

THE HOLLY LODGE ESTATE

FROM THE COMMITTEE REPRESENTING ALL PLOT OWNERS & INFORMING ALL RESIDENTS

NEWSLETTER FEBUARY 2021

GRITTING

In the unlikely event that our staff are unable to get in to grit please feel free to help yourself to salt from the grit bins that are to be found across the Estate. Please do not use this for your paths and drives though – it is for the Estate roads and paths only.

Advice from the Met Office:

Don't be put off clearing paths because you're afraid someone will get injured. Remember, people walking on snow and ice have a responsibility to be careful themselves.

Follow the advice from the Department for Transport here

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/seasonal-advice/your-home/clearing-paths-and-driveways> to make sure you clear the pathway safely and effectively.

And don't believe the myths - it's unlikely you'll be sued or held legally responsible for any injuries if you have cleared the path carefully.

PLOT OWNERS' AGM – SAVE THE DATE

The Annual General Meeting for Plot Owners will be held on the evening of Wednesday 28th April – most likely via Zoom. We will forward further details nearer the time.

SECURITY AND PARKING ZOOM MEETING HELD WITH RESIDENTS

On Tuesday, 26 January the Holly Lodge Estate Committee hosted a Security and Parking (Zoom) meeting with the residents following the Security Questionnaire we implemented at the end of last year. Including the Committee, over forty participated.

We presented the results of the questionnaire, the various activities that the HLE Committee has undertaken during the year and options for the future. Questions submitted by the residents in advance were addressed as well as those that were raised during the 90 minute meeting.

The general consensus from the results of the questionnaire and the feeling of the residents at the meeting is that they are mostly content with the level of security currently provided on the Estate and are pleased with the way the Committee is managing the appropriate steps necessary. The one exception were a number residents at the top of the Estate who would like to see more security.

One of our proposals was to trial an ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) system in that zone. This would limit the activity to that area of the Estate where it was most needed. There was a high level of support for this effort by everyone at the meeting.

Therefore, we will be implementing this trial to determine if it can help to reduce or eliminate the problems we have been experiencing. It is anticipated to take place over a six month period. Details of the timing and next steps will be announced shortly to all residents as well as specifics for those in the zone where the trial will occur.

NO BALL GAMES IN THE TOP PARK PLEASE

Unfortunately our newly planted centre bed in the ornamental garden at the top of Hillway is being trampled and ruined by children chasing their balls. There is plenty of space in the larger park for them to play happily without causing any damage.

2021 PARKING PERMITS

We are still experiencing difficulties with issuing the 2021 permits. Please be assured that your 2020 permits will remain valid until this problem is resolved. New applications can still be processed but will be issued as 2020 permits.

Once we are able we will email all permit holders inviting you to confirm which vehicles you would like to renew for 2021, so watch out for that email.

SUPPORTING THE ROYAL FREE & WHITTINGTON ICU STAFF

A big thank you goes out again to our wonderful residents who are supporting the beleaguered staff in our local hospital intensive care units by delivering treats, food and drinks to them. They have collected nearly £7,000 to date and are delivering much appreciated supplies, home bakes etc 2-3 times a week.

If you would like to be included in the ICU Support WhatsApp group so you can keep up to date with what they are doing or offer your help then please join here

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BYigeegH1HP852apWvzrhE>

CELEBRATING 5 YEARS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ON THE HOLLY LODGE!

We mark 5 years of Neighbourhood Watch on the HLE. We could not have done it without your commitment and cooperation. We are always looking for more members so please do check with your neighbours to ensure we are including everyone. The scheme grows stronger with every new member. For more information, please contact Mary at mselfe@blueyonder.co.uk or Barbara at manager@hle.org.uk.

DOOR TO DOOR SALES PEOPLE

There has been a spate of quite rude and aggressive sales people knocking on doors recently. Whilst ordinarily we would not wish to deny anyone from making a living, especially in these difficult times, some of these people are very intimidating and have proved not to be legitimate. The police have advised that there should be no door to door selling at the moment during lockdown and if you do experience them they ask you to call them straight away on 999.

CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFTS

Unfortunately we seem to be seeing a few more catalytic converter thefts again on the Estate. Try to park so that the convertor can't be easily reached by potential thieves – against the kerb or better still against one of the grass banks.

You should also register your converter and mark it with a forensic marker, which will make it harder for thieves to dispose of. You may wish to consider a Cat Clamp www.catclamp.com or a lock or tilt alarm. Ask your car dealer if they can give you any advice on locks or guards that are approved by the vehicle manufacturer.

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