

NORTHWOOD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Extracts from the minutes of Meeting 8 August 2023, 8pm in the Family Room,
Methodist Church, Oaklands Gate

Present: Tony Ellis, Sue Mansfield, Hoda Lacey, Ros Plume, Peter Lansdown, Philip Green, Andrew Egan, Paul Barker, Amir Lakha, Jan Harding, Miles Gillman, Trevor Sherling, Vijay Kotecha, John King

1 Apologies for Absence: Valerie Mellor, Rajen Shah

2. Minutes of 11 July Meeting
were approved

3. Matters Arising:
None

4. Correspondence
From RP:

- Email from a resident concerning illegal camping in Frithwood Park. Passed to AE and both councillors. Cllr Lewis reported it through Member Services. The resident also reported it to the SNT. No feedback as to what the result was.
- Resident offering to deliver newsletters. Passed to PB.
- Resident of Bennett Close seeking help to get the council to carry out maintenance in Crowe's Nest playground. The wood retaining the borders has rotted and is in a dangerous state. Passed to Cllr Lewis who passed it back to me. The resident now has our MP on side, he has written to LBH.
- Same resident as above wanting to provide some play equipment for Crowe's Nest. Referred her to the Ward Budget scheme.
- Chester Road resident enquiring about her sub being 'not yet paid' though she took her envelope to Sharman's about a month ago. Passed to Membership and Treasurer. JH investigating.
- Email to MG from me expressing concern at the health of the NRA and NHRA trees planted in the Recreation Ground. Two flowering cherries appear to have died and the Platinum Jubilee field maple is rocking about in the wind, it needs better support. MG to inform LBH contact. No feedback yet.
- Email from a local author encouraging us to 'Light up Northwood' with motion sensor LEDs in dark alleyways. Passed to exec members for comment.
- Newsletter in compressed pdf form sent to Dene Road RA for distribution to their members, asked for acknowledgement of receipt. No response yet.

From TE:

- Re Bennett Close: The council should be doing maintenance, including replacing rotten wood. TE has asked Cllr Henry Higgins to investigate sources of funding. TE recommended a committee be set up, which he would be prepared to chair, to make improvements to the small recreation ground. RP suggested purchase of children's toys to be kept in a secure place within the ground, which would only be accessible by users of the ground.

PG noted that Cllr Henry Higgins is a candidate for the GLA representing Hillingdon and Ealing.

It was agreed to give £600 to MHA Communities (Northwood Live at Home) to pay for an outing.

TE

5.	Feedback and Communication All committee members are requested to feedback on notification of a specific request for action or point of information from RP, TE or other committee members. If the sender does not know whether the recipient has even received the notification, or done anything about it on behalf of the committee, the matter is left hanging and unresolved.	ALL
6.	Timely Delivery of Newsletters A few instances of late delivery of newsletters were noted. New RS and ARS procedures to be published as soon as fully agreed should alleviate this. However need to take holidays, human error etc may not allow everything to happen exactly as we would wish.	
7.	Former Police Station No further information. AE will tell the council that the exterior hedges have grown to the point of needing cutting back.	AE
8.	TfL Development No further information.	
9.	MVH Cancer Centre No further information.	
10.	Pop-up events 16 September event. <i>From RP</i> 11am to 1pm. Northwood Lions have accepted our invitation. MHA Communities (Northwood Live at Home) would also like a stall. Our councillors and MP have accepted the invitations to join us. <i>From MG:</i> The licence has been granted.	SM
11.	Subcommittee Reports	
11a	Membership The new Membership Secretary's job description is being worked on, and John King has agreed to consider it. If the new procedures are agreed by PB, PG, VK and JH, and acceptable to John, John can be formally coopted to the committee at the next meeting. John is an ex-accountant, and very used to spreadsheets etc. Insurance needs to be added to the responsibilities of the Treasurer. TE offered an event at his home to introduce the new procedures to all ARSs.	PB, PG, VK, JH
11b	Finance JH reported that Nationwide will not open a business account. VK will lend JH a more powerful computer for NRA business.	TE VK
11c	Police Further information from the Brunel Meeting: A PC or PCSO can detain a shop thief for up to 30 minutes to allow time for other police to get there. This is often not enough. They can also require the name and address of the thief. Safer Neighbourhood and Ward Panels were recognised as not working properly. An undertaking was given that Ward Panels would be resuscitated. 500 new PCSOs are to be recruited across the Met, and will be permanent in SN and not taken off for other work. Their base offices should be within a 15 mins walk of their 'Patch'	

11d	Woods and Open Spaces Some of the trees planted in the Recreation ground appear to have died from lack of water MG Has reported to the council and awaits a response.	MG
11e	Business membership MG will discuss her Christmas ideas with Jennifer O'Dwyer. Our lights budget is secure, so our lights will not be cut and we may benefit from availability of coloured lights.	MG
11f	Environment Work preparatory to laying fibre cable in the streets is taking place to identify potential blockages. AE will tell Ian Edwards, Leader of the Council of uneven pavements, particularly in Rowland Place, as no interest has been shown in correcting them and two people have already fallen there.	AE
11g	Traffic and Highways PL has, as yet, had no response to his request to the council to widen its traffic survey back to the original. The ULEZ boundary goes along most of Green Lane but it is not clear if use of that part of Green Lane requires ULEZ compliance.	
11h	Planning Northwood College have permission to use their playing fields at all times of all days of the week as a two-year pilot. No permission to use floodlights was asked for. The advert stand in Clive Parade is still at appeal. No such appeals have so far been granted.	
11i	Health In addition to strikes already noted, measles and Covid cases are now increasing.	
11j	Communications. <i>From RP:</i> Website. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posted on website since last report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Various forthcoming local events: Colne Valley Festival, Northwood FC fixtures, Balsam Bashing • Several local groups requested updates to their entries which I have done. • Updated Police email address, thanks to a resident for pointing out that the old one no longer works. • Emma Clarke has brought the website software up to date for us. 	
12.	AOB <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter. FromRP: Went to press on time and delivered to PB a day early on Thursday 27th July. I'm not happy with the colour quality and have talked to Kevin, our printer about it. He is investigating what happens to the file before the print run - I don't know the whole process, but they use a 'raster image processor (RIP) or 'ripping process" and this is where the colour has been changed. I'll bring some back copies to the meeting to show you the differences between issues, even though I change nothing. 	

The meeting ended at 21.59

Next Meeting: Tuesday 12 September, 2023

Appendix: REPORTS

CRS Report

I did a new analysis of all recorded members who had paid a sub this year, or in the two previous years, who should receive a Newsletter.

2,100 Summer Newsletters (#184) were ordered including adequate spares. They were delivered to me 27 July in 33 named boxes. All but one have now been collected by ARSs for distribution by their RSs. With help from my grandson(!) 17 Newsletters have been hand-delivered to Associate members.

Instructions for ARSs and RSs on how to access our new membership db (mmjo) to see pertinent data for just their members is being tested and clarity being improved as a result of feedback.

Those instructions are nearly ready for distribution, but meanwhile I have extracted and emailed the data on request for a dozen or so RSs, so they had up-to-date info on which of their members needed to be reminded to pay a sub.

Vijay Kotecha has been working on this and will continue working as Database Manager in preparing the mmjo system to generate automatic subscription requests in future, and to automate cashless payment entries on the system. We are seeking a member to act as Membership Secretary to share those present duties with Vijay and have a prospect.

We will then have a team of myself as CRS, Jan Harding as Treasurer, a new MemSec and Vijay as db Manager in the NRA membership management team, with Jan and MemSec handling subs and data collection and reporting between them.

Philip Green has been given administrator privileges so he can access and enter / update data on mmjo for the Business members.

Paul Barker
CRS & DPO

Police Report

Overview:

John Usher is now back on duty. I have met him twice since then to discuss various matters.

Of note is that on his first day back on duty, he apprehended a thief who was escaping to the tube station with his stolen goods. John chased after him and retrieved the goods.

He has been patrolling the area on a bicycle in a yellow High vis jacket.

Recent Activities:

I speak on a regular basis with various related individuals.

These are the most important physical meetings.

Meeting with Jennifer O'Dwyer, Sgt Gareth Blackburn and PC Mani Sohal:

At Three Wishes. To discuss recent criminal and ASB incidents in the Green Lane area. We agreed a process for reporting to the SNT and our expectation of a swift response.

Meeting with Keith Weston, Gareth Blackburn and PC Sohal:

At Casa Mia. Among other matters we discussed a possible meeting for all Business Watch members. Previous meetings for NRA business members have been met with little interest.

Gareth suggested using Microsoft Teams and agreed to chair. We would ask for members to submit their views, questions and concerns in advance. This way, we could gauge interest and receive feedback with little cost and effort. We could also canvas support for a physical meet-up with other interested parties.

Brunel University Event:

This took place on 25 July to present the "New Met for London" event. This is the new and improved version of the previous "Turnaround Plan.

Tony Ellis and I attended. Also present from our Police Ward Panel were Keith Weston and Malcolm Lucas. Between Tony and myself we made and renewed contacts and spoke to many of the top brass.

Attending were the Deputy London Commissioner Dame Lynne Owens, Chief Superintendent Sean Wilson. Superintendent Anthony Bennett, Inspector Ben Wright and many others.

Steve Tuckwell attended and was visible and available to all. He is also a Ruislip councillor together with Peter Smallwood. We had a useful discussion about creating (or reviving) a regular meeting with all Police Ward Panels.

We had three breakout/workshop meetings in separate rooms following the presentation. Both Tony and I attended the Community Policing workshop. Many of the attendees expressed dissatisfaction with the service provided by their local SNT.

Other matters:

The British Retail Consortium said there were 8m instances of theft from shops last year, which cost businesses nearly £1bn. The Office for National statistics reports a 22% rise. The Government now plans to

force judges to impose jail terms when sentencing repeat offenders for shoplifting, burglary, theft and common assault, using new legislation to be included in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.

<https://www.policeprofessional.com/news/shoplifters-who-commit-repeat-offences-face-jail-with-retail-crime-spiralling-out-of-control/>

Hoda Lacey
6 Aug 23

Woods and Open Spaces Report

I have reported to LBH that Ros noticed the Jubilee trees in Chestnut Av were looking a bit peaky and waiting for a response.

In the last month there have been two more well attended Himalayan balsam clearing sessions and a couple of guided walks.

No news on HS2.

Miles Gillman

Business Report

Business subs continue to trickle in after I chased members for their subscriptions. I gave them all until August to pay or lose their membership.

Metricoid Technology Solutions have moved to Harrow so no longer members. Please remove from your mmjo and the website.

Now I have been signed in as an administrator I am slowly updating and adding to the business membership entries. In my opinion there are too many columns but perhaps they all have a purpose.

Julie Holliday Hair contacted me again about customer tripping outside her shop on uneven ground. This was passed to Andrew and the councillors. RL received a reply from the council which is wholly unacceptable but he seems to have decided he cannot progress it further. Andrew may have more to add.

I did not get a reply from Howard regarding advertisers or the income from each.

Philip Green

Environment Report

The Council continues to defend the condition of Northwood pavements particularly around Rowland Place in spite of another resident falling near the hairdresser's shop. What is indefensible is the failure to acknowledge that there is an uneven pavement / manhole cover area outside the hairdressers that requires action.

Come on Hillingdon - do what is right and fix it - please.

Following the intervention of a strong-minded resident reporting overnight temporary sleepers (apparently males) in a local Northwood park, an intervention occurred, the 'guests' departed and clearance of rubbish left was requested. The swift reporting action by the resident should be applauded.

The water leak by the newly resurfaced tennis courts has been fixed but the multi coloured surface of one of these renovated courts has been discoloured – mostly bleached white. Attention has been requested.

Many trees lining the pavements in Maxwell and Murray Roads have had low lying branches trimmed and base growth removed. Similar attention to some trees in Dene Rd has been requested.

The lack of regular visible policing in Northwood continues. It would be good to see a return of police walking around neighbourhood streets - as is a normal occurrence in nearby Pinner. The trendy 'Meet a Copper in Costa' is no substitute for visible policing. If walking around our roads is too difficult, then policing with policemen & policewomen on bikes, could be a reasonable substitute.

You may have noticed white vans with a name Instalacom printed in red in Northwood. This firm is checking out the capability of routing fibre communications cable in existing piped cable runs and marking our pavement surfaces where blockages are perceived. Another firm will no doubt be contracted to dig up pavements and to clear blockages before possibly a third entity places in the fibre cables, and then pavements are repaired. Sounds familiar? Several months ago another firm laid fibre cable from beyond Mount Vernon Hp along the Rickmansworth Road and pavements to Northwood Hills roundabout and then onto Pinner Green. It is remarkable just how long it is taking to move from old twisted pair cabling to fibre optic cable, and it could be at least another 12 months before any sign of completion.

Andrew Egan - Environment

Traffic and Highways

Northwood Traffic Survey

The Leader appears to have picked up on only one of 10 recommendations in the report, which was subsequently covered by a petition. I mentioned this to him in an email of 19th July, while listing the 10 recommendations in the report. The only response so far has been a holding email by return from the PA, "Ian is currently on annual leave and by copy I shall ask [@Cllr Jonathan Bianco](#) to respond."

ULEZ

As you will all know by now, the legal action brought by Hillingdon Council, along with Bexley, Bromley and Harrow and Surrey County, has been thrown out.

The expansion of the ULEZ area is now scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 29th August 2023, three weeks from the date of our meeting.

From available maps (short on detail), I understand that the area of Northwood to the north of Green Lane, including most of Green Lane, Watford Road and the north west section of Rickmansworth Road is outside of the expanded ULEZ area.

Peter Lansdown
traffichighways@northwoodresidents.co.uk

NRA / LBH Northwood Ward Planning Report : August 2023 (23:08 Planning NRA)

Planning Applications – No Objection / Comment

Validation Date	Address	Application Detail	
30 th June 2023	15 GREEN LANE NORTHWOOD	Section 73 application to vary condition 2 of Planning Permission Ref: 68153/APP/2019/1319, dated 27-05-20, to allow revisions to the parking arrangements on site, incorporating the removal of the basement and moving the car parking from the basement to the surface (situated in front of the consented block) and associated external amendments to the site.	
26 th June 2023	84 COPSE WOOD WAY NORTHWOOD	Details pursuant to the discharge of Conditions 3 (construction management plan), 7 (landscape), 9 (step free access), 11 (external materials) and 12 (door and window product details) of planning permission ref. 28836/APP/2022/3779, dated 14-02-2023 (Erection of a two storey, five-bed dwelling with associated parking and landscaping, including the demolition of the existing dwelling)	
26 th June 2023	30 ANTHUS MEWS NORTHWOOD	To fell one Ash T20, Limb reduce by 3m to 2 Ash trees T21 & T22. To crown reduce by 2m property side one Ash T17 and one Copper Beech T1. All within TPO 305.	An Arboricultural Report is attached
6 th July 2023	TIMBERS 26 GATEHILL ROAD NORTHWOOD	Erection of a front porch infill, part single and part double storey side and rear extension with amendments to fenestration. Conversion of garage to habitable room.	
6 th July 2023	34 HIGH STREET NORTHWOOD	Installation of a new shopfront within the front elevation	
4 th July 2023	117 HILLIARD ROAD NORTHWOOD	Erection of a single storey side/rear extension with rooflight and amendments to fenestrations. Erection of a rear dormer and roof light	
3 rd July 2023	10 WOODGATE CRESCENT NORTHWOOD	Retrospective application for the erection of boundary fencing	
6 th July 2023	CETLAS FARM ROAD NORTHWOOD	Proposed partial demolition and Proposed erection of part single storey and part double storey front, side and rear extensions. Increasing of the ridge height to create habitable roofspace including 5no. dormers and 1 rooflight. Conversion of garage to habitable use. Alterations to all fenestrations including 1 additional first floor side facing window and door	
7 th July 2023	1 GREEN LANE NORTHWOOD	Erection of a single storey side extension and installation of 2 no. sliding doors with amendments to fenestrations	
6 th July 2023	2 EBURY CLOSE NORTHWOOD	Details Pursuant to Condition 3 (Arboricultural Method Statement) of planning ref. 36204/APP/2023/702 dated 08/06/2023 for the Erection of a double storey rear extension, double storey side extension, double storey front extension, conversion of roof space to habitable use to include roof configuration with two small dormers at the rear. New canopy at the entrance.	
27 th June 2023	25 LINKSWAY NORTHWOOD	Details pursuant to the discharge of Conditions 8 (landscaping scheme) and 10 (Tree Protection) of planning permission ref. 38787/APP/2021/1713, dated 29-11-2021 (Demolition of the existing building and the erection of a 2 storey, 7 bedroom detached dwellinghouse, including the excavation of a basement to provide habitable space and a sunken squash court with associated works)	

5 th July 2023	25 LANGTON GROVE NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery - to cut back to previous points one Weeping Willow at T21 within TPO 114	
11 th July 2023	5A LINKSWAY NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery - to crown reduce by 2m four x Oak trees - T1,T2,T3,T4 on map. To reduce side overhang by 2m from lateral spread one Silver Birch - T6 on map. All in Area 1 within TPO 390.	
19 th July 2023	21 FRITHWOOD AVENUE NORTHWOOD	To fell one Oak at T33 and to fell one Horse Chestnut at T41 both within TPO 156	An Arboricultural Report is attached. Crawford & Co
19 th July 2023	UPLANDS COURT, 19 FRITHWOOD AVENUE NORTHWOOD	To fell one Lime at T32 within TPO 156.	An Arboricultural Report is attached
20 th July 2023	26 LINKSWAY NORTHWOOD	To fell Three Lawson Cypress and Two Hornbeams, to fell to 1m stumps One Hazel all within Area 1 on TPO 95	An Arboricultural Report is attached
6 th July 2023	NORTHWOOD COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION MAXWELL ROAD NORTHWOOD	Remodel the existing link walkway to the entrance of the college, by retaining the existing lower brickwork and installing timber Sash windows with painted timber fascia boards and a flat roof	
17 th July 2023	7 WOODRIDGE WAY NORTHWOOD	Erection of a front extension with amendments to fenestrations, roof lanterns and conversion of garage to habitable room	
11 th July 2023	3A THE DRIVE NORTHWOOD	Conversion of integral garage to habitable accommodation.	
10 th July 2023	3A THE DRIVE NORTHWOOD	Erection of outbuilding to rear garden (Application for a Certificate of Lawful Development for a Proposed Development)	
12 th July 2023	32 DENE ROAD NORTHWOOD	Erection of a front porch with canopy and two columns	
11 th July 2023	16 MURRAY ROAD NORTHWOOD	Erection of part two-storey, part single-storey rear extension with balcony to the rear. Conversion of roof space to habitable use to include rear dormer and 3 new side facing roof lights. Removal of front porch, replacement of windows to dwelling, increase in height of chimney stack and amendments to fenestration	
26 th July 2023	11 GREENHEYS CLOSE NORTHWOOD	Removal of existing conservatory and erection of a two storey side extension, to widen the existing front and rear doors, first floor window changes front and rear elevations. Part conversion of back of garage to habitable use.	

Planning Applications – Objections / Comments Made

Validation Date	Address	Application Detail	Comment
3 rd July 2023	23 NICHOLAS WAY NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery - to crown reduce by 2m three x Oak trees at T12, T13 and T14 within TPO 234.	Whilst there are some notes in the application and a photo attached, there is no detailed Arboricultural Report attached to the application justifying the proposed work
17 th July 2023	28 NICHOLAS WAY NORTHWOOD	To fell & replace one Oak, two Hornbeams (T6,T10,T11 on map). To fell one Cedar (T31 on map) To crown lift 1-2m clearance beyond new building line three Oaks (T24,T56,T62 on map). To crown reduce by 2-3m three Oaks (T60,T80,T82 on map). All in TPO 398 within Area 1.	Whilst there are some notes attached to the application there is no detailed Arboricultural Report justifying the proposed work.

19 th July 2023	27 EASTBURY ROAD NORTHWOOD	Part retrospective planning application for a two storey front extension and part two storey part single storey rear extension. Conversion of roof space to habitable use to include 5 x roof lights and 1 side dormer. Conversion of integral garage to habitable use with replacement of garage door with new front facing window. Erection of outbuilding to rear garden.	Comment: It is not stated whether the increased size of the building breaches or complies with the 45 degree rule with No 25. The outbuilding set along the back boundary is close to the house to the rear and more particularly exceeds 30 sq m as stated in the Local Plan.
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Planning Appeals :

Planning Appeals : Decisions

NORTHWOOD GOLF CLUB RICKMANSWORTH ROAD NORTHWOOD

Erection of a greenkeepers storage facility (stand alone unit)

Decision: Approved

Reasons: The proposed development would not be inappropriate in the Green Belt.

Pavement Outside 8-10 Rowland PI GREEN LANE NORTHWOOD

Installation of 1 no. internally illuminated freestanding double-sided digital advertisement unit

Decision: Refused

Reasons: The proposed advertisement would introduce a tall, prominent, internally illuminated digital advertisement into surroundings where no such advertisement exists. By its very nature, and unlike the existing modest non-illuminated advertisements in the surrounding area, the proposed advertisement would appear prominently and draw the eye to its illuminated screens during the daytime and during hours of darkness.

it would appear as an incongruous and visually intrusive addition, out of keeping with the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

The appellant, in support of its case, states that the proposed advertisement would support the vibrancy of the town centre and incorporate energy efficiency measures. However, the proposal would be detrimental to visual amenity and I do not consider that this is something that these supporting factors, either individually or taken together, would change or outweigh and hence my conclusion.

2 EBURY CLOSE NORTHWOOD

Erection of two storey rear and front extensions with a canopy to the front entrance, single storey side extension. Conversion of roof space to habitable accommodation to include two small rear dormers and roof lights, rear balcony. Alterations to fenestration.

Decision: Refused

Reasons: The proposed development would involve the considerable extension of the dwelling, including the creation of a large crown roof towards the rear, which would rise above the height of the existing main roof, resulting in an unduly awkward appearance. Further, the height and scale of the proposed roof would result in it appearing unduly prominently in its surroundings and as such, I find that it would draw attention to itself as an incongruous feature.

The harm arising as a result of the above would be exacerbated as a result of the disproportionately large extension to the rear of the dwelling, whereby the combination of the proposed roof and considerable projection to the rear at a two-storey height would result in the proposal failing to appear subordinate to, but rather, overwhelming and subsuming the original appearance of the host dwelling.

Further to the above, additional harm would arise as a result of the proposed front canopy appearing as a tall, bulky and prominently located forward projection which, in combination with the proposed rear extension and roof, would to add to the proposal's failure to appear subordinate to the host dwelling and would result in a development of such overall scale as to erode the spacious attributes of the area.

Planning Appeals : Submitted

6 CULLERA CLOSE NORTHWOOD

Erection of a part single storey, part double storey rear extension

18 THE BROADWALK NORTHWOOD

Erection of a single storey extension at rear of existing garage

Planning Decisions Where Objections / Comments Made:

91 COPSE WOOD WAY NORTHWOOD

To fell One Oak within Area 1 on TPO 398

Decision: Refused

Reasons: The proposed work is unjustified and will have a negative impact on the amenity of the area.

Enforcement Action By LBH

None

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

Pavement Outside 8 Clive Parade, Northwood: I made an appeal submission in connection with the advertising hubs opposing the applications, and a second submission after the appeal decision in Pavement Outside 8-10 Rowland Place, Green Lane, Northwood where the appeal was refused.

ACTION POINTS FROM LAST MINUTES:

Northwood Golf Club: The application for a greenkeepers storage facility has been approved on appeal (see above).

Health Report

Junior Doctors and Consultants to go on Strike

The British Medical Association have confirmed that junior doctors will be taking industrial action from 7am on Friday 11 August until 06.59am on Tuesday 15 August 2023.

Medical consultants are set to walk out for two days on 24th and 25th August 2023.

Hospitals are working very hard to keep the disruption to urgent patients at a minimum, and to protect the safety, welfare and service provided to patients and service users. The strike will, however, have an impact on NHS services, and they ask the public to be aware of how to ensure they get the help they need during the industrial action.

Patients with appointments booked on strike days will be contacted if their appointment needs to be rescheduled. If you have not been contacted, you should still attend your appointment as planned.

GP services may be busier than usual. Consider using your GP surgeries online consultation form if they have one.

Regardless of industrial action, please continue to seek urgent medical care if someone is seriously ill or injured, or his or her life is at risk.

Call 111 online as the first port of call for health needs and continue to only use 999 if it is a life-threatening emergency.

Robotic surgery innovation at West Herts: Training the trainees with Versius

Robotic surgery at Watford General Hospital - West Herts Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust - continues to go from strength to strength and is now boasting another key milestone; training specialist trainees on the skills and techniques required to perform colorectal and upper gastrointestinal surgery via robotics. The new approach, recently implemented, means specialist trainees can receive first-hand training in this innovative technology.

West Herts became one of the first NHS trusts in the country to install two Versius robots to assist with surgical operations. The state-of-the-art robots (created by CMR Surgical) made their debut in July 2022 and are successfully being used to perform colorectal, upper gastrointestinal, gynaecology and urology operations. More and more hospitals will have robots such as this in place.”

END OF REPORTS