

Activity Report for HHGERA 2019-20

Planning:

HHGERA reviewed 18 planning applications for the Estate including 3 for immediate surroundings, which overall is around 30% less activity than two years ago. However that's still a lot of time looking and at commenting on planning!

On the Estate applications were mainly for replacement of old front windows with the the now approved standard double glazed Wood windows. Also for rear dormer roof loft extensions and rear ground floor infills. Planning enforcement was requested at 65 Monks Drive for replacement front door and window not in keeping with the Estate Management Plan. This is available on the HHGERA website and we encourage people considering changes to check this, and to contact us with questions.

The number of Houses of Multiple Occupancy lettings has dropped following unsocial tenant issues, usually resolved with the mediation of the Hanger Hill Ward Neighbourhood police.

More widely, a second application was refused for Queens Parade to infill the rear service road. Also a change of use for 163 Dukes Road to a Leisure « EscapeRoom » club was refused. Our Estate Conservation Panel objected on the basis of its location and potential for noise, nuisance and impact on public safety.

Ealing's Conservation Area management plans – HHGE is one of 29 in Ealing- are under review, and HHGERA has fed into this process. A draft report is expected soon which will be presented to the Council, who will make recommendations. Following that there will then be a consultation period.

Watch out for details in the newsletter, website or twitter feed.

Community policing: Aleksandra Turner, the Estate's Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, continues to work with OWL, an online network open to all residents, to improve awareness of crime and crime prevention locally.

Council liaison: Our residents have needed to liaise frequently with the council this year, over planning, but also bin collections, and reporting street trees needing replacing- we're pleased to see some new trees on Monks and Queens Drive. We thank our councillors for their responses, and remind residents they can contact the council directly by reporting concerns through the council website, but it's also really helpful to let the Res Ass know so we can coordinate over shared issues.

Flats board liaison: We have reached out to the flats board on several occasions, for information on windows replacement to include in the newsletter, to discuss offers of help with the pond and to invite them to attend our meetings. We will continue to try and work together. Liaison continues over the management of the service road between Links/Monks and Queens Drive, which currently lies with the flats board but will hopefully be transferred to the RA, as with the other service roads.

Rubbish collection and litter pick: The RA held a litter pick in April which was great fun, local residents have also been diligently collecting rubbish- and we now have high-vis jackets you can wear to look 'official' and to be safer if collecting at road edges.

We've used the newsletter and internet to try and let you know about ways to avoid litter being created- for example making sure your food waste bins have a secure lid. Blocking service roads is an issue for bin collection and we must make sure to leave these clear on collection days. The

council will be taking rubbish collection back in house this year, and we will be talking to the relevant people to try and ensure a smooth transition.

Social events: We held four PlayStreets throughout the Summer, community litter picking, a Christmas party for HHGERA committee members. We were planning an opening ceremony on Princes Gardens in May, but this won't now be going ahead. We will try to reschedule as we would like to celebrate the work that's been done, and get together to enjoy our shared gardens. Playstreet dates were in the last newsletter, however will be kept under review. We may hold them later in the year, if possible.

Communications: HHGERA kept in touch with residents via the newsletter, which was sponsored by Zekel Tennis and delivered to all houses and flats; the hhgera.com website and Twitter feed (@hhgeranews). Contributions to all of these were welcome.