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HHERA NEWS

The Newsletter Of The Hanger Hill East Residents'
Association - Addressing Residents' Needs and Views
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CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Whenever local concerns are discussed in our neighbourhood, crime and home security always come up. It's vital to recognise that we do not live in a high crime area – out of 32 London Boroughs, Ealing ranks 18th for the risk of burglary. That however is no consolation if your house is broken into, and even less if it happens while you are inside, as happened to one of our residents earlier in the autumn.

Four years ago, in response to another worrying break-in, your Association ran an estate-wide consultation on the viability of employing a private security patrol. This had often been discussed but when it came to it the interest was minimal. At our last Executive Committee we met with several concerned residents who had done their own research into this and produced evidence that up to 100 households might now be interested. As your Committee exists to represent your interests we will be working with this group to explore this further and to consult you all again about whether you would be interested in subscribing to such a service.

It's good when local people get involved in working together for the good of our community, and this is what a Residents' Association is for. Like all voluntary bodies it isn't always easy to find people willing to step up and take responsibility. I am keen to increase the feeling that the Association is for everyone and for that reason I am exploring a change in how we work. As things stand the AGM elects the Committee and the Committee elects the Chair. I think it would be much better if the Chair were to be elected directly by the Annual Meeting because that connects this key role more directly with the membership and hopefully encourages others to feel that they can make a difference.

With that in mind I have told your Committee that I will be standing down as Chairman at the next AGM. This is my second spell in the role and in total I have been doing it for nearly 10 years. Time for a change! Before I go, I hope to be able to see through the project we agreed at the last AGM, to try to improve our ancient Hanger Hill woods as a pleasant amenity for our neighbourhood. My current thinking is to try to see if we can install some signage and/or railings to make the southern Chatsworth Road entrance more welcoming and attractive and thereby to discourage those who use it as an easy fly-tipping location.

With that in mind, may I encourage you to report all incidents that you see. Too often there are white goods, mattresses, boxes and sacks left by the roadsides on our estate. Recently I was minutes too late to prevent a pile of sacks from blocking the pavement outside the church, but I reported it immediately using the Love Clean Streets phone app and the Council cleared it by 10am the following day. It's worth it.

So let's continue to look out for one another and to work together to make our neighbourhood a cleaner and safer place for us all.

Simon Reed, Chair HHERA.



To 10 security tips - from Hanger Hill Safer Neighbourhood team and your Neighbourhood Watch team

- 1) Always lock all doors and windows when you go out even for a few minutes. Make sure you use timer switches when you leave your property for longer durations.
- 2) Make sure you don't advertise what goods you have purchased by throwing out the empty boxes.
- 3) If you go on holiday, try to arrange someone to come into your house occasionally to pick up your post and anything that might not be pushed through the letter box properly.
- 4) Make sure you use well lit areas when travelling to and from work.
- 5) Make sure you clear all your valuables from vehicles, including coats, bags and hand tools and loose change.
- 6) Join a neighbourhood watch scheme (the whole idea is to relate information between you and the police).
- 7) Never give your personal details out to anybody even if they claim they are from the police or bank.
- 8) Never use people who turn up on your doorstep offering goods and services, they are often a scam.
- 9) Try to ensure that there is not easy access to the back of your property as this makes you more vulnerable to a burglary.
- 10) Ensure that your car number plates are securely fixed to deter number plate theft. Garages can supply and fit special screws which cannot be removed without destroying the plates thus defeating the object.



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HHERA ESTATE MATTERS 2018

Park Royal Hotel:

Last year the site was purchased by Starboard Hotels. They will build a 152 bed hotel as part of the Hampton by Hilton franchise after planning permission was originally granted in 2013. Demolition work has started with the retained original façade shored up on props.

Hanger Green:

A litter bin outside Boden's had been reinstalled in response to concerns raised by your Committee about increased litter.

Park Royal Station:

The estate agent has recently closed its premises. Toilets are situated after the ticket barrier and station staff will allow their use when asked.

1 Golf Road:

Planning application has been submitted for construction of a detached two-storey, two bedroom residential property, following demolition of existing garage with associated parking.

Chatsworth Road – Empty Property:

This continues to cause concern and your Committee continues to pursue the Council with a view to locating the owner of the property.

Parking Charges:

Ealing Council's new Transport Strategy will next year introduce a new system for parking permits in controlled zones. Commuters are to be allowed to use more residents' bays and the cost of parking in town centres is going up. To start with the CPZs, the good news is that the Council is going green. The cost of a permit will reflect the CO2 emissions of your car, with a range of £50 to £125. Diesel owners will pay an extra £50 because their cars produce nitrous oxide emissions, while electric car owners will pay £20 less. The bad news is that the average cost will higher, the Council estimate by 53%.

It is the commuter issue however that has produced most protests from residents. Some 800 spaces will be converted to dual use, i.e. for commuters as well as residents. The Council say this will only be where spaces are under utilised or where they are not in front of houses. The good news for us is that there are unlikely to be any of these dual use spaces in our CPZs. Finally, on-street parking charges will be going up to £3 per hour in the centre of Ealing and to £2 per hour in other High Street. The Council expect that the new charges are going to generate in total an extra £729,000 in revenue.

HMOs:

There has been growing concern in Ealing as elsewhere about what are called Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMOs). These are houses where the resident's have individual rooms but share some of the facilities, often bathrooms and kitchens. The original concern was that the residents of HMOs may be exploited by their landlords. Ealing Council like other local authorities has recently set up a system for licensing HMOs, which applies to all but the smallest. Concern has also been voiced in some areas that HMOs may be associated with anti-social behaviour. Your Association is however aware of only one HMO – out of the nine licensed HMOs in our area – that has been the subject of this sort of complaint. The Council do not, it seems, have the resources to do much monitoring of HMOs, but they are keen to hear from local residents and neighbours if it is thought that a house is an HMO but is not licensed or if there is anti-social behaviour. The Council department involved is the Private Rental Sector Licensing section, who can be contacted by phone on 020 8858 9512 or by email at prslicensing@ealing.gov.uk.

HANGER HILL,
EAST RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATION

SUBSCRIPTIONS

There is no formal subscription for membership of the Association but donations are welcome to cover expenses, such as the newsletter, hire of the hall for AGM etc. £5 per household should be sufficient for normal needs. Please send your donation to: The Treasurer, 8 Ashbourne Road, London, W5 3ED, payable to Hanger Hill (East) Residents' Association.

Thank you for your support

COMMITTEE

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Vice Chair: Margaret Martin
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Robert Gurd
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**Grimshaw & Co say
2018 has proven that the
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popular Ealing location**

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The Ridings

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