

NORTHWOOD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Extracts from the minutes of Meeting 9 April 2024, 8pm in the Family Room,
Methodist Church, Oaklands Gate

Present: Tony Ellis, Sue Mansfield, Ros Plume, Peter Lansdown, Jan Harding, Trevor Sherling, Paul Barker, Valerie Mellor, Andrew Egan, Neha Tanna, Vijay Kotecha, John King, Hoda Lacey, Brian Geminder, Rajen Shah

1 Apologies for Absence: Miles Gillman

2. Minutes of 12 March Meeting
were approved

3. Matters Arising:
See AOB

4. Correspondence
From RP:

- Note from Fruity Fresh pointing out that they have a café which was not included in the Eateries feature in the newsletter. Have apologised and listed them under both 'Retail' and 'Restaurant, café, take-away' on the Business members page of the website.
- Resident concerned about 'suspicious persons' looking round his porch/garage. Advised him to dial 101 or email SNT, copied HL.
- Request from teacher at Northwood College for digital version of Gravel Pits map, he found it on our website before I had a chance to send it!
- Request from 'Rehab4Addiction' to include their helpline on our website. This is a business, so ignored.

5. Former Police Station
No further information

6. TfL Development
TE to write to David Simmonds MP saying that Station Approach is getting more dilapidated and needs attention. The bridge is TfL property, the walkways either side of it are LBH. Raise this matter at the AGM.

TE

7. Pop-up events
From RP:

- The Northwood Lions have confirmed attendance. With Miles' approval I have invited 6th Northwood Scout Group (Oaklands Gate) to join us. They will probably sell home-made cakes, to be confirmed.
- Is anyone coming from HNW?
- Have councillors been invited?- Yes by MG

8. AGM 2024
All to tell TE of any matters they wish him to raise in his address.

ALL

From RP:

- Church and sound system booked and paid for, from 7.30pm to 10pm
- Our guest speaker, Cllr Eddie Lavery, will be accompanied by one of the managers in the waste services team who is liaising with the church regarding their audio-visual requirements.
- I have name badges for most of the exec – MG and HL: I assume you have yours at home, let me know if you need new ones. I will make new ones for Jan, Brian, Neha.
- I will provide sign-in sheets.
- Copies of accounts – JH. 75 required.

RP

JH

- I'll print a few copies of the agenda for the guest speakers.
- Map of roads with RS vacancies is not needed
- Roving mics – two volunteers please. BG and RS volunteered
- Spare newsletters would be useful in the foyer.
- All to arrive in good time to meet & greet.
- All to help tidy up afterwards

BG,
RS

ALL

HL to invite St Helens and Northwood College

HL

9. Subcommittee Reports

9a Woods and Open Spaces

No further information

MG

9b Traffic and Highways

Re Traffic Survey, TE spoke to the LBH head of Diplomatic Services who recommended writing to the councillor responsible.

PL reported a bad accident where Eastbury Avenue joins the Watford Road on April 6.

TE

9c Finance

The interest received will be added to the accounts. JH to present the accounts at the AGM and ask for approval to raise the subscription from £2 to £3 from Jan 1 2025. Block invoices will be sent out in May.

JH thanked all those who had supported the cancer charity her daughter ran a marathon for last month.

JH

9d Communications.

From RP:

Website.

- Posted on website since last report:
 - Could you be a school governor?
 - NRA AGM notice
 - Police engagements for April
 - Various community events

Press.

- The March edition of the Northwood & Ruislip News has an item about our AGM.

9e Police

HL to ask Cllr Henry Higgins whether the Ward Panel can use Fassnidge Hall. Space for 8 – 20 people is needed from 6 – 8pm on a Wednesday. RP to investigate possible use of the Scout Centre. Haste Hill Golf Club might be possible too.

HL
RP

9f Health

TE has been asked to be a trustee of Hillingdon Health Watch

9g Planning

No further comment on the report.

9h Environment

No further comment on the report.

9i Chief Road Steward

No further comment on the report. All to try to attend the RS reception on May 9 at St Matthews Church hall, 8 – 10pm

ALL

9j Membership

No further comment on the report.

9k Business Membership

Full cost of defibrillator consumables so far, £297, to be given to Jennifer O'Dwyer of Three Wishes, with a warning that this is a one off gift and suggest she asks for a contribution from anyone who it is used on, if possible. Maybe keep an incident book to help identify uses.

BG

10. AOB

From RP

Quest for Newsletter Editor

- The notice published in the Spring newsletter has resulted in an underwhelming rush of people volunteering to takeover as editor. However, kind words in emails and from residents stopping me in the street, have been much appreciated. Thank you.
- I suggest that the next step is to post a job description on the website and an attractive eye-catching poster on the notice boards.
- Then we have the AGM when TE can plead for a volunteer, and we can all talk to members before and after the business part of the meeting.
- Paul can send an email to all members on his database.

The meeting ended at 9.45 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday 14 May 2024

Appendix: REPORTS

APPENDIX: SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Woods and Open Spaces

This is the email and attachment which I have sent to Councillor Higgins as it affects my area of 'woods'. I also had a very positive meeting with Henry regarding the patch of land in East bury Rd. He had no idea it was there and felt it could be ideal for his idea of a Northwood Jubilee Park.

I have now received the license for pop up event and councillors have been invited.

From: **Miles Gillman** <miles.gillman.creative@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Mar 28, 2024, 11:20

Subject: Illegal fence ??

To: Henry Higgins <HHiggins@hillington.gov.uk>, Tony Ellis <tony.ellis@home8.co.uk>

Hi Henry

On a completely different subject to the potential new Jubilee Park in Eastbury Road, a Northwood resident has contacted me with a concern.

They are a regular user of the boundary path and have noticed lately a new fence has been erected along the Northwood side of the path in what appears to be common woodland. It is suspiciously close to a large property being refurbished in Kirby Close. I have consulted Trevor, our NRA Planning man and there are no applications in that area.

Please see the attached set of photos and comments. The email from Andrew Reilly referred to a link to a piece of land for sale in Farm

Way https://www.rightmove.co.uk/properties/134423204#/?channel=COM_BUY

I am hoping you can shed some light on this strange construction and whether it needs further investigation. Do get back to me, thanks.

b) Traffic and Highways

Northwood Traffic Survey

The plan was "to ask a question" at the next full Council meeting. As this isn't until July perhaps we need a plan B.

Dene Road

After the recent resurfacing of part of this road some parts of the yellow lines were missing. This has now been rectified.

Copse Wood Way

Two large road patches were resurfaced last week between Rickmansworth Road and Northgate, which covered several potholes, some of which were seriously dangerous.

Rickmansworth Road – A404

After heavy rain major flooding sometimes occurs at the county boundary with Hertfordshire. This causes narrowing of the carriageway and difficult traffic conditions and can last for several days. It has been reported to our Councillors with a request to check who is responsible and for the necessary action to be taken.

ULEZ – Green Lane Car Park

Our Councillors have twice been asked whether this car park is in the ULEZ area. The answer has been "Yes". This seems strange as there are no signs or cameras. Indeed no available maps show this either.

Peter Lansdown
traffichighways@northwoodresidents.co.uk

d) Communications Website

1 Introduction

Our tracking and analytics on the Association’s website is now back up and running. This report shows the traffic in the last month.

2 Most Frequently Viewed Pages

The traffic and activity of our website between 10th March 2024 and 7th April 2024 is shown below. The first two columns show the number of ‘Users’, i.e. the number of unique visitors to the page. The ‘Views’ column shows how many times those Users came and viewed the page. Usually, people will come more than once to the page.

The main traffic we get to the website is for the Mt Vernon services – Hospital, Phlebotomy and Shuttle Bus Timetable.

I have highlighted in the first column the Association’s news and content. As can be seen, Sale of Haste Hill Golf Course and Northwood Library were active during this period.

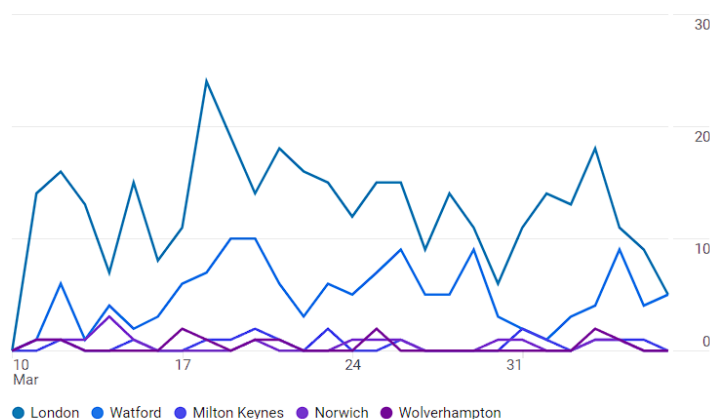
In addition, we had people visit to get contact information, and also to view the Newsletter archive.

Page title and screen class	↓ Views	Users	Views per user	Average engagement time
	1,619 100% of total	815 100% of total	1.99 Avg 0%	37s Avg 0%
1 Northwood Residents’ Association – Supporting Local Residents and Businesses	288	186	1.55	18s
2 NHS Urgent Care Service at Mount Vernon Hospital – Northwood Residents’ Association	170	135	1.26	33s
3 The Phlebotomy Unit at Mount Vernon Hospital – Northwood Residents’ Association	143	125	1.14	26s
4 Sale of Haste Hill Golf Course – Northwood Residents’ Association	124	96	1.29	33s
5 Shuttle Bus Timetable – Northwood Residents’ Association	110	69	1.59	16s
6 Newsletter archive – Northwood Residents’ Association	56	18	3.11	16s
7 Useful contacts – Northwood Residents’ Association	41	33	1.24	9s
8 Minutes of Exec. Meetings – Northwood Residents’ Association	37	21	1.76	8s
9 Northwood Library Update – Northwood Residents’ Association	32	29	1.10	28s
10 News – Northwood Residents’ Association	28	23	1.22	1m 08s

3 Visits Per City

Just a curiosity to show where our Users are coming from. ‘Engagement Time’ shows how much time was spent on the site. The longer times would imply that they were reading the articles on the site.

Users by City over time



City ▾	+	↓ Users	New users	Engaged sessions	Engagement rate	Engaged sessions per user	Average engagement time
		815 100% of total	802 100% of total	505 100% of total	51.06% Avg 0%	0.62 Avg 0%	37s Avg 0%
1	London	337	326	207	50.74%	0.61	38s
2	Watford	126	118	94	60.65%	0.75	44s
3	(not set)	112	106	63	50.81%	0.56	33s
4	Milton Keynes	16	13	8	50%	0.50	11s
5	Norwich	15	13	8	50%	0.53	20s
6	Wolverhampton	12	9	4	30.77%	0.33	30s
7	Plymouth	11	10	5	41.67%	0.45	13s
8	Edinburgh	10	7	7	70%	0.70	39s

e) Police

Ward Panel Report:

We had a meeting on 20 March at St Helen's. Two students from each of St Helen's and Northwood College presented a survey on attitudes towards crime and safety in Northwood from a student's perspective. Excellent presentation. Can send separately to those interested.

Insp. Sarah Fox, and Constables Mike Fowler and Mani Sohal attended. PCSO John Usher sent his apologies in advance. Sgt Gareth Blackburn did not attend.

We had one Localities and ASB Case Officer from LBH attending: Team Leader, Adam Stitson. Adam was a positive addition to the meeting and left with some "To Do"s"

Councillor Henry Higgins also attended and contributed positively.

I shall send Ros the minutes for the website.

It was agreed that all distributed stats would come from the same source so that we have a continuous thread of information. This issue has been causing us complications from the start. We, the panel members, have not been able to rely fully on the accuracy of stats presented to us at the Ward Panel meetings.

This has not been an attempt to manipulate figures but a genuine error due to different sources and time spans.

So, please discard the last set of crime statistics I attached to my report and replace it with the attached. I will reply to any questions tomorrow.

However, we are low on panel members prepared to take on more responsibility. Will email TE separately so that he could mention the ward panel and ask for volunteers during his speech at the AGM.

Other Meetings:

On the 13 March I attended the Hillingdon Advisory Group meeting in Uxbridge. Peter Thackray and Ben Wright attended. No further crime stats were distributed. Malcolm Lucas (HIAG and NWP minutes taker) and I spoke with Chief Inspector Ben Wright regarding the continuing discrepancies between different sources of crime statistics.

We had an online Ward Chair meeting with CI Ben Wright on the 28 March. This is a useful initiative but a lot more could be done. I should be meeting Jean Hillman (Chair SNB) and Ben Wright or A.N. Other soon.

Malcolm Lucas, Jeremy Stern and myself also met separately to discuss the way forward.

Another meeting of the Ward Panel Action Group will take place shortly. These meetings form the real work of the Ward Panel. We now have Malcolm Lucas, Jeremy Stern, Kevin Mepham of Neighbourhood Watch and myself.

Ward Panel Venue

Northwood College hosted our December meeting, this year and last year. St. Helen's, whom we have just brought on board, hosted us in March. This is the time when the students are actively researching then presenting their survey. Both schools have the technical resources for the powerpoint presentation. However, the students are involved in their exams during June, and do not attend the meeting. In September the school nominates two new students each and I brief them separately.

So, that leaves us with June and September venues to find.

All ideas welcome.

Business Watch:

Brian Geminder, Jennifer O'Dwyer and I are involved with BW in different capacities. We intend to meet and agree parameters, boundaries and strategy.

Hoda Lacey
7/04/24

f) Health

Hillingdon Hospital Update:

Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Victoria Atkins, and local MP Steve Tuckwell visited Hillingdon Hospital to talk the minister through the plans for the new Hillingdon Hospital. As well as a presentation, guests met with staff and patients on Kennedy Ward at the top of the main tower. For more information visit: thh.nhs.uk/redevelopment/.

A new computer-generated [video](#) released gives a feel for what the new hospital will look like. The video takes you on a virtual tour inside and outside a model of the new hospital while explaining some of the benefits to expect from the new hospital such as:

- More MRI and CT scanners meaning we can see patients faster
- More single rooms to provide privacy and dignity and strengthen infection control
- Dedicated areas for children and young people
- A much bigger space for emergency care with specialist service and scans in one place
- Urgent and emergency care and outpatients on the lower floors to improve access
- A multi-storey car park linked into the hospital, with more disabled parking and new bus stops, for easier hospital access.

Private Primary Care Service:

The Doctor's Lounge: located within Sharman's pharmacy is expanding beyond Northwood. There are clinics in Chalfont, Beaconsfield and Stanmore has now launched. Northwood remains the central hub, perhaps an advert could be considered in the next newsletter.

Community Health Initiatives

- **Mountwood Surgery:** No smoking day is March 13th 2024, Mountwood have updated their website with [links](#), tips and resources to help patients stop smoking.
- **Eastbury Surgery and North Connect PCN:** The North Primary Care Network, inclusive of several local practices, has launched a new website to enhance patient access to health information and services, with a focus on collaborative care and community health initiatives:
 - **There are Hillingdon Health workshops on various conditions that patients can sign up to here (part of the North Primary Care network):**
<https://www.myhealthhillington.co.uk/workshop-calendar>

This includes the following surgeries:

- Mountwood Surgery
- Acre Surgery
- Acrefield Surgery
- Harefield Practice
- Carepoint Practice
- Devonshire Lodge Practice

A primary care network is a group of practices who work together to focus on local patient care. They've been around since 2019 and 99 per cent of practices across England now work as part of one. North Connect PCN is one of 6 PCNs in The London Borough of Hillingdon.

Public Engagement Opportunities

- **NWL Acute Provider Collaborative:** Future Board in Common Public Meetings, the next one is scheduled for 16th April 2024 13:00 -17:00, this public meeting offers a platform for community members to engage directly with healthcare leaders and discuss future plans and initiatives. The link can be found [here](#).

End of report

g) Planning

NRA / LBH Northwood Ward Planning Report : April 2024 (24:04 Planning NRA)

Planning Applications – No Objection / Comment

Validation Date	Address	Application Detail	
1 st March 2024	ST MARTIN'S SCHOOL MOOR PARK ROAD NORTHWOOD	Infilling of undercoat, walkways at ground and first floor levels to provide additional internal floorspace associated with the existing school together with amendments to fenestrations.	
6 th March 2024	19 MOOR PARK ROAD NORTHWOOD	Erection of a two-storey rear and side extension, single storey side extension, alterations to open porch, brick slip finish to frontage, conversion of roofspace to habitable use, and installation of a crossover.	
14 th March 2024	NATIONWIDE BUILDING SOCIETY 9 MAXWELL ROAD NORTHWOOD	Installation of 1no. internally illuminated projecting sign, 1no. ATM machine with internally illuminated sign and 1no. externally illuminated fascia sign.	
14 th March 2024	92A HIGH STREET NORTHWOOD	Conversion of roof space to habitable use to include a side dormer	
15 th March 2024	1 COPSE CLOSE NORTHWOOD	Details pursuant to the discharge of Conditions 3 (Construction Management Plan), 7 (Landscaping), 9 (step free access), 11 (external materials) & 12 (Details of fenestrations) of planning permission ref. 78325/APP/2023/2889, dated 15-03-24 (Erection of a two storey detached dwelling with associated access, parking and amenity space following demolition of existing dwelling.)	
14 th March 2024	NORTHWOOD COMMERCIAL SALES/AUTOCENTRE NORTHWOOD Ltd PINNER ROAD NORTHWOOD	Non-material amendment to planning permission ref. 77460/APP/2023/2671, dated 09-01-24 (Replacement of vacant car sales centre with a 3-storey mixed use development comprising of 1 x 1-bed apartment, 7 x 2-bed apartments and 1 x 3-bed apartment, with associated ground floor undercroft car and cycle parking and ground floor commercial space (Use Class E.) to Amendments to the details of conditions 22 and 23	
18 th March 2024	10 TANWORTH CLOSE NORTHWOOD	Installation of 1 x obscure glazed windows to the side elevation at ground floor level and 2 x obscure glazed windows to first floor level. (Application for a Certificate of Lawful Development for a Proposed Development)	
25 th March 2024	19 HIGHFIELD ROAD NORTHWOOD	Erection of a single storey rear extension and removal of a rear chimney (Retrospective Application)	

Planning Applications – Objections / Comments Made

Validation Date	Address	Application Detail	Comment
12 th February 2024	4 ROFANT ROAD NORTHWOOD	Change of use from class C3 (dwellinghouse) to C4 (small HMO) 6 bedroom up to 6 person	See further Objections below
21 st February 2024	1A RAVENSWOOD PARK NORTHWOOD	Erection of 2x two storey side extensions, a two storey rear extension and conversion of roof space in habitable use to include 4x rear facing roof lights.	The proposed extensions make the property over-dominant and will adversely affect the streetscene
11 th August 2022	LAND TO SOUTH OF GREENEND 17 DENE ROAD NORTHWOOD	Erection of 2 dwelling houses with new access to Foxdell and erection of 7 dwelling houses with new access to Dene Road with associated landscaping and parking (Re-consultation due to revised drawings including revised site layout).	See third objection below following revised plans

12 th March 2024	19 ELGOOD AVENUE NORTHWOOD	Erection of a part single, part double storey extension to the rear, and erection of a single storey extension to the side	The depth of the bulk of the extension to the rear ignoring the Certificate of Lawful Development exceeds the allowance in DMDH 1 BB) ii)
5 th March 2024	1 CANTERBURY CLOSE NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery - to crown reduce up to 2m One Oak at T42 within TPO 149	Whilst there are some notes in the application, there is no detailed Arboricultural Report attached to the application justifying the proposed work
4 th March 2024	5A THE BROADWALK NORTHWOOD	Erection of partial two storey and partial single storey rear extension and formation of new terrace following demolition of existing extension and terrace	See objection below

LAND TO SOUTH OF GREENEND 17 DENE ROAD NORTHWOOD

The objection previously made still stands. It is on backland without justification showing it to be exceptional, and still adversely affects the surrounding properties because the proposed buildings are close to the boundary to minimise the impact on the applicants house.

Access to the backland should be via the driveway from Dene Road already serving the applicants property rather than creating new driveways from the surrounding private roads which again increases the adverse impact on the neighbouring properties. The access via Foxdell which is beyond the site and is a narrow route shows how the layout is geared to minimising the impact on the applicant whilst substantially increasing the adverse impact on the neighbouring properties. In addition, we would add, that when developing backland, the applicant should not be so emphatically minimising the adverse impact on them, whilst deliberately adversely impacting so many of the neighbours. By using Foxdell as a main access point, cars have to travel past the entrance to the applicant's property in Dene Road, simply to minimise the adverse impact on the applicant. If they were developing the entire site then they wouldn't send the cars past the entrance to the site and round into Foxdell. They are only doing that extension to the car journey's to minimise the impact on their own property. So our objection is against the access point in Foxdell as well as the location of the proposed new buildings too close to the boundary with the neighbours.

4 ROFANT ROAD NORTHWOOD:

Second Objection: The extension together with the existing bedrooms and other rooms makes the proposed property more akin to a sui generis large HMO allowing more than just 6 persons to occupy. That use has been refused previously for this property (see Appl Ref: 6923/APP/2023/2905) and the reasons still apply, with the adverse impact on neighbours. The objection is therefore in connection with the proposed extension as well as the need to ensure there are no more than 6 persons occupying the property.

Third Objection: This is also similar to application ref: 77998/APP/2023/2616 where consent was refused by Committee because the property could accommodate more than 6 people and was more akin to a sui generis large HMO.

It is important to gear the size of the property to the permitted use of an HMO with up to 6 persons. By making it 6 bedrooms some of which are doubles, can easily lead to over-occupation which has been established in other cases to be hard to monitor whilst the neighbours will suffer the consequences.

Planning consent for an HMO for more than 6 occupiers has already been refused for the right reasons which still stand.

5A THE BROADWALK NORTHWOOD

The NRA objects to the proposed works on the following basis:

Local Plan App A Clause A1:22 - states that windows located on the side wall of a new extension should be at a high level, non-opening below 1.8 m above the internal finished floor level, and fitted with obscured glass. This should be applied to all new windows both at the ground floor and first-floor levels overlooking both 5 and 7 The Broadwalk

Local Plan Policy DMHD 1 - States that the extension should not exceed 4 m. This should be taken from the original rear of the property and so this application now proposes an extension which exceeds 4 m on both sides of the property. This makes the depth excessive and overdominant particularly relating to 7 The Broadwalk where there is the proposed two-storey extension.

The proposed extension of the property and patio together adversely affects the privacy of the adjoining properties. The patio is relevant because of the steps up to it from the garden.

For these reasons, the NRA requests that planning consent is refused.

**Planning Appeals :
Planning Appeals : Decisions**

None

Planning Appeals : Submitted

None

Planning Decisions Where Objections / Comments Made:

5 MOOR PARK ROAD NORTHWOOD

Conversion of garage into habitable space, first floor extension over front entrance, part first floor/part two storey side extensions, part single storey/part two storey rear extension, conversion of roof space to habitable use to include dormers, side roof lights and removal of chimney stack, alterations to fenestration and solar panels to south facing roof.

Decision: Approved

Reasons: The first floor windows and rooflights in the side facing elevations shall be glazed with permanently obscured glass to at least scale 4 on the Pilkington scale and be non-opening below a height of 1.8 metres taken from internal finished floor level for so long as the development remains in existence.

Trees, hedges and shrubs shown to be retained on the approved plan(s) shall not be damaged, uprooted, felled, lopped or topped without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority, to ensure that the trees and other vegetation continue to make a valuable contribution to the amenity of the area.

126A GREEN LANE NORTHWOOD

The sub-division of No.126A Green Lane into 7 self-contained flats (Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an Existing Use)

Decision: Refused

Reasons: the Applicant has not demonstrated that, on the balance of probability, the use has existed and been continuous for at least a period of four years, prior to the date of this application.

The application should also provide evidence of building operations as they are integral to the change of use and there is no evidence the building works meet building control or standards for residential dwellings prescribed by the Council and the government.

JAMES HOUSE, 2 SANDY LODGE WAY NORTHWOOD

Demolition of the existing building. Erection of a 2.5 storey building comprising six flats with associated parking, cycle and bin storage, and landscaping.

Decision: Refused

Reasons: The development, by reason of its depth, size, bulk, design, crown roof, massing, materials, bin store location, balconies and roof terrace, would be harmful to the character and appearance of the area and

the visual amenities of the street scene.

The development, by reason of the siting and close proximity of the rear terrace and balconies to neighbouring properties would result in visual intrusion and an unacceptable real and perceived loss of privacy and overlooking of neighbouring occupiers.

Enforcement Action By LBH

None

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

None

ACTION POINTS FROM LAST MINUTES:

None

h) Environment

Bird Feeding

A resident emailed a complaint to me about excessive bird feeding in Frithwood Park.

As a result the following message was posted on the Council Report-it web-page together with relevant pictures:-

"A lady in a wheel chair regularly arrives to feed birds here (Frithwood Park) and appears to deposit not just crumbs and bread but also banana skins, egg shells and other discarded partially consumed food materials, in not inconsiderable quantities. This not only attracts birds but also other undesirable wildlife including, rodents such as rats and mice. Mostly arriving daily on a mobility scooter, sometimes in the mornings or alternatively early in the afternoons more food is deposited near leftovers from previous feedings. The litter is generally on the left of the path after the private gardens as you enter Frithwood Park from Carew Road, and she enters from Kings Close Northwood.

The resident who complained to the NRA has talked to the lady concerned and has said that the food is encouraging rats into the park and surrounding area, but this has had no effect.

I think it is time for the Council to intervene here as the food mess is doing more than attracting birds, it appears to be spoiling the park amenities for others, and it maybe is a health hazard to adults and children alike. It is thought that the person concerned lives in Frithwood Ave or Morgan Close nearby."

This is a difficult subject as some people feed birds in public places and gain enjoyment for themselves and others in so doing. However, over-feeding can become a nuisance.

Potholes

A Hillingdon Council pothole repair unit appears to be active in Northwood and is about to fix several potholes in Elgin Drive. If you are aware of potholes in your part of Northwood, take a picture, note the location and tell the Council via their website section "Potholes and pavement issues". If you enter www.hillingdon.gov.uk/potholes and click on that link, reporting the issue is a simple task.

Alternatively, on entering the Hillingdon Council website in the search box presented on the home page enter 'Report-it' & click that box. Then select the box called "Potholes and road issues". Just follow the instructions given, and submit your request.

Andrew Egan

i) Chief Road Steward

Spring #186 Newsletters were distributed starting 16th March, together with a 2004 subs request letters emphasising our preference for them to be paid by BACS.

So far (within 3 weeks) some 400 subs have been recorded, of which 340 were by BACS, the remainder by cash or cheque, so our urging of a move to cashless payment is producing encouraging results.

Of the 1800 #186 newsletters printed, 110 were as spares, most of which have now been used by some RSs in marketing campaigns to encourage wider NRA membership on their patches, with some new sign-ups already resulting.

When asked for numbers of Newsletters to be printed for #186, several ARS/RSs expressed having had difficulties in accessing mmjo or downloading and working with their "patch" report data from it, particularly if an RS covered more than one street.

At my request, Vijay Kotecha (db manager), Rajen Shah (IT manager) are working on a series of "scripts" to access the mmjo db centrally on a timed basis (such as every 2 weeks) and automatically extract/prepare printable status reports for each "patch". Then ARS/RSs will not have to access mmjo themselves, but be presented with up-to-date data for their patch in directly usable form.

These will be in Excel (.xlsx) and .pdf form and will show ARS/RSs which members have so far paid for this year, how much, and how, and hence who should be chased if "in default" so far. It will also show them any new addresses joined as members.

The intention is to have this system extension thoroughly tested and released in time for it to be explained at the RS Reception confirmed for 9th May, when RSs will be encouraged to advise John King (membership secretary) of any member data – name, email address etc – to be updated.

In addition to the 5 new RSs covering patches as reported last time, more who applied are to be contacted for possible assignments.

Paul Barker
NRA CRS & DPO

j) **Membership**

I have been continuing my updating of the MMJO and to date I have imported over 800 addresses. I have about 20+ roads still to interrogate before completing the task I started prior to Christmas. I hope to have it completed within two months.

The Treasurer and I are in the process of reconciling the MMJO values for March with the cash values. As present we have a small difference to be identified.

I was unable to analyse types of membership payments for 2023 as many had no type, but sufficient to say there have been an upsurge in BACS payments and as shows in the accounts considerably more income.

k) **Business Membership**

Having been away for most of last month my main activity upon my return was to deliver the current NewsLetter to my 80+ Business Members.

The restaurant and eaterie feature delighted members when I showed them the relevant feature with a photo of their establishment. Some even commenting how nice it was to see their establishment's photo appear in a magazine.

Based on the enthusiasm with which it was met I propose we do another feature in the next edition on "Beauty & Health" in Northwood.

To update you with the ongoing defibrillator saga with Jennifer at the **Three Wishes** pub I mentioned this had been discussed at our last meeting and the Committee agreed needing to see paperwork to substantiate costs incurred. These were duly provided to me and having sent copies to Tony, which amounted to expenses incurred of £148.50 on 2 occasion, a total of £297, I should like to propose, for the sake of good will and neighbourliness that we refund Jennifer half the costs she incurred namely £148.50.

If the Committee approve, when informing Jennifer I shall make it clear that we are not making a firm commitment to reimburse her each time it is used but instead shall evaluate it each year. I also suggested to her that she get the contact details of the person who has benefited from the defibrillator and follow it up with a suggested contribution.

Moving on to April's aspirations, I have a list of 12 businesses I hope to recruit this coming month which is what I shall be focusing on.

Finally, as perhaps you all know Baskin Robbins is closing down., the Northwood general store in the old high street never seems open nor does the station kiosk.

Brian Geminder

END OF REPORTS