

ENFIELD GOLF CLUB LTD

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24 August, 2011

Dear Neighbour,

Environment Agency Proposed Flood Alleviation Scheme – Salmons Brook

We are writing to advise that the Environment Agency ('EA') has revived its plans to carry out extensive works on the golf course and Cheyne Walk open space with a view to creating a barrier ('the bund') that is intended to hold up the flow of water along Salmon's Brook.

These proposals first emerged in 2004 and in late 2005 the EA obtained planning permission to carry out a series of works along the entire length of Salmon's Brook, starting with the creation of a storage area at Hog Hill Farm, to the north of the course, and continuing all the way to Edmonton, where Salmon's Brook enters the River Lea. The overall purpose of the works is to try and prevent, or at least reduce, a recurrence of the 2000 flooding in the Montagu Road area of Edmonton.

So far as the club is concerned, the works involve the creation of the bund, which will be a 2 metre high clay wall, built to reservoir standard along the right hand side of our ninth fairway, on both sides of Salmon's Brook, effectively raising the banks of the Brook just before it exits the course and continues into Grange Park. The Brook itself would flow through a restricted sluice with fixed dimensions. In times of heavy or sudden rainfall the effect will be to hold up large volumes of water, thus causing a temporary lake to form on the course, close to the top of the bund at its maximum.

The EA are confident that these events would be comparatively rare and that the water would drain away very quickly.

The club was consulted in 2005 and did not object to the planning consent at that time. This decision was based on the EA's flood prediction maps that showed there was an overall reduction in the effects of flooding on the course when the EA's proposals were looked at in their totality. In particular the club placed a great deal of reliance on the proposed upstream storage area at Hog Hill Farm, which would provide a first line of defence for both the club, and also for your properties which are near the course. However, the 2005 scheme did not proceed and the planning consent lapsed.

The EA now wish to proceed with a modified scheme, which will still involve the 'bund' as before, but the upstream Hog Hill Farm element of the original proposal has been abandoned. Not surprisingly, this means that the golf course, and possibly your properties also, are now in a far more vulnerable position. Our understanding is that the EA will be submitting a revised planning application shortly to Enfield Council, and you, as interested parties, will no doubt be receiving formal notification, and invited to comment.

As a club we have known of these new proposals for several months and have been pressing the EA for further information and clarification. We are particularly concerned at the double

impact of the loss of the upstream storage, coupled with a fixed sluice. We would prefer Hog Hill to be reinstated, coupled with a variable sluice, which would only operate if Montagu Road were at serious risk of flooding, but not otherwise. We believe that the new EA proposals will cause far greater flooding on the course and the surrounding areas than is actually necessary. The club submitted a series of technical questions to the EA in April designed to test the EA's proposals and explain why the scheme has been changed so substantially since 2005.

The club has employed Arup, a well known firm specialising in large civil engineering projects. Their brief is to check the EA's proposals to clarify that there are no errors in this modified design, and to advise the club on any possible amendments that could be made to the scheme to try and mitigate the effect of the increased flooding risk. They are looking, among other things, at the loss of Hog Hill, and the insistence by the EA that the sluice be of fixed dimensions.

With the new planning application imminent, the purpose of this letter is to advise you what is happening and to give you advanced warning. We do not know at this stage how your individual properties may be affected by these works and the subsequent increased flooding risk on parts of the course. Possibly there will be no detriment to you at all. However, if you are concerned, we would like to make sure that your issues are not overlooked, and are joined with ours to achieve maximum impact. The bodies that need to be aware of strength of feeling on this issue are both the EA and Enfield Council who will undoubtedly be influenced by a substantial and vocal opposition.

One of the matters causing us particular concern is the reliability of the EA's flood prediction maps. The EA have admitted that the 2005 predictions contained errors. That does not give us confidence that the EA have got it right this time around. If their new flood predictions are wrong, this could result in an even greater flood risk, not just to the course, but possibly also to you. This might have ramifications for your household insurance premiums and indeed whether your insurers would cover flood risks at all.

We believe it is of vital importance to all concerned to collect data on flooding generally in the immediate vicinity of Salmon's Brook. If you can recall being affected, please share your experience with us.

I promise that we will try and keep everyone aware of significant developments and it will be easier if we could do this by email. If therefore you have concerns about these proposed works, or would simply like to be kept informed, will you please telephone or email me with the following information:

Your name

Address

Tel No.

Email address

Note of any previous flooding history or specific worries about this scheme.

My contact details are above and my email address is darryl@enfieldgolfclub.co.uk

I look forward to hearing from.

Yours sincerely



Darryl Cawthorne
General Manager