Dear Resident,

As you may be aware there have been some major investment in Colliers Wood and as part of these improvements, the Council has now formally adopted Baltic Close as public highway and proposes to make extensive improvements to the space. The proposals include the creation of a home-zone street, with new landscaping and lighting. This will enhance the environment for residents, visitors and create an important landscaped link between Wandle Park and Colliers Wood station.

Baltic Close will be designated as a Pedestrianised zone constructed in high quality material, accommodating new trees, rain garden style planters, William Morris benches and much needed additional cycle parking. An artist ‘s impression and a plan of proposed design indicates the proposed improvements.

Baltic Close will primarily be for pedestrian use, creating a new urban space away from the noisy High Street. The layout intends to enhance the visibility of the entrance to Wandle Park and improve pedestrian links to the High Street to increase accessibility and use of open space for the local community. There will be no motorised traffic permitted other than delivery vehicles, refuse vehicles and Emergency Services. The legal definition is that a Goods Vehicle means a motor vehicle constructed or adapted for use for the carriage of goods. As a rule, this does not allow entry to the Zone by a saloon / estate / private car. However, deliveries by these vehicles will be permitted in Baltic Close, but parking will not be permitted.

To accommodate the parking needs of the residents, it is proposed to allow residents to park in Wandle Bank which is a short walk away. Due to capacity issues you cannot be permitted to park in Zone CW. It should be noted that if you opt to park within this zone you are required to purchase a permit. The information regarding the operation of a CPZ and parking permits is attached with the attached leaflet. It should be noted that you will only be permitted to park in Wandle Bank and no other roads within the CPZ.

The restrictions do not apply to the emergency services as long as they are entering the Zone to attend to an emergency situation. Additionally the restrictions do not apply to those vehicles making deliveries to the Public House. These vehicles, however, will not be permitted to park in Baltic Close.

The Council is mindful of the needs of our vulnerable residents and we are therefore asking all blue badge holders who drive, own a vehicle and are registered to Baltic Close to contact the Council trafficandhighways@merton.gov.uk by 16th October 2015. It is important to note all these criteria must be met for the Council to be able to consider a disabled parking bay in Baltic Close. Every effort will be made to facilitate the need for a disabled parking bay but this cannot be guaranteed.

The works are provisionally programmed for November 2015 but you will receive a letter detailing the exact starting date. The Council believes that the proposed improvements will make for a more pleasant and safer environment for residents and pedestrians.

Further details are online at www.merton.gov.uk/connectingcollierswood

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WHAT HAPPENS NEXT
A Notice of the Council’s intention to pedestrianise Baltic Close will be published in a local newspaper (The Guardian), London Gazette and posted on lamp columns in the vicinity. Representations for and against the proposals described in this Notice must be made in email to trafficandhighways@merton.gov.uk by no later than 30th October 2015 quoting reference Es Baltic 2015. Objections must relate only to the elements of the scheme that are subject to this statutory consultation.

All representations along with Officers’ comments and recommendations will be presented to the Cabinet Member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration. Please note that responses to any representations received will not be made until a final decision is made by the Cabinet Member. The Council is required to give weight to the nature and content of your representations and not necessarily the quantity. Your reasons are, therefore, important to us.

A copy of the proposed TMO, a plan identifying the areas affected by the proposals and the Council’s Statement of Reasons can be inspected at the Merton Link, Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5DX during the Council’s normal office hours Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. A copy can also be inspected at Colliers Wood Library. This information is also available on Merton Council’s website at trafficandhighways@merton.gov.uk

Please note that following the completion of each stage updates will be posted on the Council’s website www.merton.gov.uk/connectingcollierswood. You will receive a newsletter after the Cabinet Member decision is made, advising you of the outcome of the consultation.