

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2018

SECURITY MEETING

A meeting was held in January at St. Anne's Church, open to all Estate residents. Its purpose was to discuss concerns regarding security and to provide the HLE Committee with the opportunity to learn more about how people felt and what they would like to see be done. Details of the meeting and initial steps are provided in the attached summary. It can also be found, along with the presentations made at the meeting by the Chair and two residents on the website at <http://hle.org.uk/?q=node/111>.

HLE AGM

The Annual General Meeting of all Estate plot owners is to be held on the evening of Wednesday 25th April in the Highgate Library Civic & Cultural Centre, Croftdown Road, London NW5 1HB. Further details, agenda and timings etc to follow.

HLE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The HLEC has been asked about the procedure for joining the Committee. This is open to plot owners only and is as follows:

- **Submission of candidates.** Please forward a resumé, maximum 250 words, including a head & shoulders photograph by 21st March to secretary@hle.org.uk or post to HLEC Secretary, HLE Estate Office, Holly Lodge Gardens, London N6 6AA
- **Circulation of resumé.** Resumés of all candidates will be circulated with the agenda and other AGM papers by 3rd April
- **Voting.** Voting will take place at the AGM and is limited to one vote per plot. You may send a representative to cast a vote on your behalf. Details of the procedure for appointing a representative will follow with the AGM papers.

REPORTING CRIME, ASB etc

Both the police and the HLEC have been encouraging residents to report both crime and any Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) that is witnessed on the Estate to the police. The police advice is we must call each and every incident in to 101.

Each day the police judge where to send their limited resources based on the number of reported incidents. At the moment very few are logged and as such we rate a long way behind other areas in the allocation of these resources. If there are enough reports they can justify some more resourcing in our area. However, we are aware that calling 101 is often difficult as the wait times are long. We recommend you try reporting it online at <https://www.met.police.uk/report/>

To address the immediate concerns regarding recent ASB and possible drug-related activity at the top of the Estate, we have reintroduced the use of "No Parking" cones at night to deter vehicles from lingering in this area.

NEW PARKING PERMITS

As you are probably aware we have recently installed a new automated permit system and are in the process of issuing new permits which will be now be renewed each year. If you have not done so already would you **please confirm the reg nos of the vehicles for which you require a 2018 permit** by email to manager@hle.org.uk or a phone call to 0203 538 4454.

We can only issue these if we already have the car on our system. If you require a permit for a new vehicle please complete an application form which can be found on the website www.hle.org.uk under the Residents tab or contact the office for one manager@hle.org.uk.

THE HOLLY LODGE ESTATE

ELECTRIC VEHICLE SURVEY RESULTS There was a 21% response rate to the survey.

Electric Vehicles (EV)

The key findings were: 67% of respondents believe the HLEC should invest in EV charging points. 60% of respondents believe it is very important to have a charging point close to your home and 50% of respondents believe it's very important to have an EV charging point on the estate rather than Highgate West Hill or Swains Lane (an additional 18% believe this is of some importance). If there was an EV charging point on the estate, the percentage of people who already own, or expect to buy an EV in the next 5 years, increases from 43% to 54% (compared to the current arrangement). 47% of respondents said access to an EV charging point on the estate would make them more likely to buy an EV. Full results of the survey are available on the website.

The next step will be for the HLEC to seek planning permission for EV chargers.

Car Club

55% of respondents would like to see a car club on the estate. As a consequence, the committee contacted the two leading car clubs operating in London, Zipcar and DriveNow.

Unfortunately, Zipcar required payments in excess of £20,000 plus VAT to keep a car on the Estate, which was felt excessive by the Committee.

DriveNow doesn't keep cars in allocated spaces. Instead they operate a zone within which the 300 DriveNow BMW cars can be parked anywhere (including pay & display and residents bays). However, the zone only covers Islington, Hackney, Haringey, Waltham Forest and a parking area at Stratford International, and they are not able to extend it to include HLE. But DriveNow have offered all residents of the HLE a lifetime DriveNow membership (usually £29) and £10.00 driving credit for free. Full details of this will be distributed soon.

COLD CALLERS

We have been made aware, again, that there may be some unscrupulous firms cold calling to offer building works to your homes. Please be aware and do not feel forced into any work you are unsure of. If you would like a second opinion please don't hesitate to contact the Estate office for advice.



ZUMBA AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

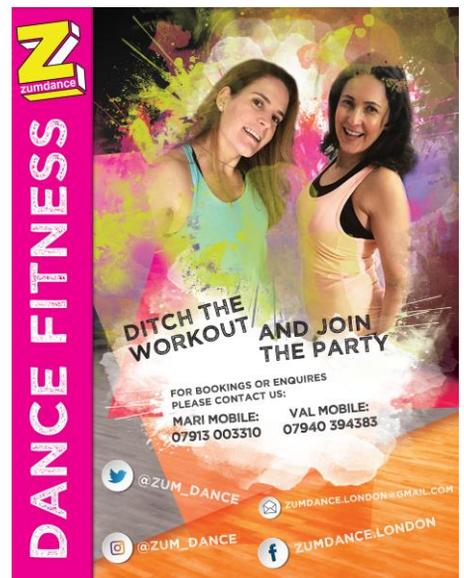
Dance fitness comes to Holly Lodge!

- Starting Friday mornings starting Feb 23rd 9.30 – 10.30 at the Holly Lodge Community Centre.
- £8.00 per session if you sign up for 10 or £10 pay as you go.

Come and get fit the fun way with Zumdance!

For bookings or enquiries call

Mari on 07913 003310 or Val on 07940 394383



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HLE MANAGER CONTACTS:
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HLE COMMITTEE SECRETARY CONTACT:
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Holly Lodge Estate – January Security Meeting Summary and Initial Next Steps

On 22 January, a meeting was held at St. Anne’s Church, open to all residents, to discuss issues and questions about security on the estate. In all, over 100 were in attendance. Reverend Andrew Meldrum moderated the meeting and we are grateful to him for his participation and the use of the Church.

The meeting was opened by Peter Wesley, Chairman of the HLE Committee, who explained that there has been a concern among some residents about the level of security on the estate. He addressed the need for security to begin at home with each plot holder, leaseholder and tenant doing their share to protect their residence and belongings. He also listed the many things done by the Committee to improve the Estate and help safeguard its residents. Finally, Peter indicated that the Committee members were in attendance throughout the audience, but were present as individuals rather than part of the committee. (A copy of Peter’s speech is available on the HLE website in the “Committee” tab under “Security.”)

Two speakers were provided the opportunity to discuss their perspective on security. Justyn Trenner spoke on behalf of those in favour of the need for additional security measures, in particular patrols and CCTV, referencing recent events on the Estate. Ines Newman then spoke about the need for residents to take responsibility for security of their own homes, the feeling of community that the estate fosters and why importing outside security patrols would affect this sense of community. (Copies of a summary of Justyn’s and Ines’ presentations are also available on the HLE website in the “Committee” tab under “Security.”)

The meeting was then handed over to Father Andrew and, for the next ninety minutes, 27 members of the audience expressed their concerns, raised questions and, in general, debated among themselves the various issues surrounding security provisions. Father Andrew also proposed that anyone who felt uncomfortable speaking in public or had additional thoughts after the meeting were welcome to e-mail their comments. To date, we have had 25 responses submitted by e-mail and these comments are included in this summary.

It was reassuring to hear from a number of individuals both at the meeting and subsequently that there is a general feeling the HLE Committee is doing a good job and people are happy with its initiatives. Further, many mentioned that the responsibility of managing the estate, including matters regarding security, is in the hands of the Committee and those individuals are happy to allow the Committee to carry on.

Some spoke of unpleasant personal experiences, including burglary and anti-social behaviour (such as drug-related activities). There was a genuine, heartfelt sympathy among many members of the audience for those who experienced these incidents personally.

It was generally agreed that burglary and anti-social behaviours were separate issues (both of concern) and needed to be dealt with differently. The former appears concentrated in one or two areas including Langbourne Avenue and Robin Grove. The latter towards the top of Hillway and Holly Lodge Gardens. Some incidents were also reported from several of the mansion buildings.

Security Patrols:

With reference to the security patrols, there were more divided feelings. Some felt that they were effective and cited the statistics for burglaries during the periods of security patrols organised both by the residents and by the Committee. Others questioned the economics, overall ability to discourage crime and the side effects of bringing about a change in the fabric of the estate, for example, by having to encounter a patrolman at night with some unpleasant experiences. Others cited Government statistics that showed crime is lower in Highgate Ward than the national average and lower still on the Estate than Highgate Ward.

Although patrols may be more effective with ASB due to the static nature of the offence, there may not be a majority support from all HLE Residents. The HLEC is thus also currently examining whether there are alternatives to patrols that residents might support. Nevertheless, we have not ruled out the possibility of periodic and limited-time patrols to address specific problems (as we have done in the past) and will certainly be giving this the consideration it deserves. In the interim, we want to encourage everyone to do their part and report any incident immediately to the Police and to the Estate Manager. Every call or contact logged will increase our chances of securing better coverage and more rapid responses in the future.

Survey:

While several members expressed concern about being bound by a majority vote, many felt that a wider consultation was needed, to include the residents of the flats, and some type of study would provide an indication of what might be included in the next steps for the Committee. To this end, we are currently investigating the use of a research survey that will be seeking the views of residents across the estate as to what counter-measures they would support and at what cost. Whatever measures are agreed will need to be effective.

Other actions:

In light of the meeting and e-mails received, the HLE Security Sub-Committee is forming a Security Liaison Group to include the Police Safer Neighbourhood Team (Highgate Dedicated Ward Officer - DWO), local Councilors, members from the HLE Committee, representatives of the flats and ploholders, specifically to tackle the highlighted issues of concern. The purpose of the meetings will be to identify and address specific concerns from recent burglaries to drug-related incidents and engage relevant authorities to identify solutions to reduce their incidence.

A flyer issued by the Metropolitan Police is being distributed with this newsletter to remind everyone of what steps can be taken to protect your home.

In addition, the Highgate DWO, PC Wendy Lee, has offered to visit any residence to advise owners on how to secure their property. Also, for those elderly or more vulnerable, PC Lee has offered individual support. Finally, seminars will be organised to educate residents on topics including personal safety, online scamming, burglary, crime prevention and awareness.

The Committee promised to keep everyone informed and to continue to act in the best interests of the Estate and its residents.