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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

In the last newsletter, I touched upon a number of local issues that were on the committee's agenda. Over the past few months, we have implemented 2 key initiatives –

- The Security Patrol pilot scheme became operational in Feb 2020 covering a small number of streets on the Haymills estate. There is a separate article devoted to this initiative elsewhere in this newsletter.
- The hhera.com website has been revamped and re launched on a fresh platform with a modern look and feel. Over time we will add more functionality, making it an attractive platform for local businesses to advertise their services on.

Security - Following concerns raised about residential burglary on the estate during the winter months of 2018-19, police and the council took a number of initiatives. Increased patrols of the area were undertaken, home security visits to residents were conducted and in Autumn 2019 two temporary CCTV units were deployed at key points along Corringway. As a result of a wider police operation targeting burglars, a number of suspects are in custody and subject to enforcement action.

I am pleased to report that over the winter period this year, burglary across the Haymills' Estate was down by 55% in comparison to the same time a year ago. While this is obviously welcome news, we have to remain vigilant and will continue to monitor the situation.

Traffic - We next need to tackle the traffic situation through the estate. There continues to be rat-running traffic due to the use of traffic navigation apps that are guiding motorists through our estate to avoid the clogged parts of the A406 and Western Avenue. This matter is complicated as it involves roads that are designated as public highways.

Fly tipping – May I encourage you to report all incidents that you see. We continue to actively raise this with our Councillors to bring this to the attention of Ealing Council in order to introduce some enforcement measures. If you see cases of fly tipping, report them via the Love Clean Streets phone app.

I would welcome views and suggestions from fellow residents – feel free to email with any views, observations and suggestions to mail@hhera.com or post it on the HHERA Facebook page or via Twitter.

Lastly, we are all facing unprecedented times. The recent outbreak of the Coronavirus has impacted countries around the world including the UK and we are all feeling the effects. This is an incredibly dynamic situation. Each of us wants to help our friends and family navigate the human and economic challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and to minimise the impact on our community. To this end, please follow guidance issued by the authorities regularly updated on www.gov.uk and comply with suggested measures and actions. Where possible, please offer help and support to the elderly and most vulnerable members of the community. Should you wish, feel free to contact me - I can be reached on tarun.wasan@gmail.com or by phone on 078 8789 2896.

STOP PRESS:

Following the recent government notification on avoiding large gatherings to contain the spread of the pandemic, your committee has taken the decision to postpone the AGM for 2020, which was planned to be held on Apr 29, 2020 at the Church of Ascension, Beaufort Road, W5 3EB. Consequently, we have withdrawn the notification and agenda for the AGM, which would otherwise have been published in this newsletter. At this time, we are unable to commit to a revised date but will notify in due course when the AGM could be held.

Best Wishes and Stay Safe!

Tarun Wasan – Chairman

PRIVATE SECURITY PATROL SCHEME

On 25th February 2020 a private security patrol service was introduced on part of the Haymills Estate. This was in direct response to requests from residents to introduce security measures to combat the increase in crime in the area. Many of you will have seen the patrol car/security guard. The patrol currently operates for 9 hours/7 days on Audley Road, Beaufort Road, Beaufort Close, Corringway, Rotherwick Hill and part of Ashbourne Road. This scheme has been introduced for a trial period of 4 months in order to assess its benefits to residents. The scheme is currently funded by a small number of residents on the patrol route. Already many residents have commented that "they feel much safer".



The key objective of a security patrol is to provide a visual deterrent for any would-be criminals who venture onto the Estate. Where similar patrols have been introduced elsewhere, over time these areas have seen a marked reduction in crime. We hope the same will apply to our Estate. Additional benefits for residents who subscribe to the scheme include direct access to the security guard via a dedicated mobile number; a Meet and Greet service and a Holiday Watch service.

In order for the scheme to continue beyond the trial period (which ends on 24th May) we need many more residents to join the scheme to make it financially viable. This will also enable us to look at expanding the scheme to cover the remainder of the Estate.

We sincerely hope that you will see the benefit of a security patrol in improving the safety and security of your family, neighbours and the whole community. To join the scheme (or for further information) please email us at haymills.sf@gmail.com.

Anita Whitham and Aina Suterwalla, Haymills Security Management Group

HMOs (HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY)

Many residents will already be familiar with HMOs (Houses in Multiple Occupancy). These are houses where the residents have individual rooms but share some of the facilities, often bathrooms and kitchens. Since 2018 all but the smallest have required a permit from the local authority, in our case the London Borough of Ealing. Within the area covered by this residents' association there are now 20 HMO's, 13 of them within the Conservation Area. Recently it has become clear that there is some confusion surrounding the obligations of the owners of these houses, and this has focused on two issues, anti-social behaviour and permits. Taking behaviour first, owners do have an obligation as set out in their licence to address complaints regarding their tenants' behaviour that are brought to their attention by neighbours; and if those neighbours are not satisfied with the response they get they can take it up with the licensing authority (the Private Rental Sector Licensing section, who can be contacted by phone on 020 8858 9512 or by email at prslicensing@ealing.gov.uk). Turning to the second issue of permits it has become clear that some owners, and even some of their agents, are not aware that an HMO above a certain size requires not only a permit from the licensing authority but also a change of use permit from the planning authority. As the two authorities have differing concerns, it can happen that an owner can end up in a sort of legal limbo if they have set up the HMO but only succeeded in getting one of the two permits, a hazardous situation for both owner and tenants. Residents that have concerns on any of these matters can seek the advice of the HHERA Chairman.

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

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