

EASTCOTE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Notes on January Meeting held by Zoom

Wednesday 1st February 2023, at 7.30 p.m.

Present: ERA committee members: (12). Eastcote Cllrs: Nick Denys, Ian Edwards.

Apologies: ERA committee members (3)

1.		Welcome - Chair welcomed everyone.
	1.	No new Residents' issues.
2.		Notes meeting 30th November 2023 - Approved
3.		Matters Arising
		2022.10.1.1.2 Frightening Halloween Shop displays – Response: Cllr Denys has been told that there are no standards or guidelines for such displays. Officers will only get involved if the displays are in breach of street trading or highway obstruction rules
		2022.11.5.3 St Thomas More have very kindly agreed to carry over the payment made to Hire Hall for the October 2022 Open Forum meeting which was cancelled at last moment.
		2022.11.5.7.1.1. North View carpark – planning application for a car pound at the far end approved.
		2022.11.5.7.1.3. Both applications for Telecomms masts to be installed in Eastcote were refused.
		2022.11.6.1 Eastcote Cricket Club meeting moved to February 2023.
		2022.11.6.3. Report on accessibility Cavendish/Bessingby Park – it has been confirmed that there have been no changes to any of the paved entrances since the report was made and it can now be sent to local councillors. Future Accessibility issues will be reported under Planning.
4.		Discussion - Future Meetings
		1.Suggested Dates Agreed as follows: Zoom: February meeting Wednesday 1st March, March meeting Wednesday 29th March. In person: April meeting Wednesday 26th April, AGM Tuesday 23rd May, June meeting Wednesday 28th June. Zoom if necessary: July meeting Wednesday 2nd August. No August Meeting In person: September meeting Wednesday 27th September, OF Wednesday 25th October. Zoom: Wednesday 29th November. No December Meeting. Confirmed dates to be advertised via poster on ERA noticeboards and in events diary.
		2. AGM Tuesday 23rd May
		1. Need to arrange a speaker – suggested Talk by Fire Service to include raising awareness of BBQ safety and other hazards in gardens and local green spaces causing wild fires during dry summers.
		2. Collection of sound system ahead of the meeting
5.		Committee Reports
	1.	1. Flooding – Still no Flood Officers
		1.Puddles on Roads - Eastcote appears to have lots of puddles collecting on the roads which appear to be there as a result of leaves blocking access to gully's, as they do not appear to have been swept up this year. LBH TREE STRATEGY 2023 states 'The council's street cleansing team will clear debris deposited as part of a tree's natural cycle (e.g. leaves, seeds, fruit etc.) on public footpaths and highways...'
		2.Difficulty reporting issues - In particular, the corner of Meadow Way/Field End Road which has been reported several times, but unfortunately there is currently no flood officer to take this matter forward. A resident reported that the current reporting system was not adequate. Contact centre gave information about contacting Flooding, so the information was given again only to receive a response came from the Highways Team to say the case was closed as 'information provided' The information provided was a stock explanation of how roads and gullies work! but did not say what, if any action had been taken. This was considered by the resident to be an inadequate response.
		2. HARA
		1.Unable to attend November meeting – speaker was from Battle of Britain Bunker. Museum open 7 days a week (excepting Bank Holidays) and the Bunker holds guided tours. Visited by a wide range of people from the Military, tour groups, and WW2 historical group. Also, many educational visits - there is a full time Education officer. Available for Corporate events. Getting there: plenty of free parking, U3 5 minute walk,

		Uxbridge station 10/15 minute walk. Access: The site is listed so not possible to put in a lift, there are quite a few stairs, so the site offers the opportunity to watch a recording of the bunker tour in the auditorium. 2. Meeting 30th January – no speaker - awaiting minutes.
		3. HS2 1. Community Engagement meeting 5th December 2022 1. The environment agency has been updated and flood prevention measures around Breakspear Road South now in place. 2. HS2 have spoken to drivers regarding appropriate routes for HGV's travelling to West Ruislip. 3. Hillingdon has not received as much funding as other areas in Phase One, hence it is a priority area. Please encourage local organisations to apply. Community Engagement meeting 30 January 2023 – awaiting minutes.
		2. Tours – spaces still available Site Visit 1 to West Ruislip Portal Thursday 09 February 2023 10:00AM Site Visit 2 to Align South Portal and Colne Valley Viaduct 10 March or 21 April. 9.30AM
		2. HS2/LBH Traffic – last meeting 24 th Jan 2023 – Residents need to continue to check for road closures on Breakspear Road South and Harvil Road – they shouldn't both be closed at the same time! Harvil Road will be a full road closure for the next 3 weeks.
	2.	Environment 1. London Green Belt Council - No Green Belt news this month. ERA subscription £25 due.
		2. Need to watch out for and advertise Restart Parties – opportunities for residents to get help repairing household items.
	3.	Finance – Following payments agreed. Printing of Flyer £256, Stables Hire for Road Stewards Tea £43 and Public Liability Insurance £96.
	4.	Health - Still need someone to come forward to take on this role
	5.	Newsletter – Still need some-one to come forward to take on this role.
	6.	Parks
		1. RWMAG 1. RRA, NRA, ERA, NRFlag, EFlag and ECP supported RWMAG proposals to Thames Regional Flood & Coastal Committee (ThRFCC) asking for 1) A Unified Flood Reporting system. 'The ThRFCC to work with Thames Water and the EA to have a UFRS, (Unified Flood Reporting System) in operation before the end of 2023'. 2) The Environment Agency has no budget for maintenance of Natural Flood Management installations. The Thames Region of the EA has a maintenance budget of around £20m per year. 'The ThRFCC to encourage the EA to include the maintenance of NFM installations in the Maintenance Program Allocation before the end of the current 6-Year program'. 2. Discussed Boundary issues – developers are encroaching into the woods, there is a concern that lack of enforcement could create a precedent. 3. Unable to find a Metropolitan Police Wildlife Officer. 4. Objections to lighting on sports field led to discussion on bats and the possibility of a survey. This would require borrowing or a sponsor to purchase of detectors
		2. FEHG 1. Remedial and rebuilding work to the Walled Garden walls is now complete. Work is being carried out on the flower beds affected by the work to the walls. Any necessary replanting will be actioned as necessary. 2. Preparatory work for the Summer Picnic on June 10th is now taking place. 3. A number of new trees, some sponsored are to be planted at EHG, one of which will be paid for by FEHG to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles
	7.	Planning 1. Planning Report discussed at meeting. Help or further information on specific cases can be requested by emailing planning@eastcotera.co.uk .
		2. Town Centre
		2022.11.5.7.2.1. Response from Cllr EL: "From the initial draft report, it is not clear what we are seeking to achieve in extending the conservation area. The shops largely consist of modern shop fronts with only limited examples of original features. I have additional concerns about imposing additional costs on traders

		wishing to amend their premises particularly at a time when trading conditions are difficult. I have requested further work but I have no timescale on this at present.”
		3. Accessibility – see under matters arising.
	8.	Policing – No Report as no minutes. Next meeting of SNT Ward Panel on 15 February
	9.	Road Stewarding/Membership 1.ERA financial year goes to end of March so only subs paid in by then will be taken as for this year 22/23.
	10.	Transport 1.LB Harrow have now fully introduced their first hour free policy (for all) in the Borough Car Parks although it needs to be accessed via an app. Some local shops have agreed, and are nominated, to register those who cannot use an app or wish to pay by cash. Not sure how this will work. (It has been suggested that this free parking may encourage Eastcote shoppers to head to Pinner for shopping, to the detriment of our High Street)
		2. FoMLUC - met with Met Line management on 19 December 2022. Minutes circulated to committee members.
	11.	Web & Tech 1.Audience for the e-weekly is fairly static, despite the leafletting that was done. People do click through to events and news items so it does work! 2.There are a number of organisations who engage, providing their events and news to ERA website, that is slowly growing. Ongoing, the challenge is getting <i>most</i> organisations to do this. Can LBH let us know what events there are in the area – it’s hard to find on the council website and is not formatted in a way that can easily be copied across to post on our website
6		AOB
	1.	London Borough of Hillingdon and Brunel University London have signed a civic partnership agreement. This seeks to promote partnership working to benefit the local community in training, employment, sustainability and more. https://www.brunel.ac.uk/news-and-events/news/articles/New-civic-partnership-forged-to-benefit-Hillingdon-communities
	2.	FEHG taking part in Big Spring Clean UP, a Keep Britain Tidy initiative on Saturday 18 March 2023
	3.	Has/Will the tree in grass triangle Rodney Gardens/Burwood Avenue which was knocked over been/be replaced.
		Meeting closed: 20.27 Future Meetings – Zoom: February meeting 1st March, March meeting 29th March. In person: April meeting 26th April, AGM 23rd May, June meeting 28th June, Zoom if necessary - July meeting 2nd August, In person: September meeting 27th September, OF 25th October. Zoom 29th November