



Eastcote Park Estate Association

<http://www.eastcoteparkestate.org.uk>

Newsletter– July 2011

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on 9th May 2011. The meeting was well attended this year. We were pleased to Welcome PC Rob Belson from the local neighbourhood policing team (for a second year) and Lesley Crowcroft, the chairman of the Friends of Eastcote House Grounds .

Lesley was kind enough to give us a summary of the achievements of ,and targets for, the Friends of Eastcote House Gardens (FEHG) which included:

- The Award for London in bloom that was won at level 5 (one of the highest achievements given).
- Obtained agreement from Hillingdon Council to fund £150,000 of Emergency repairs needed to the walled garden and Dovecot.
- Raised interest from the Museum of London in the Stables building as this may be 15th century whereas it was previously thought to be 17th century.
- Removal of trees next to the Ha Ha as the one that fell was found to have honey fungus.

The existing committee was re-elected. Peter Ryder was elected to the committee and Gerry Edwards was elected as Chairman

It was also agreed to retain Grangewood School as our nominated charity

The Chairman announced the intention to have a street party in June 2012 to mark the Queens Diamond Jubilee and our Associations 75th anniversary. Some initial planning has subsequently taken place and we are intending to have the event on 5th June 2012 with a limited road closure around the area of St Lawrence Drive between the Glen and Rodney Gardens. More details on this to follow in due course as we firm up on ideas.

New Road Stewards

The effectiveness of the Association is greatly aided by our team of Road Stewards. We always welcome volunteers to assist in this valuable activity to help us distribute the newsletters to neighbours and collect the subscriptions once a year. It is not too time consuming or onerous and helps oil the wheels of our local community. At this time we would particularly like volunteers for Field End Road, Rodney Gardens and Bridle Road. Volunteers from any part of the estate would , however, be welcomed as the aim is to have more volunteers with fewer homes for each to cover. Should you be willing to help please contact Martin Hand or any member of the Committee (see page 2 for contact details).

All road stewards (currently 13) are invited to an informal supper around March each year. The Association covers the cost of this as a thank you to the road stewards without whom the association would not function.

AUTUMN EVENT

We will be repeating our successful Fish and Chip Quiz evening again on **Friday November 18th** 2011. The event will take place at St. Thomas More Church Hall. More details will follow nearer the time but please note this date in your diary.



Newsletter Sponsor



121 Field End Road, Eastcote
Middlesex., HA5 1QH.
Phone 0208 426 1030

Subscriptions

79% of possible 2011 Subscriptions have now been collected. Should you not have paid and wish to do so please deliver a cheque, payable to "The Eastcote Park Estate Association" to the Treasurer at 33 St Lawrence Drive for £3.00 plus any sum you wish, as a donation to our charity, Grangewood School. Please ensure you advise which address the payment is for.

Committee Activity

Some of the actions taken by the committee recently have been:

Contacting those working on sites which had "pub signs" with a view to obtaining a redundant post suitable for a second sign at the end of Pamela Gardens.

Communicating with Hillingdon Council members on the state of roads/pavements on the estate including submitting a condition schedule.

Contacting the council on safety issues around lack of no entry sign on one entry to Pamela Gardens following some near misses.

Followed up on the park gate issue with the council who informed this would now be looked at when the refurbishment of the entire estate is considered.

One of our members attends the local motorists forum and took several issues forward including the issue of white, no entry, lines in entrances to the estate. The following response was obtained from the council's representative David Knowles in May 2011:

"The white 'no entry' painted on the carriage-way has no legal force (you will note that there are no red and white 'no entry' traffic signs). We have been reviewing this with Cllr Burrows as a Road safety Programme suggestion and the outcome is that there will be new signs and markings in the very near future."

The EPEA Committee is:

Gerry Edwards 020 8866 6434 (Chairman)
gerryedwards@blueyonder.co.uk
Richard Maude (Secretary) 020 8582 0934
richard.maude@dunphys.co.uk
Martin Hand (Treasurer) 020 8866 1752
all.hands@blueyonder.co.uk
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Marg.bacon@tiscali.co.uk
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Robin.pyburn@blueyonder.co.uk
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headc@btinternet.com
Scott Seaman –Digby
020 8866 0171 or 07810 543808
scott.sd@btinternet.com
Mark Lemon 020 3226 0043
the.lemons@btinternet.com

Green Waste

Residents will be aware that waste from our estate is generally collected on a Monday with "Green Waste" being collected on alternate Mondays. The schedule of coming Green Waste (blue week) collection days is:

July 4th 2011
July 18th 2011
August 1st 2011
August 15th 2011
September 12th 2011
September 26th 2011
October 10th 2011
October 24th 2011
November 7th 2011
November 21st 2011
December 5th 2011

See <http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk> for details.

Please do not deposit any waste in the park as it is costly to remove.

Electronic Communications

Our web site is:

<http://www.eastcoteparkestate.org.uk>

Should you wish to refer to recent newsletters they are available on the web site. The site also has a good deal of information on the history of the estate with some original drawings etc. You will also find our Association's constitution and a number of local pictures. Our hit count is currently over 1,300.

Neighbourhood Watch



Our area remains a relatively low crime area. However we note the following incidents:

March

On 24/03/2011 CAVENDISH SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS were contacted by a local resident regarding a leaflet purporting to be from a charity clothing collection agency. They believed this to be suspicious. The leaflet details a HELPING ARMS COMPANY LIMITED REG NO 7119680 apparently supporting UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

The leaflet uses the word charitable in an attempt to suggest the organisation is a charity. The phone number given does not accept incoming calls.

Enquiries revealed that this is a bogus charity. The safer neighbourhood team would appreciate any additional information you may have on this particularly as they have no descriptions of suspects or vehicles. Should you observe persons distributing these leaflets please contact police immediately or alternatively contact your local safer neighbourhood Team.

April - 4 car wing mirrors damaged in St Lawrence Drive. Where possible it is a good idea to park on your drive to reduce the chances of this sort of incident.

April - One afternoon in St Lawrence Drive two young boys (about 10 or so), one bleach blonde (with a scar on his cheek) and one dark haired, tried to steal tools and a radio on a driveway. They were chased away but were going up and down the street looking at all driveways. They also returned later in the day to see if the coast was clear.

May - A resident in Pamela Gardens went to their car and discovered that the sat. nav. had been stolen. As the car wasn't damaged they can only think that they forgot to lock it the previous evening when they arrived home. Nothing else was taken.

May - A number of reports have been received over the past few months where members of the public are contacted by people claiming to be from a computer software company. The callers offer to fix computer faults and direct their victims to a website that allows remote access to their computers. This allows access to an individual's files and sensitive information and police are urging the public to refuse this service and report any such calls to police.

Neighbourhood Watch (continued)

A police spokesman said: 'Criminals will look to profit from any opportunity and it's essential that our communities don't make themselves an easy target.

'Never allow anyone you do not know or trust access to your computer or anywhere else where you may store sensitive data and never give out any personal information online to companies where you are not entirely confident in their authenticity.

Anyone with information that can assist with these enquiries is asked to contact police immediately.

May - Someone entered a car in Burwood Avenue on a Thursday night at the end of May. They removed a number of items from the car.

May - Police warned members of the public in the Harrow area over the circulation of a leaflet which is being posted through letter boxes. The leaflet advertises services where a business will value and purchase antiques without charging for the valuations. The company's name on the leaflet is Burlington Galleries, 6 The Heights, Dyke Road Avenue, Westdene, Brighton BN1 5JX.

Police believe this to be a cover for a scam preying on elderly victims whereby the perpetrators con their way into the homes of vulnerable residents and steal high value goods, antiques and jewellery. The advice from your local team is to avoid this company or any individuals connected with it at all costs and do not believe any information received about them. We believe this to be connected to a scam last year in which an 88 year old lady had valuable jewellery stolen after inviting someone in to her house to value her belongings.

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| Rayners Lane | 020 8866 8860 |
| Northolt | 020 8423 2222 |

www.bakerpearce.com

Contacts

We encourage residents to raise any issues concerning the estate with the council as and when they have a grievance. Some useful contacts are:

Hillingdon Council

Council Website

www.hillingdon.gov.uk –

Environmental services 01895-556000

In relation to abandoned cars, fly tipping, grass cutting, road gritting, refuse collection, pavements, street lighting and tree complaints.

Environmental services 01895-250189

In relation to bonfires in gardens.

Environmental services 01895- 250155

In relation to bonfires on industrial or commercial sites and noise problems

Local Councillors

Catherine Dann 0208 868 9144

Bruce Baker 020 8426 2348

David Payne 020 8866 2986

Or email [EastcoteAndEastRuislip-](mailto:EastcoteAndEastRuislip-Ward@Hillingdon.gov.uk)

Ward@Hillingdon.gov.uk

Parks

Parks Constabulary- 01895-239241

Available 9.00am to 10pm

Parking Enforcement Helpline 01895 277383

available in office hours for problems with cars parked on yellow lines or across a drive.

E-mail parkingenforcement@hillington.gov.uk

Police

In the event of an emergency always dial 999. For all other calls to the Metropolitan Police Service please dial **0300 123 1212**.

Day to day crime and disorder issues contact your local safer neighbourhoods police team on 0208 721 2548

Hillingdon Police Community officers- 020 8246 1888. Hillingdon Police Community advice line 020 8246 1501 (Mon-Sat 10am to 5pm). Neighbourhood Watch 020 8246 1869

Safer Neighbourhoods Team
Eastcote and East Ruislip Ward XR35
Telephone: 020 7161 9325

Should you find that any of these contacts need updating please contact Martin Hand.

Eastcote House Grounds

At the time of the Eastcote Park Estate AGM it was thought that there would be another consultation on the restoration at EHG sometime during this summer. We now understand that this will not be going ahead. The Heritage Lottery Fund have changed their minds and do not require another consultation at this stage. If the Stage 1 bid is accepted then the consultation will take place at Stage 2. Should you wish to know more on this please contact Hillingdon Council.

Funds were awarded for new park benches and a notice board from Hillingdon Council's Chrysalis fund. We expect these to be installed shortly. The Chrysalis fund comes from a programme, established in February 2000, to provide capital for projects including renovations of community/public facilities, play equipment in parks and sporting facilities.

Survey of Visitors to Eastcote House Ground

As part of Heritage lottery fund bid to restore EHG a survey on the number of visitors to the gardens is needed. Most of the work will be done by the Park Officers but they will require some assistance on the following days:

Monday 11th July

Saturday 16th July

Thursday 21st July

The survey will be carried out between 7am and 7pm. Should you be able to spare two hours on one or more of these days please contact Lesley Crowcroft on 020 8866 8436 or email lesley.crowcroft@tiscali.co.uk

Front Garden Competition

Judging for this annual competition will take place over the coming few weeks. Good luck to all of those who make our estate a pleasure to see.

Welcome Letter

We aim to give all new residents a copy of a welcome letter from our Association. For those who may have missed this over the years or have not seen it for many years we have included a copy of this on page 6 of this newsletter. Unfortunately the pictures in the full newsletter would not fit on the one page. Should anyone like a full copy of the welcome letter it can be obtained from our website or from a committee member.

Eastcote Park Gardening Volunteers

We all saw the benefits of work done by volunteers in 2010. The coming gardening sessions are:

July 1st & 21st
August 5th & 18th
September 2nd & 15th
October 7th & 20th



November 4th & 17th.

Meet in the Car Park EHG at 9.30am, tools, refreshments and friendly company provided



Trees removed from Eastcote Park

Some of us were surprised to find so many trees removed from our park in May. We understand the reasons for the removal were:

The Ash and Sycamore, behind the Garden wall (some being self set), were blocking light from one third of the walled garden, also causing the wall to be undermined. EPEA residents have, in the past, asked for these to be removed, as they over shadow their gardens excessively. The area will be redeveloped into a Community Orchard, specialising in Heritage trees. None of which will grow as large as the forest trees. Many of the Ash trees causing problems at the boundary of the Gardens are self set, and we need each year to make sure any self sets are removed. Should they be left to grow they cause problems and are expensive to remove. It must also be noted that the tree which fell over on the drive was a self set tree. There are many others alongside the HAHA which are causing damage to this structure, and will in the future have to be dealt with. Throughout the Gardens we have self sets and overcrowding of trees, consequently many of the trees are in a poor condition and it will take many years to remedy this situation. It is not only the buildings that are in a sad state.

Looking after our Pavements and communal areas

After quite a long period of our pavements and grass areas being free of dog foul, some dog owners have unfortunately not cleared up after their dogs on some occasions. We request that everyone always clears up after their dogs particularly in areas where children may play in order to avoid the well known health risks to children associated with dog faeces.

We are also experiencing a lot of broken paving slabs due to cars parking on them. We request that all residents avoid pavement parking. It is not only inconsiderate, but illegal. We suspect most cases of pavement parking arise from visiting tradesmen etc. and ask you to advise visitors and tradesmen to move their vehicles onto the road. It may be worth mentioning to such visitors that parking wardens visit our estate to pick up on illegal parking and will issue a fixed penalty notices to anyone found parking with wheels on the pavement.

Hopefully at some time, in the not too distant future, we will have new pavements but we need to look after what we have now and thus be ready to look after the new ones as and when they are put in.

We live in a great area and it is for all of us to keep it that way

EASTCOTE PARK ESTATE ASSOCIATION WELCOME LETTER

An introduction to the EPEA:

We would like to welcome you most warmly as a newcomer to the Estate. We wish you a long and happy time here. This brief letter is to introduce the Eastcote Park Estate Association to you, to let you know why we exist and to ask for your support.

The first houses that began the development of Eastcote Park Estate were built in 1934. By 1937 the Estate was well on the way to being the development that we know today when plans were announced that would drive a road through the Estate, to take traffic from Field End Road through to Joel Street. These plans would have involved taking as much as twelve feet of frontage away from the newly constructed homes. The residents of the time called a public meeting in August of 1937 to consider the proposals and the dislocation and loss of amenities that would be caused to the Estate. The residents subscribed to a fund for the briefing of legal counsel to represent them at a full enquiry into the proposals. The scheme was subsequently cancelled, but from this beginning the Eastcote Park Estate Association was formed.

Since that time the Committee, which is elected each year, has pursued the original aims which are to maintain, safeguard and improve the amenities for the residents of Eastcote Park Estate and surrounding areas.

The Association does not seek to interfere in the lives of the residents. It will not involve itself in issues, which may arise between neighbours, for instance, or unnecessarily interject in such things as planning applications for alterations to the existing homes.

The Committee gives their time, freely, voluntarily and with enthusiasm for the goals of maintaining the amenity of this rare example of a 'Metroland' Estate - which is recognised by Hillingdon Council as a Conservation area. The Committee represents the views and interests of the majority of residents when required; and contributes to local Community spirit by the organisation of a small number of events each year designed to provide all age groups with an opportunity to meet socially with other residents of the Estate. Our Annual General Meeting is usually held in May and all members are encouraged to attend.

Your Road Steward gives valuable help to the Committee by collecting the nominal annual subscriptions, currently £3.00, delivering Newsletters and acting as a conduit for the flow of information and help between residents and the Committee. If you cannot attend the A.G.M. please let your Road Steward have any comments for consideration at the AGM if appropriate.

There is a long-standing tradition for residents, if they wish, to give a little extra when the subs are collected. The additional amounts collected are presented annually on the resident's behalf to a local charity.

We hope you will support the work of the Association. We are here to work on your behalf! We also hope to see you or your family at future social functions and at the AGM, so that you will have the opportunity to let the Committee know how we can do more to preserve the amenity and environment of our homes.

Your Road Steward will be pleased to give you further information about the Association and its activities. The Association has a web-site maintained by Robin Pyburn, which is accessible at:

<http://www.eastcoteparkestate.org.uk>.

The Association is also involved in the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme with regular updates on Neighbourhood Watch issues being emailed to residents. Should you wish to be added to the distribution list for these emails please send a message to headc@btinternet.com.

If you would like to become more directly involved in the running of the Association the Committee would be most pleased to hear from you. We always seem to need new members and we welcome new ideas.

Yours sincerely
Gerry Edwards
Chairman