is aware of local business issues.

He is married to Carole, who is a solicitor working for the government in Whitehall, and they have two grown-up children, both of whom were educated in the Borough. Stephen revived his distant school memories and coached junior rugby at Old Ruts for 10 years. He is a keen walker (having climbed Kilimanjaro in 2018), and also cycles regularly, to and from the office, and for pleasure. He also manages a local team of similarly grey-haired 'super-vets' who play weekly 5 a side football.

Stephen particularly treasures the special quality of Merton Park and the green spaces within it. He is enthusiastically in support of active travel schemes for pedestrians and cyclists, young and old. Living in the south of the Ward, he is especially interested in the prospective re-development of Morden town centre.



How to Ensure Your Vote Counts on Thursday May 5th

MAKE SURE YOU'RE REGISTERED TO VOTE

Thurs 14th April is the latest date to register online

Foley, Edward	Independent Residents	X
Mercer, Stephen	Independent Residents	X



POSTAL VOTE DEADLINE

Applications *must* be received by 5pm
Tues 19th April