

EASTCOTE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Notes for November Zoom Meeting held

Wednesday 29th November 2023, at 7.30 p.m.

Items marked * were circulated and approved prior to meeting.

		Present: ERA committee members (8), sub-committee (1). Apologies: ERA committee members (6)
1.		Welcome - This meeting is a real and concerning example of the repercussions of the lack of a permanent secretary, because we do not have a permanent Chair either, and the secretary would provide pivotal continuity of information to the different chairs of each meeting. Time was spent discussing further suggestions as to how to recruit a secretary. *Open Forum: Message from Treasurer "I was supposed to be on kitchen duty but was let off the hook! I stood with my coffee and surveyed the scene before me – it was truly the 'networking event' advertised! Thank you to everyone who played their part, seamlessly creating a lovely atmosphere for the evening which was enjoyed by all judging from the comments I received from our MP, Cllrs and residents."
2.		*Notes for September Meeting - Agreed by email prior to meeting
3.		Committee Reports - * items sent out in advance and no questions/additions were made – Agreed as read
	1.	Planning
		1. Planning Report discussed at meeting. Help or further information on specific cases can be requested by emailing planning@eastcoteria.co.uk . Many thanks to Cllr IE who has confirmed that the planning agent was advised about the land ownership and new plans for Tudor Hotel have now been submitted with its exclusion. Also, a request to have this land designated for flood mitigation has been passed to Planning for inclusion in their present review on sites and uses.
		*LBH have submitted plans for the new HOAC centre that will be based on Broadwater Lake. The final planning decision will be taken in March 2024
		2. *Town Centre 1. Response from Cllr ND re damage to EASTCOTE sign: An engineer has been tasked with inspecting and repairing the dents. I have also been promised that the Highways Team have this on their radar for any future maintenance. Officers have logged a request for the sign to be cleaned by the councils Street Cleansing team once any necessary repairs have been completed. Will need to check repaired. 2. Wrote to Council Officer thanking them for the very nice Christmas Tree and for displaying the ERA Banner.
	2.	Finance 1.*Possible Events: Faiths Forum Trees – Have agreed to meet Headmaster of Newnham in the New Year 2.*Treasurers Report: Deane Croft Planter being planted next week - Quercus palustris Green Pillar £230 to pay – already approved.
	3.	HARA – (Minutes received post meeting) Speaker CEO CAB Hillingdon <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Covid has taken its toll on the service as a significant number of volunteers did not return after the Covid closures and one of the sites previously used by CAB did not reopen. The geographic size of Hillingdon means that having only one office site makes it difficult for people to get to them and access the advice they need. Currently continuing to use phone and whilst On-line support is still available, it is recognised that this isn't always the best way of interacting with Residents, as indeed some people do not have access to the technology needed for this.• Trying to modernise the way in which they work by developing 'outreach' program - Want to promote service as a Wellbeing service and looking for outreach locations where residents have particular issues for example - currently rotate around some food bank. Looking for venues that can host this work, these need to have private spaces. The other problem is that inevitably there are not enough staff to deal with the number of problems people are experiencing within Hillingdon.• It is recognised that this is an important service, and, that it is acknowledged so by the Government. The Council funds 40 % of the service and the remaining budget is made up from grants (including the lottery) and other charitable funding which they have to apply for. Trying to secure funding away from council as part of their remit is to challenge council. Lack support from community charities as they are also losing funding. Residents' Associations offered to provide any support that they could as it was acknowledged that publicity on behalf of the CAB could have been better and, also asked to look out for and put forward suitable venues for outreach.
	4.	*Health H4All creating directory of who is offering meal on Christmas Day for people on their own. Will put on website when distributed.

		Health and Wellbeing Alliance organises meetings with lots of speakers to give an update on what's going on in Hillingdon. Put meetings on website and ask if anyone interested in attending on behalf of ERA?
	6.	<p>*Newsletter</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.This was delivered to all residents before the Open Forum. 2.Still need to deliver to Shops 3. Need to clarify how to preserve image quality and ensure copyright respected
	7.	<p>Road Stewarding/Membership</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.An email or hand-delivered letter was sent to all Road Stewards in October advising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delivery of printed newsletter, ERA News, to all Eastcote residents • aiming to have members pay the ERA subscription by direct debit. <p>As a follow-on to the receipt of the newsletter and as the membership base is low compared to pre-pandemic, Stewards were asked if they would be prepared to call on doors to request membership sub and/or have a letter printed and role, if they may be prepared to take on another road too.</p> <p>This resulted in some Stewards saying they will return to door to door collecting or have letters printed to drop into doors re paying in other ways, with our appreciative thanks.</p> 2.The ERA Committee hosted a cheese and wine quiz evening on 27th September at St Thomas More Church Hall. Everyone who attended enjoyed the event and the fact it was good to be able to socialise with Committee members and other Stewards. An advance copy of ERA News was available for perusal.
	8.	Transport
		*HS2
		1.Community Engagement – continues
		<p>2. HS2/LBH Traffic</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 6 VMS (Variable Message Signs) that have been installed in preparation of the upcoming Harvil Road Full Road Closures in Jan 2024. These Signs will be updated to show the exact dates of the Road Closures once confirmed. 2.TfL have confirmed that Bus Route U9 will run on Diversion during the Harvil Road Closures in Jan 2024. A full Timetable will be in operation, but the Buses will leave Uxbridge and go as far as A40 Swakeleys Roundabout before beginning their Diversion along the A40 to Denham Roundabout, then along the A412 North Orbital Road, then onto Moorfield Road, then Moorhall Road and then finally onto Harvil Road and then continuing on the normal Bus Route towards Harefield. 3.HS2 Align have recently reached the milestone of 50% completion of the Colne Valley Viaduct. <u>Colne Valley Viaduct</u> 4.There is now a newly Surfaced Footpath to connect The Greenway to The Celandine Route (near Breakspear Rd South/River Pinn) that has been completed by LBH Highways Contractors through Funding provided by the HS2 Local Amenity Fund.