

FRIENDS OF THE RIVER CRANE ENVIRONMENT
NEWSLETTER ONE: AUGUST 2003



Dear fellow residents,

The Friends of the River Crane Environment (FORCE) has been formed by local interested groups and individuals to represent the interests and views of local people regarding the River Crane and its corridor. We formed in direct response to the Council's proposals to remove Metropolitan Open Land status, and subsequently develop, council owned green spaces within the Crane corridor between Kneller Gardens and London Road. The current position regarding these proposals is as follows:

- Over 1300 residents and groups submitted over 3600 objections to the original Council UDP proposals for the Crane
- In response the Council commissioned a masterplan for the Crane Valley
- This masterplan proposed four options for the area. Each option promoted large-scale housing development including the loss of two important areas of green space.
- In response, FORCE produced Option Five (available on website below), a sustainable community led management plan for the area with improvements to the environment for both the ecology and local people and no housing on council owned green space
- The council selected its own Option One for the area, despite this being the least popular option at consultation
- A Public Inquiry is set for October this year where we shall oppose the Council's proposals for the area and promote Option Five

In the meantime FORCE are holding an **OPEN DAY** on Craneford Playing Fields West on **SUNDAY 31 AUGUST** from noon 'til 5pm. This will be a Fun Event with entertainment for the children and will provide an opportunity to see the various proposals, visit the rifle club and allotments, meet our members and put forward your own ideas for the area. Everyone is welcome to bring a picnic, have some fun and contribute to the future of our area.

Regards
Rob Gray (Chair FORCE)

PS: for more details of our proposals and the history of the issue check out www.twickenham-online.co.uk