

NORTHWOOD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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

Present: Tony Ellis, Sue Mansfield, Trevor Sherling, John King, Peter Lansdown, Hoda Lacey, Rajen Shah, Paul Barker, Jan Harding, Valerie Mellor, Ros Plume, Vikram Chudasama, Miles Gillman, Vijay Kotecha, Andrew Egan

1 Apologies for Absence: Brian Geminder, Neha Tanna

2. Minutes of 10 September Meeting
were approved

3. Matters Arising:
Envelopes are being printed and will be distributed with the next newsletter to reduce Sharman's problems noted last month.

4. Correspondence

From RP:

- Email from resident in Aldis House, Green Lane, regarding our opposition to ULEZ. He notes that local ULEZ cameras have been vandalised and says, "I hope you now show how strongly you are against this behaviour. And you make your views known. You might even show that you have read reports of the improvement to air quality". TE responded saying he would address the subject in the autumn newsletter.
- Email exchange with new Poppy Appeal Organiser, Elvie Grainger, who needed help contacting volunteers to join the Waitrose collection rota.

From TE:

- TE has written to Eddie Lavery pointing out there has been no announced action on a new library for a year and that 40 residents are getting together to put forward a case for using the old Police Station as a library. A statement is required for our next newsletter.

5. Former Police Station

The Planning Report on refusal of the application of use of the old Police Station has been published. TS will ask to attend the meeting of the group putting together a proposal for its use as a library, to make them aware of the aspects of the situation we are aware of. TE will also attend.

6. TfL Development

TS noted that To Let Agents boards have gone up on a couple of the vacant shop units.

7. Pop-up events

From RP:

The Northwood Lions and 6th Northwood Scouts have accepted our invitation to join us on Saturday 19th October. The licensing department could not be contacted to get a licence. MG to ask Cllr Ian Edwards to assure us there would be no trouble if we do not have a licence

19 December, Carols at Costa, to be discussed at the next meeting.

TE

TS
TE

MG

8. **Speed Guns**

PC Mike Fowler is now authorised to use a speed gun. TE met Sergeant Blackburn recently who, in discussion, requested the NRA to submit four locations where speed checks could take place.

1. Rickmansworth Road between Murray Road and Highfield Road
2. Eastbury Road between Frithwood Avenue and Carew Road
3. Green Lane by The Glen
4. Rickmansworth Road by Thirlmere Close

Probably 4 events per quarter. TE to write to Gareth Blackburn with our recommendations.

Several committee members indicated they would be willing to support such operations. Two members of the public required at each.

TE

9. **Autumn Newsletter**

Some contributions already received, more required.

MG will ask the postman injured in the recent crash on Rickmansworth Road for permission to include the photograph of him lying injured after the crash.

MG

10 **AGM 2025**

From RP:

We generally look for a Thursday in April, this year was Thursday 18th April. (Why Thursday?). Easter 2025 is Friday 18th to Monday 21st April. Does Passover affect any weekdays? Guest speaker? For your amusement, here is the list of speakers we have had from 1989 to the present:

NRA AGM Speakers

- 1989 Bringing the Met line into perspective
- 1990 Protection of your local environment by an Environmental Health Officer
- 1991 Frank Carew's Northwood – Eileen Bowlt
- 1992 History of Police dogs – police dog handler plus dog
- 1993 Met line into the 21st century
- 1994 Three Valleys Water
- 1995 Hillingdon Health Authority
- 1996 BA Terminal 5
- 1997 Animal Policing – PC Dave Cove
- 1998 Ruislip Woods – David Duncan & Colin Bowlt
- 1999 Pinner Chalk Mines – Ken Kirkman
- 2000 CEO of LBH – Dorian Leatham
- 2001 Health – David Panter
- 2002 Two years on – Dorian Leatham
- 2003 Met Police – Chief Inspector Ferguson & Inspector Burgum
- 2004 Councillor Puddifoot
- 2005 Simon Morgan – Northwood History, 4 ages
- 2006 Mark Toland, Borough Commander
- 2007 Nick Hurd MP re MV Cancer Centre, Jon Harris from Town Crier, & discussion panel – no main speaker
- 2008 Nick Hurd MP re MV Cancer Centre & Garden Grab plus presentation from LBH officers & S Seaman-Digby on £200K grant for Northwood
- 2009 David McVittie, CEO Hillingdon Hospital NHS Trust
- 2010 Mr Bob Alabaster, the Director of Procurement at LBH.
(NB Nick Hurd MP was to have spoken on The Sustainable Communities Act, 3-line whip prevented his attending the AGM)
- 2011 Commander Andre van de Kamp and Lieutenant Klara Schellekens from the Royal Netherlands Navy - the NATO base and piracy in Somalia
- 2012 Stuart Hunt, Head of LBH Green Spaces and Ian Cantley, chairman of Ruislip Woods Trust - Ruislip Woods through the seasons
- 2013 Roger Shipton, lead governor for Hillingdon Hospital Foundation Trust and Inspector David George on Policing reorganisation proposals.
- 2014 Acting Borough Commander, Des Rock. Nick Hurd MP
- 2015 Eileen Bowlt – Local history
- 2016 Volunteer Police Cadets – cybercrime

- 2017 Squadron Leader James Tenniswood – The History of RAF Northolt
- 2018 Oliver Green – History of the Met Line
- 2019 Group Captain Jason Sutton – History of Northwood HQ
- 2020 Zoom meeting, no speaker
- 2021 David Simmonds MP
- 2022 Cllr Ian Edwards – Leader of Hillingdon Council
+ Robert Sisk, Northwood library manager
- 2023 David Simmonds MP. Let down by CO of Northwood HQ
- 2024 Cllr Eddie Lavery and Olly Shah, LBH Waste Management

Thursday is usually a good day for our MP to attend. Thursday April 24 2025 was chosen as the date. RP to check whether the church will be available – when they have their 2025 diary.
Ideas for speakers to the next meeting. 25 mins plus questions. MG to ask Ruislip History Society for speakers.

RP
MG

11. Subcommittee Reports

11a Woods and Open Spaces

MG will write an article for the newsletter offering dates for woods walks.

MG

11b Traffic and Highways

PL to contact Cllr Richard Lewis for action on a pedestrian crossing at the Green Lane Rickmansworth Road junction.

MG
PL

11c Communications.

From RP

Website.

Posted on website since last report:

- NRA Business member launches fund-raising events
- Poppy Sellers needed
- Police community engagements for October
- Business member amendments for BG
- Various local events

MG to ask St Helen's for an updated picture of their students in Northwood.

MG

11d Police

No further comments

11e Business Membership

BG had noted that council staff had issued on-the-spot fines for businesses displaying unlicensed A-boards. No warning in advance.
BG to send KPA a condolence card from the committee.

BG

Also see AOB.

11f Health

As NT was out of the country no report was submitted.

11g Planning

No further comments.

11h Environment

Litter picking has not yet started, due to unavailability of key people.
As street flooding is often caused by drains being blocked by leaves, AE to cover this in his report in the autumn newsletter, asking residents to clear drains outside their property. MG to provide a picture.

MG
AE

11i Finance
No further comments.

11j Chief Road Steward
No further comments.

11k Membership
No further comments

12. AOB
TE will not attend the next committee meeting, MG will chair.
MG to find out if there is anything or any help we can provide for the injured postman.
RP reminded members that the Remembrance Service is on Sunday 10th November. TE will collect the NRA wreath and deliver to VM before he goes to Florida

MG

TE

The meeting ended at 9.30 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday 13 November 2024

Appendix: REPORTS

a) Woods and Open Spaces

No report this month.

Miles Gillman

b) Traffic and Highways

Northwood Traffic Survey

From recent correspondence there is unlikely to be any progress on recommendations made following the issue of this report. A total waste of money.

Following this, a petition was raised to REQUEST FOR PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT RICKMANSWORTH ROAD AND GREEN LANE, NORTHWOOD. On the Council web site it is possible to track petitions, but unfortunately no dates are given. My records suggest that this petition was raised in the year 2020. There was a hearing (2021?) and it was noted that there should be a "Report to the Cabinet Member on Informal Consultation". No progress. Another one for Cllr. Bianco!

ULEZ

Over a month ago three ULEZ cameras were cut down around the west end of Green Lane – not for the first time. The poles have been replaced, but so far not the cameras.

Rickmansworth Road

There have been a number of recent traffic accidents on this road. One was particularly serious, close to the junction with Murray Road, when a postman was knocked down with one leg badly broken. You will be aware that the NRA have suggested the installation of a camera in this area, but the council, police and TfL do not appear to be interested.

OTHER ITEMS

HS2

At present there are no scheduled closures for Breakspear Road South this month. Longer term, one is planned for 5th to 27th April 2025.

Peter Lansdown

traffichighways@northwoodresidents.co.uk

Communications

a) IT

Website Activity

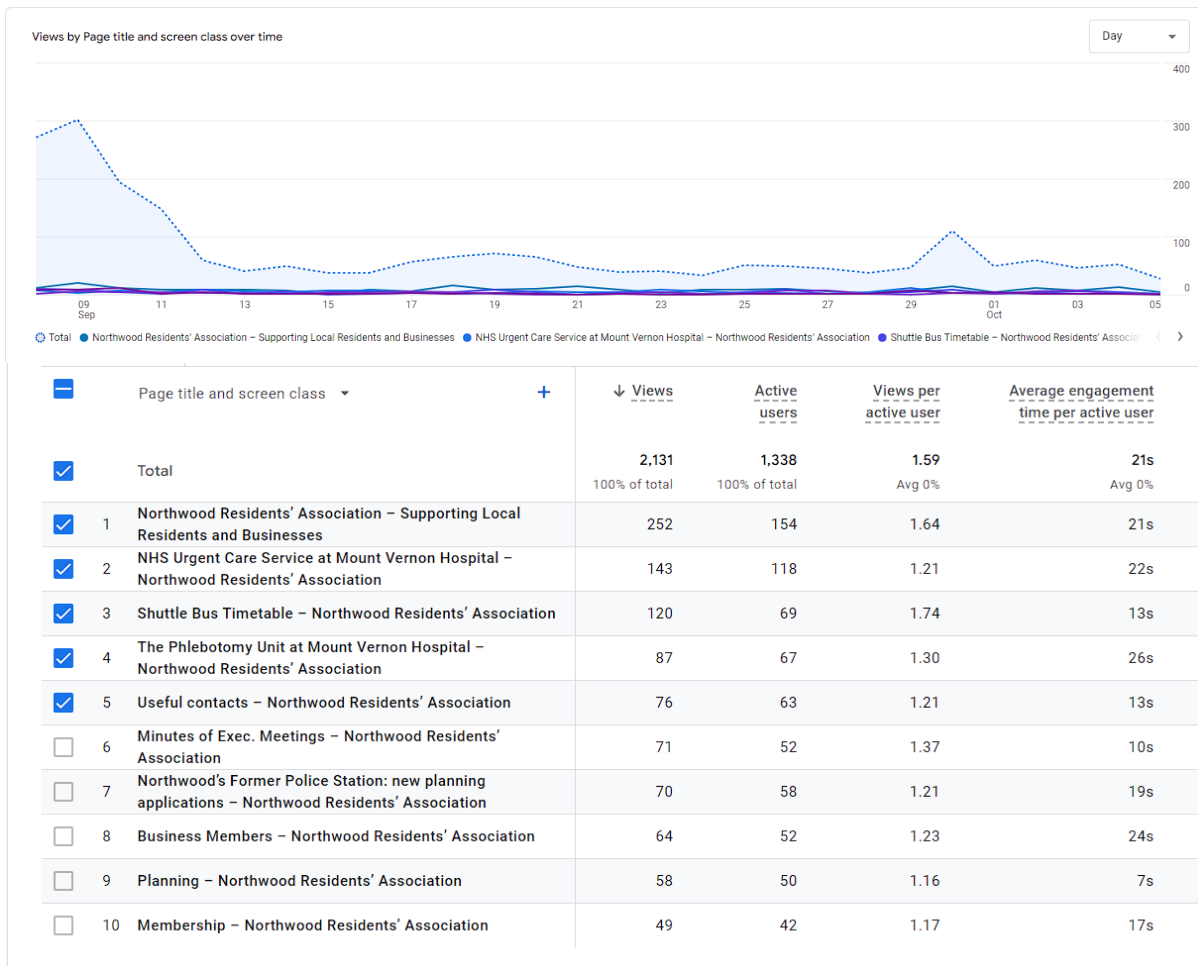
Points to note

Lower activity this past month

Mount Vernon and Shuttle Bus pages are back up on top as most visited

Minutes of Exec Meetings are being viewed as are the Business Members page.

Traffic by page



c) Police

SNT Update:

PC Mani Sohal has returned to light duties. PC Mike Fowler has been trained on the use of Speed Guns.

Ward Panel Meeting

We held our quarterly meeting on 18 September at James Court. Both councillors sent their apologies. The minutes of the meeting will be available to all on our website.

We discussed a number of issues. Among which were:

- The word “police” is removed from the title of ward panels. We are now Northwood Ward Panel.
- Our Constitution is superseded by the Ward Panel Handbook.
- We will revisit our Ward Panel Mission Statement, which we drafted in 2022.

Community Speed Gun Watch

Now that Mike Fowler is trained in the use of speed guns, we can return to using these as a means of combatting speeding vehicles. We will ask for volunteers to assist.

We identified five possible speeding trouble spots: Hallowell Road, Eastbury Road, Rickmansworth Road, Green Lane, High Street.

There are some challenges to overcome:

1. These are all long roads and we require clearer identification of where speeding is most likely.
2. We have also asked our SNT to clarify how many of these community watches they can carry out per month.
3. There has always been difficulty sourcing resident volunteers to assist.
4. Much of the speeding is done at night when no community watches take place.

Police and Crime Report:

Theft up by 34 to 63 (of which shoplifting is 45), probably due to more reporting (as encouraged by the SNT and Business Watch).

Theft from vehicles down by 15 to 6 – a lot is preventable so the SNT give advice, particularly not to leave possessions on show and to put keys in faraday pouches to prevent cloning.

Drugs – only 3 reported (same as previously) but clearly there is more unreported activity, especially at night. Many Shoplifters steal to fund their drug habit.

Criminal damage up 25 to 30, often neighbour disputes.

Total crime volume for the quarter was 170, up 29 from 141 the previous quarter. Crime data was extracted from the public tableau website.

Residents' Quarterly Survey:

There were 402 resident responses to the crime survey, increasing from 242 in June and 123 in March. 71% were in the 60+ age category. Fear of burglary remains the top concern at 71%, then ASB 55%, drugs 40%, robbery 40%, vehicle crime 40%, theft 36% and knife crime 33%. A copy of the survey results was sent separately to committee by email.

Business Watch (BW):

From the BW WhatsApp group chat it appeared there were fewer crimes reported on Green Lane. We have no Business Watch on the High Street yet.

However, this was contradicted by our last crime survey stats. Retail theft is still rising and the BW WhatsApp group does not appear to reflect this increase. It could be that the joint campaign between the SNT and the BW members to report online is working well but the reporting to fellow retailers is losing traction.

School Watch:

I organised a meeting between the four new students and our SNT. Mike and John attended. I briefed them on our ward panel mission and structure. We discussed their survey which will be presented in March 25 and had a good Q & A session.

Hillingdon Independent Advisory Group (HIAG)**11 September 24.**

I did not attend the last HIAG meeting. Malcolm takes the minutes and reports anything of interest to the Ward Panel.

New Met Event:

I attended this event with Tony Ellis.

Online Ward Panel Chair meeting:

I attended this meeting.

HL
10/24

d) Business Membership

Nothing to report

e) Health

No report

g) Planning

NRA / LBH Northwood Ward Planning Report : October 2024 (24:10 Planning NRA)

Planning Applications – No Objection / Comment

Validation Date	Address	Application Detail	
22 nd August 2024	102 GREEN LANE NORTHWOOD	Erection of an outbuilding to rear garden. (Application for a Certificate of Lawful Development for a Proposed Development)	
29 th August 2024	102 GREEN LANE NORTHWOOD	Conversion of roof space to habitable use to include a rear dormer, 2 Side Dormers, and 2 front roof lights. (Application for a Certificate of Lawful Development for a Proposed Development)	
22 nd August 2024	31 COPSE WOOD WAY NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery to fell one Oak (T1 in application) within A1, TPO 398	
5 th September 2024	2 BIRKEN MEWS NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery including crown lift over the driveway to provide 5m clearance to One Maple T5 and To crown lift over driveway by removing three limbs (as per photo in application) One Maple T6 both on TPO 324	
17 th August 2024	26 DENE ROAD NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery including to crown reduce by 2m one Lime in T85 (TPO 13)	
6 th September 2024	149 HALLOWELL ROAD NORTHWOOD	Erection of a single storey infill extension to the rear, and installation of 1x front roof light	
3 rd September 2024	LAND REAR OF 20-22 HALLOWELL ROAD NORTHWOOD	Use of land for vehicle repair and servicing (Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for an existing use or operation or activity)	
4 th September 2024	UPLANDS COURT, 19 FRITHWOOD AVENUE NORTHWOOD	To Remove one Sycamore group (TG2 on application), T18 one TPO 156	
7 th September 2024	MALLARDS NORTHGATE NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery including the removal of one Ash (G1 on TPO 131) and the removal of one Cypress (T8 on TPO 131) both within Mallards, Northgate, Northwood.	
10 th September 2024	25 LINKSWAY NORTHWOOD	Variation of Condition 2 (approved drawings) of planning permission ref. 38787/APP/2022/254 dated 21/04/2022 (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). Alterations seek an adjustment to the approved site plan to include a padel court in the rear garden	
19 th September 2024	42 COPSE WOOD WAY NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery, To crown reduce the side overhanging the patio and property side by 3m to One Oak (T1 on application) within Area 1 on TPO 399	
19 th September 2024	44 COPSE WOOD WAY NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery, To reduce the limb overhanging the garden of 42 Copse Wood Way by 3m to One Oak (T3 on application) within Area 1 on TPO 399	
23 rd September 2024	45 COPSE WOOD WAY NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery, To crown reduce to previous points (no more than 2m) to Two Oaks (T1 & T2 on application) within Area 1 on TPO 398	
27 th September 2024	NORTHWOOD LAWN TENNIS CLUB 20 PINES CLOSE NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery, To crown reduce height and lateral spread of the western side of the tree (over the tennis courts) by 3m (back to previous points), One Oak T118 on TPO 150	
26 th September 2024	15 FRINGEWOOD CLOSE NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery, to Crown reduce by 2m back to previous points One Oak T5 on TPO281	

27 th September 2024	12 JACKETS LANE NORTHWOOD	Addition of partition and WC in existing utility space. Replacement of understair partition for storage cupboards. Replacement of four windows in a style to match the existing. Alteration to the existing front door with supplementary glazing.	
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Planning Applications – Objections / Comments Made

Validation Date	Address	Application Detail	Comment
13 th August 2024	32 HALLAND WAY NORTHWOOD	Erection of a part two storey, part single storey side/rear extension. Conversion of integral garage to habitable accommodation. Installation of a new pavement crossover.	As the subject house is already set well back from No 30 Halland Way, it is unclear if it complies with the 45-degree rule. In this month's Hillingdon People there is an article on dropped kerbs and the specific comment that only one crossover will be permitted per property
11 th September 2024	44 COPSE WOOD WAY NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery, to crown reduce the side overhanging the patio by 2.5m to Two Oaks (T1 and T2 on application), To fell Four Hornbeams (T4 and G2 on application) all within Area 1 on TPO 399	Whilst there are some notes in the application and photos attached, there is no detailed Arboricultural Report attached to the application justifying the proposed work nor confirmation of a replacement trees.
18 th September 2024	28 NICHOLAS WAY NORTHWOOD	To Fell and grind One Oak (T24 on application) within Area 1 on TPO 398	Whilst there are some notes in the application and photos attached, there is no detailed Arboricultural Report attached to the application justifying the proposed work nor confirmation of a replacement tree.

Planning Appeals :

Planning Appeals : Decisions

FLAT 6, 18 FRITHWOOD AVENUE, NORTHWOOD

Rear ground floor extension and rear roof dormer extension.

Decision: Refused

Reasons: the proposed development would harm the character and appearance of the host building and would thus fail to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

The proposed development would unacceptably harm the living conditions of the occupiers of No 18A with regard to outlook and light.

Planning Appeals : Submitted

NORTHWOOD COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION MAXWELL ROAD NORTHWOOD

Variation of Conditions 12 (All-Weather Pitch Hours of Use) and 13 (All-Weather Pitch Restriction of Use) of planning permission ref. 2082/APP/2007/1411 dated 11-09-2007 (Removal of existing building and construction of new early years centre and relocation of all-weather sports surface playing field (approved under planning application ref. 2082/APP/2003/1103) including details of design and layout) to change the permitted operating hours and use of the allweather pitch

4 ROFANT ROAD NORTHWOOD

Change of use from Class C3 (dwellinghouse) to Class C4 (Small HMO) 6-bedroom up to 6 persons. Erection of a single storey side extension.

Planning Decisions Where Objections / Comments Made:

NORTHWOOD POLICE STATION, 2 MURRAY ROAD NORTHWOOD

Application 1: Change of use from former Police Station (Sui Generis) to a Children's day nursery (Class E(f)). Erection of a single storey entrance pavilion on the side (south) elevation. Erection of an access lift on the rear elevation. Fenestration alterations and removal of plant room rear extension. Widening of the existing crossover and landscaping

Decision: Refused

Reasons: The application submission fails to fully demonstrate that the proposal would not give rise to adverse impacts upon the highway network to the detriment of traffic congestion, parking stress and highway safety.

The proposed development would likely contribute to the production of unacceptable pollutant emissions in the Northwood West Air Quality Focus Area and the Northwood East Air Quality Focus Area. Given the uncertainty in the trip generation associated with the operation of the development, it is not possible to ascertain the full measure of transport emissions into the atmosphere and whether the proposed development would be air quality neutral. Further, the proposed development is not air quality positive and the measures proposed are not sufficient to mitigate the total emissions.

The applicant has failed to secure Section 106 planning obligations required to mitigate the harm and demands created by the proposed development (in respect of travel planning, air quality, and project management and monitoring).

Application 2: Erection of a single storey entrance pavilion on the side (south) elevation. Erection of an access lift on the rear elevation. Conservation and restoration of the existing building fabric. Internal layout changes, fenestration alterations, re-servicing and removal of plant room rear extension. Alterations to fencing and landscaping (Application for Listed Building Consent)

Decision: Refused

Reasons: The proposed development, by reason of the loss of historic fabric, would fail to preserve the significance of the Grade II Listed Building by posing 'less than substantial harm' to the significance of the designated heritage asset. Further, the proposed development is not considered to provide deliverable public benefits sufficient to outweigh the harm posed.

32 HALLAND WAY NORTHWOOD

Erection of a part two storey, part single storey side and rear extension. Erection of front porch extension. Conversion of integral garage to habitable accommodation and amendments to fenestrations including new driveway and installation of a new pavement crossover.

Decision: Refused

Reasons: The proposed development, by virtue of its bulk, size, scale and overall massing, would result in alterations to the dwelling that would be visually incongruous, detrimental to the architectural composition of the original property and character and appearance of the street scene. The proposal would also result in the unacceptable loss of soft landscaping to the front of the dwelling.

Enforcement Action By LBH

None

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

None

ACTION POINTS FROM LAST MINUTES:

None

Environment

Other than noticing that hedge & tree foliage is growing fast still and that some households have forgotten to do cutting-back, thus the ability to walk along many pavements easily and with safety is reduced, it has largely been a quiet month until the recent heavy rainfalls occurred.

The most serious complaint received concerns flooding that affected Rofant Road Northwood where part of the road looked as if it had become a flowing river and one resident in particular had his front and rear garden appear as if they were lakes, with top soil and plants washed away. Damage to property resulted including considerable dampness.

This type of flooding here after heavy rainfalls has been going on for many years with residents complaining regularly to Hillingdon Council. Though localised action to clear drain blockages has been attempted, the nasty problem effecting several home owners remain unfixed.

Anger and frustration have resulted. Are there insufficient roadside drain grills? Are the drain pipes that may interconnect at the junction where Rofant Road, Eastbury Avenue and Frithwood Avenue meet too small to cope with the loads being placed on them as our climate becomes more extreme? Is the pipe bore size of these drains too small now to cope with heavy rainfalls and the run-offs from concreted drives? From surrounding roads run-off water flows into the affected part of Rofant Road which suggests that the whole network of drains in the area of this junction has a serious malfunction. How does Hillingdon Council interact with Thames Water to investigate, to identify the issues, and then to devise corrective actions?

These are some of the pertinent questions that require answers and remedies. Residents are demanding action and remedial implementation work now.

Andrew Egan

Chief Road Steward

Three more RSs have resigned, and one partially, after many years of service, for which I have thanked them.

- Philip Green is finally relinquishing his RS duties for Silverwood Close.
 - o *Alison Lane* had earlier taken over his former "patch" Northgate, Buttsmead and Rogers Ruff, and will now also do Silverwood as Philip moves out.
- Heather Ferroussat and her husband moved to Didcot on 23 Sept, so a replacement was needed for Chestnut Ave, Lees Ave, Manor Cottages and Watkins Close.
 - o *Kamala Chellapen* is considering taking over this "patch".
- Dr Mair Baltrop reluctantly admitted the years and infirmity have now overtaken her!
 - o *John Adams* has agreed to take over for Grove Road and Mezen Close (the latter where we currently have no listed members at any of the 35 addresses, so John will be attempting a promotion!)
- Caroline Young was finding her enlarged patch too much for her.
 - o *Giuseppi Messina* has agreed to take over Sandy Lodge Way and part of Dene Road.
 - o He has also said he may later consider doing a promotion at the 35 addresses in Trinity Close where we currently have no assigned RS or members!

Vijay Kotecha (db manager) has done his usual modifications on mmjo to reflect these changes so current contact and subs-paid report links go to Alison, Kamala, John, Caroline and Giuseppi, and to ARSs: myself, Miles and Richard Shave.

As reported last month, I had prepared and circulated full updated versions of "RS Duties", plus a more concise summary to all RSs.

- I will send these also to ARSs to reinforce that they should stress to their RSs the requirement to pass on promptly to MemSec any subs payments they may have collected, and, vitally, new (or revisions to) member contact data for mmjo.

Paul Barker
NRA CRS & DPO

k) Membership

Nothing much to report as September was even quieter regarding memberships. There were only three confirmed applications in the month.

Both Jan and I can confirm that we have agreed receipts to MMJO to the end of September. I will keep reporting various statistics against 2023 for information purposes only.

John King

END OF REPORTS