

Dear Steve,

ref:BCC 848 March 19 2019

Brentford/Syon Regeneration

There's currently a tremendous amount of angst and anger in the community which needs to be addressed. Sadly this has been generated by a lack of detailed and current communication as to Brentford and Syon's future regeneration plans.

Apart from a presentation by Ballymore, inappropriately in Isleworth at the I&BSF, residents have no clear picture as to exactly what is being proposed in terms of residential, retail and leisure units, advantages/disadvantages and what program is being put in place to mitigate disruption throughout the process?

Added to the development south of the High Street we have the combined uncertainties of the EL proposal on the Morrison site and the loss of our main grocery outlet, the future or not, of the police building, and with that the prospective of our arts centre.

Whilst residents may accept the enormity of this project and the complications associated with such a scheme, what is unpalatable is that is where we live, carry out our business and spend our leisure time. So, far from being a regeneration the current view from the community is one of degeneration.

We all want to see a more vibrant and energised Brentford and Syon, particularly so in these very uncertain and turbulent times, both locally and nationally. However, achieving this is not solely about new build – after all what are buildings if there's no sense of community where residents can live, work, and play.

We have repeatedly asked for better more engaged dialogue with both you and Ballymore which has not been forthcoming, this is very disheartening and to some degree creates a feeling of mistrust.

We would urge you to create a public meeting sooner rather than later, whereby you and developers can lay out before the community exactly what's being planned, not just to regenerate, but more importantly to rebuild confidence and cohesion in a community that's lived with the promise of a 'brilliant' Brentford for far too long.

We believe Ballymore are proposing weekly presentations at their information centre at some point in the future? However, the wider community think it would be advantageous to all to have a well-publicised public meeting or two, as soon as possible, centrally located, either in St Paul's Church or Brentford Free Church so as to be fully inclusive. I would suggest a weekday evening with possibly the second on a Saturday for those who are unable to attend during the week. The meeting should be chaired by a well-informed neutral person with good time being allowed for a Q&A session.

If this could be addressed with some haste, but not at the expense of a full and comprehensive presentation, we are sure this would be beneficial to all.

Martin Case
Vice-Chair BCC

Denis Browne
Chair, Planning Consultative Committee, BCC