

The Molesey News

In support of **PETER SZANTO** for Elmbridge Council and **DOMINIC RAAB** for MP

The right team working for Molesey

Hello and welcome to this special elections edition of *The Molesey News*. I am Steve Bax, your local borough councillor and I edit this publication on behalf of the Molesey Conservative Residents (MCR) political group.

For once I am not a candidate at these elections as my term of office still has a year to run. But East Molesey has three seats on Elmbridge Borough Council and I am working hard to elect my good friend and colleague Dr Peter Szanto to serve alongside me as your representative.

Overleaf you can read more about Peter and his accomplishments.

As a former businessman, leader and negotiator, I know he will bring a wealth of wisdom and experience to Elmbridge Borough Council. He will be a great asset for Molesey, working closely with myself and Dominic Raab.

I started the Molesey Conservative Residents and stood for election to reinvigorate our local politics which I realised had grown stale from years of unhealthy one party rule under the Molesey Residents Association.

My election as your borough councillor represented a departure from the tired status quo, and from councillors who pop up every four years at election time and then pretty much vanish from sight soon after.

The Molesey Conservative Residents are about direct action for you on local matters, all year around.



Pictured above: Cllr Steve Bax and Conservative candidates Dominic Raab and Dr Peter Szanto

We also offer a vital influence for Molesey on the Conservative majorities at borough and county halls and through our Conservative MP.

Last autumn East Molesey was subjected to a constant barrage of aircraft noise as Heathrow trialled new flightpaths. MRA councillors offered words of sympathy and vague promises of writing to the MP.

The Molesey Conservatives got on the case. We found out the situation from

Heathrow and leafleted residents. We held a public meeting chaired by our MP, and Dominic Raab and I later met with the relevant Heathrow director and his team and secured his agreement to end the airspace trials two months early.

We are clear that the quality of life in Molesey must not be compromised and aircraft noise must be kept in check.

I successfully lobbied to be appointed the council's representative at the Heathrow Noise Forum so I can be your

eyes and ears, and your voice on this important matter.

In 12 months, following a redrawing of the ward boundaries, all councillors will be required to either stand down or put themselves up for re-election.

Some may tread water or coast into retirement. Peter Szanto and I are determined that with two Molesey Conservative councillors working for you we can deliver 'a year of action'.

That includes action on all-day commuter parking in the streets close to Hampton Court Station which affects residents and stifles trade for local shops.

Progress at the Jolly Boatman site towards achieving a more sympathetic and less dominating scheme; shoring up flood defences; fixing potholes, and ensuring council services are first rate.

The choice on May 7th – other than the parliamentary election, at which I would encourage you to re-elect Dominic Raab (see overleaf for why) – is at the local level between ourselves and the MRA.

The MRA candidate Mrs Cooper has been your sitting councillor for eight years but you have heard comparatively little from her in that time, and her leaflet contains sparse details of what she has achieved or would do if elected to another term at Esher.

The quality of your representation is important. Molesey need an achiever who is ready to roll up their sleeves and get stuck into local issues.

I have no doubt that Peter Szanto is the right choice at this election, and I ask you to support him on May 7th.

New hope for Jolly Boatman



AS Hampton Court Palace celebrates 500 years of glorious history, now more than ever it is essential that we settle the future of the 'Jolly Boatman' site.

Molesey Conservatives are adamant that this strategically placed parcel of land should be a public open space to preserve the views of the Palace, and the monstrous hotel which has planning permission should not go ahead.

Now with the site in the hands of new owners we are confident there is an opportunity to make progress.

Elect Peter Szanto on May 7th to work with Steve Bax and Dominic Raab to press the new owners and Elmbridge for a better plan.

Our promise to you: One year of action

THE Conservative administration has successfully lobbied the Local Government Boundary Commission to reduce the number of Elmbridge borough councillors from the current 60 to 48 - saving you around £50,000 per year.

This means the current wards will cease to be in May 2016 and fresh elections will be held on new and as yet unknown boundaries.

The Molesey Conservative Residents are determined that when we stand before you in 12 months it will be on a record of solid action.

So, what are our priorities during this one year of action?

First, tackling all-day commuter parking in streets close to Hampton Court, which blocks drives, prevents gutters being cleaned and deprives the shops in Bridge Road of customers, as they are unable to find parking spaces.

Surrey County Council is carrying out a comprehensive review of the parking capacity at each town in Elmbridge and identifying issues to be resolved.

In Molesey we will press for an hour's resident-only parking in affected streets to weed out the all

day commuters and create spaces for residents and shoppers.

It is also an opportunity to seek a remedy for unsafe roads and exits.

We recognise that the exorbitant cost of parking in the station car park is part of the problem and we will lobby South West Trains to reconsider these counter productive charges that are creating congestion in Molesey.

On the planning front, Peter Szanto and Steve Bax will help residents with issues that arise, just as Steve has done this year, and will engage the Radnor House developers, Paragon, to address residents' concerns about their housing scheme and rethink the entrance, which is currently due to be in narrow School Road.

We will initiate a debate about the creeping 'gentrification' of

East Molesey, where nearly every new home is an enormous one and our children are being priced out of the market.

We cannot predict the weather so the Molesey Conservatives will continue to press for better flood responses and implement a warden scheme to help direct council resources to those in the most need.

'We will stand before you in a year on a record of solid local action.'



Above: Palace Road parked cars; left: Heathrow noise; below: Radnor House



We will keep a watchful eye on Heathrow, and safeguard our area from harmful over development.

MEET THE CANDIDATES: Dominic and Peter on why you should vote for them:

Dominic Raab: 'I have been true to my word'



clinics, dementia screening, and more joined up services for the elderly. There are plans to use Molesey hospital as a local hub to provide wider cross-community services, and if re-elected the Conservatives will ensure seven-day accessibility to a local GP.

Up in Westminster, I led successful campaigns to cut stamp duty (benefiting 80% of home-buyers in Elmbridge), cut income tax by extending the personal allowance, and raise the threshold for the 40p rate of income tax.

I believe British justice should be firm but fair. So, I have led successful campaigns to make it harder to extradite innocent

British citizens to face rough justice abroad, and easier to deport foreign national criminals claiming tenuous human rights to scupper the process.

Both resulted in changes in the law. I also led the Parliamentary campaign that helped ensure the continuing availability of affordable home insurance in high flood risk areas like ours.

Whatever your political views, I hope you agree I have been true to my word, and will consider voting for me on Thursday May 7th.

Best wishes, Dominic

Pictured above: Dom visits Molesey community hospital; Below, Dom listens to retailers on Bridge Road.



I live in Thames Ditton with my wife and two young sons, so I am immersed in local community life.

Since, I was elected MP in 2010, I have – above all - championed our community in Molesey and stood up for what I believe in.

Working with Molesey Business Association, we developed a better parking regime to promote extra footfall into shops on the High Street and down on Bridge Road.

I also listened to the many small businesses that felt the sharp pinch of business rates, and successfully campaigned in Parliament to secure the small business discount and a wider commitment to overhaul business rates.

When residents complained about the disproportionate noise from flight trial paths at Heathrow, I worked with them and Cllr Steve Bax to get the trials suspended before Christmas, facilitate a public meeting with Heathrow and the Civil Aviation Authority so your voice could be directly heard, and secured a local representative on Heathrow's noise consultation forum – namely Cllr Bax.

We now have a mechanism to ensure proper local consultation over this important quality of life issue.

With the transition to local commissioning of healthcare services, by the new groups of local doctors and clinicians, we have seen more services provided locally – such as diabetes



Pete Szanto: 'Ready to deliver for Molesey'

Like the outcome of the General Election nationally, the result of the Borough Council election here in East Molesey is impossible to predict.

Your vote on May 7th WILL make a difference to how Molesey is governed and I will fight right up to Polling Day to earn your trust and prove worthy of your support.

It has been a privilege to meet you on the doorsteps and to hear your concerns and aspirations. Sensitive development, road safety, access to good local schools and health care, aircraft noise and the need to address parking issues are common themes.

I am a good listener and a team player but I will never forget that you are the boss. I will always do what is right for Molesey and put the good of residents before party or other considerations.

I enjoyed a 34 year career working for a major oil company, which I joined as a graduate and worked my way up to become a senior executive.

With your support I will be able to bring my wealth of business experience to the service of Elmbridge Borough Council and its residents - to help the council deliver better services and ensure you get value for your taxpayer money.

I have at various points managed large workforces and been responsible for delivering complex projects on time and on budget.

I have negotiated deals between multinational companies worth hundreds of millions of pounds, and led a review of working practices which resulted in improved efficiency and multi-million pound annual

'I am a good listener and team player but will never forget that you are the boss'

savings.

I am married to Ros, a retired doctor, and we have two grown up daughters.

I understand the value of a good education for all of our children and giving them the best start in life. I am also a strong supporter of good local healthcare and the NHS.

I recently took early retirement and have the time, energy and enthusiasm to devote myself to serving our community as your local champion.

In a year's time, following the boundary review, there will be another election and so I ask for your support to give me 12 months to show what I can do in one year of action.

Working as a part of the energetic Conservative team with Councillor Steve Bax and our parliamentary candidate Dominic Raab, I will ensure that concerns and issues of Molesey residents have a loud and clear

voice at Elmbridge Council and we retain the outstanding quality of life we enjoy in Molesey.

Please lend me your support on May 7th so that I can get to work on your behalf.

Thank you and regards, Peter

On Thursday May 7th let's get the right leadership for Molesey.

VOTE

DOMINIC RAAB

X

For Esher & Walton Member of Parliament

PETER SZANTO

X

For Molesey East at Elmbridge Borough Council

