

EASTCOTE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
Virtual ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020
Thursday 3rd December at 7.15 for 7.30p.m.
Followed by Open Forum

Questions to Councillors.

1. **What follow-on has there been since the consultation on residents' parking in Oak Grove?** There was a consultation in the summer for residents about parking in Oak Grove. I haven't heard anymore and wondered what the outcome was.

Written Response: The outcome of the consultation is awaited. It is currently with the cabinet member for Planning and Transportation. There has been a delay caused by a backlog that arose in the early stage of the COVID emergency. **Cllr EL**

2. **Can anything be done about the speed of traffic in Lime Grove?** The majority of us in the middle section of Lime Grove do not want yellow lines as this will give the speeders "carte blanche" to go even faster. Only last year a speeding driver took down our neighbour's front fence and damaged her car and the next neighbour's wall and we worry because we have noticed a big increase in the number of young families walking to Warrender Park if a car lost control I wouldn't like to think of the consequences. We understand those residents at the end of Lime Grove where it meets Elm Avenue have a problem with people leaving their cars and going off for the day but it at least it slows the traffic down.

Written Response: The outcome of the informal consultation to assess the demand for a residents parking scheme is awaited. Traffic speeds have been assessed in this road and were not found to require any further action. **Cllr EL**

3. **The light in the alleyway from Lime Grove to Hawthorne Avenue is not working.**

Response: I will ensure this is fixed but these sorts of issues can be reported directly to the Council to prevent delay in getting them fixed by emailing contact@hillingdon.gov.uk. **Cllr IE**
Reported 7th December – has been repaired **Cllr BH**

4. **Is it possible to find out when the footpath between Lime Grove and Hawthorne Avenue will be closed for HS2 works?** HS2 have a lot of information on their website, but they are not good at placing local warning signage in advance of works, other than for closures. Currently they are only showing Lime Grove as 04/01/2021 (presumably a start date) and no information on when the footpath between Lime Grove and Hawthorne Avenue will be closed.

Response: Works in alley 4.01-29.01 **Cllr IE**

5. **The end of Sunningdale Avenue has been closed for a couple of days at least. Is there a process for notifying residents ahead of road works?**

Written Response: Utility companies do have the right to conduct works and many of these are in emergency situations making advance notice difficult. Other works can need 'traffic orders' and these are advertised by means of notices attached to lampposts. **Cllr EL**

7. **What happens to the textiles in the Purple recycling Bags?** It is rumoured that they have been seen to go in with the black sacks.

Response: Textiles should go to be re-used – profits go to Mayor's charity at the end of the year. If residents witness the purple bags going to black waste, please report to councillors. **Cllr ND**

8.a. **Ruislip Lido. Why is the beach still fenced off?**

Response: Was removed today **Cllr ND**

8.b. **What is the purpose of the string of buoys across the centre of the lake?**

Response: To protect northern end which is a protected wildlife area. **Cllr ND**

9. **To what extent has progress on the Climate emergency been compromised by the Covid-19 emergency?**

Hillingdon Council declared a Climate Emergency in January 2020, aiming to become carbon neutral across Council services by 2030. What actions has the Council been able to take towards achieving this target?

Response: 50% reduction in CO2 emissions; All buildings including schools to use renewable energy and fuels from certifiable green sources; vehicles electric or gas as possible; planting 1000 trees; air quality action plan; refuse and recycling team won 'Best Team of the Year Award' at this year's Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee awards (LARAC). The team was rewarded for their innovative work throughout the COVID-19 crisis in keeping staff protected and maintaining weekly collections for residents. Next 6 months will be focused on helping NHS deliver vaccines and track and trace and then would like to see a clear Climate Change strategy and Council benchmarking what they are doing. Learning from other Local Authorities. **ClIr ND**

Question. About traffic congestion because of school traffic - parents parking near Malt House etc Causing blockage in Field End Road.

Answer. There are parking restrictions within 0.25 miles of any schools. Also, residents' parking scheme near Newnham.

10. **What is the Council doing to support vulnerable Residents through this latest outbreak of Covid-19? Does this still affect other services?**

Response: Officers and the council have worked extremely hard during the Covid-19 pandemic and many have had to work from home as well as face the ongoing challenges this has brought into Hillingdon. All meetings have been taken on Microsoft meetings and continued as normal. (see written response below NOTE 1). **ClIr BH** Some requirements like shopping and chemists are now being dealt with in other ways. Some staff who were redeployed (e.g. librarians) are no longer needed and most services have now been resumed. **ClIr IE.**

Post meeting the Chair remembered what was forgotten due to multi-tasking!! And would like to thank the Council for its efforts during the pandemic. It was pleasing to hear that strategies enabling residents' to be more independent are now in place.

11. **What can be done about Fly tipping in Cheney Street.**

Response: Fly tipping is illegal, and the Council prosecute whenever they can and remove it as soon as possible. Street Cleansing is a very efficient service and should respond in 24-48 hours. **ClIr IE**

Discussion: Builders waste left on Cheney Street for many months was reported to Council today. It was felt that here is a need to establish a Feedback loop, with the Council telling residents when their complaints have been dealt with. **ClIr IE**

12. Eastcote Redevelopment Scheme – resident asked about installation of artwork on pavement outside Eastcote Station?

Response: The work planned by the council near Eastcote Station is now complete. The plans never included any artwork beyond that which has already been installed on the bridge. **ClIr EL**

13. Grass verges on Field End Road south of Eastcote Station have been removed.

Answer: The grass verges have been dug up as part of the wildflower meadow project. It is part of a trial to investigate regrowth and help to make an informed decision about future planting.

Response: The grass verges have been planted up as part of the wildflower meadow project. It is part of a trial to investigate which plants will regrow in following seasons to help make informed decisions about future planting schemes. **ClIr HM.**

Resident comments: This has been done in Joel Street. Need to be careful about language 'pollinator's not necessarily 'wild' flowers. Council's work appreciated.

14. What are the Councils Coronavirus vaccinations? - Will report back after group meeting on Monday.

Response: By the end of the month there will be 10 large vaccination centres in North West London, including 3 in Hillingdon. One of those will be at the Winston Churchill Hall. The 3 centres in Hillingdon will be able to deliver 10,000 vaccinations a day. This effort will be supplemented by local GPs, pharmacies and Hillingdon Hospital - so the vaccination capacity in Hillingdon should rise well above the 10,000 per day. Currently (15th January 2021) almost 25% of Hillingdon's over 80s have received their first vaccine. **ClIr ND**

Thank you to the Councillors for engaging with the ERA Open Forum and answering Residents' Questions.

Note 1 relates to question 10. **What is the Council doing to support vulnerable Residents through this latest outbreak of Covid-19?** Does this still affect other services?

Response: Cllr BH as at December 2020

For latest information visit LBH Website <https://hillington.gov.uk/coronavirus>

The Council have continued to provide ALL support throughout the latest outbreak. No Services have been affected.

- You can log into the council website to find the latest advice on Covid-19 and under that a list of support services for vulnerable residents.
- You can also contact your local Cllrs if you are unable to access the internet.

Local support for clinically extremely vulnerable people

- You can request support such as priority supermarket delivery slots from a range of local volunteer schemes as well as NHS Responders (open between 8am and 8pm on 0808 196 3646).
- You can order online, via telephone or book a priority slot at a local supermarket.
- If you do not have online access: Morrison's telephone shopping service: call 0345 611 6111, option 5.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties and are unable to purchase food, the COVID-19 Community Hub can refer you to a local food bank for support. Those meeting the eligibility criteria will receive a food bank parcel. Please call 020 3949 5786 or email COVID19hub@hillington.gov.uk (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

If you have online access, but, have not been able to obtain an online priority slot, please call the COVID-19 Community Hub on 020 3949 5786, who will be able to register you for Tesco and Iceland deliveries.

Government support for clinically extremely vulnerable

Those identified as clinically extremely vulnerable can use a new online service to register themselves to:

- get access to priority supermarket deliveries
- ask for someone to contact you about any local support that's available
- update your details - for example, your address

You will need your NHS number for this, which you can find on any letter the NHS has sent you, or on a prescription.

If you do not have online access, please call COVID-19 Community Hub on 020 3949 5786 who can register you on your behalf.

Get support if you are clinically extremely vulnerable

Community support

The council is working with H4All - a partnership between 5 Hillingdon charities - to offer:

a regular telephone call - if you are feeling lonely and isolated or struggling with your emotions during this time, then we can call you for a friendly chat, as frequently as you need, to see how you are getting on

information and advice - our skilled advice team will contact you on the telephone to support you through the complexities of the welfare benefits system; if you are eligible to claim, we will help with your claim and answer any questions you may have

If you would like to use this service, email COVID19Hub@hillington.gov.uk or call 020 3949 5786 from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

You can also access help and services for your mental wellbeing through the Mind in Hillingdon website.

Additional support

If you or someone you know needs help, the council may be able to offer additional support.

- **Daily living tasks** - anyone who feels that they may be struggling to manage their own or a relative's daily living tasks, such as personal care, may benefit from home care.
[Read more](#)
- **Hot meals** - Apetito can provide a hot or frozen meals service to residents in need.
[Find out more](#)
- **Housing** - Discretionary Housing Payments may be available to top-up housing-related benefit for a limited time to cover housing costs, such as rent.
[Find out more](#)
- **Council tax** - if you're really struggling, you may be able to claim a reduction in council tax.
[Find out if you qualify and apply online](#)
- **Over-65s** - we offer a discount scheme on council tax for households where the taxpayer or their partner is aged 65 or over.
[Find out how to apply](#) or you can call 0300 1231384.
- **Social care** - The government has [provided guidance](#) for those who receive support through direct payments. This information is also available in an [easy read format](#). Skills for Care have also published [guidance for individual employers](#) (PHB holders and direct payment recipients) and PAs during this challenging period.

I would urge everyone to look at the Social Services reports and Universal credit which can be found on the London Borough of Hillingdon website This shows the amazing work staff have achieved over the past few months including seeing a triple surge on Universal credit. Officers have dealt with this incredible rate of increase and are still clearing them in time.

Many Cllrs are also contacting on a one-to-one basis their vulnerable adults and checking in with them.

Hillingdon Carers report is also on their website and on LBH.

They also have a "Care call "system and have taken hundreds of calls and delivered hardship grants, (see reports)

All the general waste rubbish has continued throughout lockdown

Also, vulnerable residents if needed can come into the Civic Centre

Also urge residents to contact H4ALL who again are still support vulnerable residents Please see the latest leaflet showing the services H4ALL is still offering Well bring services/ Community Dev/ Volunteer hub/Counselling hub/ Dementia Befriending and lots more.