



KEMPTON PARK

A Jockey Club Racecourse

Dear Neighbour

You may have read the front page article in LOSRA's Autumn Newsletter. We felt it important to write to you to confirm that there are no immediate plans for residential development at Kempton Park. Please allow me to explain our current position.

At this stage we are simply in the process of exploring options with a wide variety of stakeholders including Council officers, Councillors and local residents' associations. As neighbours, we aim to keep you informed throughout this process. Any firm ideas are some way off, however to ensure you have the opportunity to access information about any progress we make, we have set up a website www.kemptonparkforum.org, which we will update as and when any relevant information is available. Given this is all at a very early stage, please forgive us if there is not much to report very quickly!

Spelthorne Borough Council, along with practically every other local authority in the country, needs to reconcile a huge demand for housing with a very small amount of space upon which it can deliver new homes to meet emerging needs, with people now living longer and the pattern of family life changing such that the number of 'households' continues to increase.

We have been in discussion about the potential for spare land not used for racing or events at Kempton Park. We accept that this is designated as Green Belt and that we will need to convince the local authority of the very special circumstances any plans we bring forward demonstrate, whilst any decision will need to balance local housing need against the sustainability of such plans.

If, on balance, taking an application forward is considered viable, we recognise this will mean that any development plans will be very carefully scrutinised both by officers upon any submission and then by Planning Committee Members at the decision stage. During this time everyone will have the opportunity to comment on any plans and these comments, both from Statutory Consultees and local residents will be reported fully to the committee who will need to carefully balance the concerns of local residents against the needs of the borough as a whole.

As stated in the LOSRA newsletter, there is an agreement between the Council and the Racecourse which relates to part of the land under consideration. However, this is not a planning matter and will be resolved through legal channels.

The Jockey Club is a company governed by Royal Charter to act for the long-term good of British horseracing at all times and reinvest every penny it makes back into the sport. The funding of our current project in Cheltenham is in no way connected or dependent on any future capital raised by further use of land at Kempton Park. The two matters are distinct and entirely separate.

Kempton Park is a very important part of The Jockey Club and plays an equally important role within British racing (and we hope the local community too). In line with this, we have invested £35m in the last 15 years in facilities covering all aspects of Kempton Park to improve both the quality of racing and to give our customers the best possible experience. This supports The Jockey Club's long-term commitment to the future of racing at Kempton and we will continue in this vein.

Phil White
General Manager, Kempton Park Racecourse