



Grange Farm News

June 2020

Back on site



- 20 April - Higgins re-opened their site and have gradually ramped up activity
- Higgins are abiding by strict social distancing guidelines
- From the end of May, there were 14 operatives on site working on a range of activities, including asbestos removal and other material generated from the 'soft strip' inside the blocks
- In readiness for removing further material, Higgins have issued the relevant 2-week notice to the Health & Safety Executive (HSE)
- 3 June - work started on temporary propping of internal walls to allow for final pre-demolition works
- 13 July - current planned demolition start date.

Higgins construction update

By John Howard

As many of you may have been aware, during the lockdown I have remained on site (self-isolating). This has given me an ideal opportunity to plan and programme upcoming works which have been affected by the current situation.

The good news is that we are all back at work and have resumed normal production, which at the current stage means carrying out the soft strip of all the blocks and isolating the services such as gas, electric and water which has to be done prior to the hard demolition.

We will carry out the first stage of the hard demolition to block 1, 10–18 Osmond Close in late June/early July and then block 2, 1–9 Osmond Close. This will enable us to move the present compound to its new position and start works to the new road.

Hoardings - We're progressing with the illustrated boards to go on the hoardings along Shaftesbury Avenue later this month. We have liaised closely with both the Resident Steering Group and MyYard.

CCTV update - Once the main construction works start, the site operational requirements mean that the Council needs to relocate the CCTV mast adjacent to the Higgins site. This will be done over the next few weeks.

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New fob system on communal doors

We're installing a new fob system on communal doors to improve security and reduce the risk of anti-social behaviour.

Work has already started to install the system, which features a magnetic lock, onto the existing doors.

Residents will be given three fobs per household. 16 blocks will be fitted with the new locks initially and then the remaining ones, with all the work due to finish in early September.

We anticipate the new system will reduce anti-social behaviour and increase security to the blocks.

Ordering a replacement fob will incur a cost. Residents should follow the same procedure as with any other repair, by reporting it on the online housing portal (www.harrow.gov.uk/housingportal) or calling 0208 910 2630.



Meetings on the estate - continuing disruption

We can't hold the Thursday drop-ins at the Community Centre at the moment due to Covid restrictions. This could change soon and we will let you know if it does. If you have any queries, please contact the relevant department - details are on the back page.

We hope to have some news about when estate walkabouts will restart for the next newsletter.

Grange Farm Steering Group meetings will continue to be held once a month via Zoom. If you have any issues you wish to raise, please let Raj Kumar know - see back page for details.

The council continues to have monthly 'virtual' project meetings with Higgins to monitor the contract and ensure any delays are minimised.

Fun day plans on hold

Unfortunately we have had to cancel this year's Community Fun Day, which was planned for 25 July. This is due to the government's Covid 19 restrictions on the number of people allowed to congregate.

The Steering Group is considering other ways to support the residents on the estate. They've agreed with the council to provide enhanced internet access near the community centre via a booster system, so more people will be able to access free internet.

Other ideas include an online raffle and a drawing competition. We've identified **22 August** as the day to pull this together.

More details will follow soon. Planning this is complicated by the fact that we don't know what the situation will be in August regarding groups meeting, so we might have to do it all online. Your ideas and thoughts will be welcome. Email anthea.watkins@harrow.gov.uk.



MyYard update - by Rachel Dimond



I am back from Jamaica – hurrerrraaaaay?

Free food deliveries continue on the estate on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday for the time being, thanks to a number of people:

Resident Volunteers such as Jamella, Mandy, Franki, Shaz and Abna – for helping out, maintaining the Resident Distribution list, dealing with left over food bags and sorting out any other issues

Harrow Masonic Centre who provide the funding and organise the food. Salvation Army – Jo – who helps co-ordinate it. Christchurch Roxeth – Carol Sormaz – who has worked tirelessly with other church volunteers to pack and distribute the food bags.

Raj Kumar, 1Enterprise, who has loyally turned up to help at every occasion. Harrow Council who have provided the PPE equipment, use of the hall and the risk assessment.

Other MyYard activities are halted except for the possibility of some online sessions with different age groups.

We are going to be painting some more community boards to go on the Grange Farm hoardings in the coming weeks. If you are interested in being involved, please email: rachellucydimond@gmail.com



Help with bills

British Gas Energy Trust is a charitable trust that pays grants to help people clear gas and electricity debts. You don't have to be a British Gas customer to apply.

It also offers emergency fuel top-ups for prepayment meters and home energy efficiency assessments. Find out more at britishgasenergytrust.org.uk.

Mental health services

Harrow Talking Therapies

A FREE NHS service offering support to anyone finding the current situation difficult, whatever your circumstances. They offer 1:1 support via phone or video call on issues also including bereavement, anxiety and low mood.

Call 020 8515 5015 Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm or email harrow.iapt@nhs.net. You will

be assessed and booked in for treatment quickly.

MIND in Harrow

Help for people experiencing mental health issues
020 8426 0929
info@mindinharrow.org.uk
www.mindinharrow.org.uk
directory.mindinharrow.org.uk

Council Covid support

www.harrow.gov.uk/coronavirus

Contact us

For temporary tenants, to discuss your housing options

For surnames beginning A-M

Rosaline Nolla, Accommodations Officer

020 8416 8440 / rosaline.nolla@harrow.gov.uk

For surnames beginning N-Z

Pauline Dawes, Accommodations Officer

020 8424 1948 / pauline.dawes@harrow.gov.uk

To report anti-social behaviour or ask about your tenancy

David Worrall, Housing Officer

020 8901 2630

housing.residentservices@harrow.gov.uk

Report a repair

Access Harrow

020 8910 2630

www.harrow.gov.uk/housingportal (Repairs tab)

To ask about regeneration and design

Kamal Uddin, Regeneration Officer

kamal.uddin@harrow.gov.uk

Salome Irungu

Decant and Resettlement Housing Officer

020 8424 1415

salome.irungu@harrow.gov.uk

To talk about your rent account

Neeta Bhayani, Rent Officer

020 8901 2630

housing.residentservices@harrow.gov.uk

Make a complaint

Search online for 'Harrow Council complaint'
and complete form

or email

housing.customerservices@harrow.gov.uk

For free independent tenant advice Contact One Enterprise Ltd

03450 573995 Raj@1enterprise.co.uk

www.GrangeFarmSteeringGroup.co.uk

Fly-tipping don't put up with it!

If you see dumped rubbish on the estate report it and we will clear it. If you see someone dumping rubbish take down as much detail as possible and report it to us.

Report it online at harrow.gov.uk
Search 'fly-tipping'

Crime Report it: call 101

All incidents of crime on the estate should be reported to the Police so they can take action.

Call 101 or 020 8721 2986.

In an emergency always call 999.

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