



Grange Farm News

October 2020

Steering Group update from Ken Woods



I hope you are all keeping safe and well. This has been a very difficult time for many people and my thoughts and prayers are with you.

I'm pleased that the Steering Group members

have all managed to jump online and engage with the Council on Zoom.

The Steering Group are pleased the demolition work is progressing well. John and Joan at the Higgins site office have been very helpful and it's good that real jobs are now being created for local people.

It was unfortunate this year we could not hold the onsite Fun Day, but thanks to all those who participated in the online events. Alongside MyYard's work, the Tag Rugby was a great success and gave the young children something positive to remember from the summer.

Going forward the Steering Group are supporting Rachel and MyYard to secure a local allotment, monitoring the effectiveness of the CCTV, discussing sustainable energy and will be developing a long-term Action Plan to ensure the regeneration of Grange Farm leads to our vision being delivered.

The vision is called "Caring for the Community" Place, People and Partnerships". The Covid-19 lockdown has offered us all a period of reflection and also a desire to work for the greater good. In this light, the vision has been strengthened under three themes:

- PLACE: A beautiful place where people love to live, work and play.
- PEOPLE: We before Me. Working together for the greater community good.
- PARTNERS: Partnerships that help bring the community together.

If you would like more information or to attend the online Zoom monthly meetings with the Steering Group and Council, please contact Raj, our Independent Tenants Advisor whose details are at the end of the newsletter. The next 3 months meetings will take place at 7pm on 29th October and 26th November and 28th January 2021.

Unfortunately, we are not able to deal with individual issues, but the Group looks at the big things that impact on the whole neighbourhood.

Please also visit our website where all the notes of our previous meetings and other useful information is held:

www.grangefarmsteeringgroup.co.uk

God bless. Ken

Ken Woods
Chair, Grange Farm Steering Group

Social Value - Higgins update with Amy Ross

Community Engagement

Higgins were pleased to support the Grange Farm Estate virtual summer fun day held on Saturday 22nd August, and donated the gift voucher prizes for the winners and runners up in each category. A big well done to the winners and all those who took part!

We have plans to work with Shaftesbury School, to offer classroom projects and challenges, careers and employability sessions and work experience and insight days.

Working closely with My Yard, Higgins has provided the hoarding boards, and spray paints for a new graffiti project. You should see these go up in the next few weeks.

Coming soon...

We're working closely with MyYard to set up a winter programme for young people aged 11 to 18 called the Young Change Makers scheme. We are hoping this will help build confidence, provide opportunities for improving CVs and practicing job interviews in a safe environment, and for those completing the programme, we will try to find them 10 hours paid work experience during the Xmas school break.



Employment & Training

We have now recruited our first apprentice for the contract – Adekeye Adewale joined us at the end of July as Assistant Site Supervision apprentice, he is a local resident to the estate, and will be working closely with the site management team and the community.

We are also in the process of recruiting for two new exciting job opportunities: Site Admin and Liaison Apprentice, and General Building Operative.



Regeneration Update from Higgins

Works have really progressed throughout the period and as everyone can see the landscape has significantly changed which is mainly due to the demolition of blocks 1 and 2 in Osmond Close and blocks 3 and 4 in Grange Farm Close.

What people may not realise is that once the buildings are levelled there is an awful lot of existing services, such as water pipes, beneath the ground which will have to be maintained or removed if no longer needed. More importantly, there are the diversions required to maintain services to the remaining properties.

This will happen when we construct the new link road which is now underway. Our aim is to cause minimal disruption to any of the existing

properties and everyone will be informed of any disruptions to either gas or water and BT/ Virgin.

We have relocated the compound which is our home for the duration of the works. The site team are located here, with an office for our Resident Liaison Officer, Joan Borzak.



Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) process

As set out previously, Harrow needs to secure all remaining property interests in time to build out Phases 2 and 3. The Council is planning to be in contract with their chosen developer partner in 2022/23. Residents will be involved in the selection process..

We hope to be able to negotiate with owners to secure the properties, but in order to deliver the full benefits of the regeneration scheme for the community, Harrow will continue with the 'fall-back' option of the CPO route.

This will affect you in different ways, depending on whether you are a Harrow

secure tenant or a leaseholder and your options are set out in the Grange Farm Residents' Charter.

TerraQuest has been working on behalf of Harrow to gather information to support the process and we have now submitted the CPO. Individual notices have been posted out, formally advising you of the process. You'll also see notices placed around the site, and adverts in newspapers.



Will the regeneration affect car parking spaces?

Work on the new road, which we hope will open November, has meant the loss of seven spaces from Grange Farm Close and Osmond Close.

It's clear, as residents have reported, that many people are parking here to use South Harrow underground station.

Higgins has arranged for a temporary 'residents only' parking arrangement, to include 3 spaces along Shaftesbury Avenue. This will be in place for 18 months. Higgins will be able to contact the Council to issue parking tickets and have vehicles towed. Further details to follow.

What are Higgins' working hours?

Although the government has said that contractors can extend the hours they work, up to 9pm, Higgins advises that they currently intend to keep to their current operating hours of 7:30am to 5pm. This may change as works progress and we will keep you updated.

When will the community centre be reopened?

Currently there is no date to reopen the centre to members of the public. A risk assessment is awaiting verification, and this limits the number of people able to use the centre, making it unusable for public engagements. As soon as this ruling changes, you will be advised.

When will the playground be reopened?

There are no plans to unlock any Housing managed playgrounds. A risk assessment notes that the cleaning and checking of sites

will increase the cost significantly to Housing Services and the council cannot guarantee users' safety.

Can we have a football cage on site?

Thank you to all the children who wrote to us asking for a football cage on site. Unfortunately, the answer is no.

With the two-metre distancing rule and government guidance changing so frequently, it is not safe to have more than one child in a football cage at one time, and this would need monitoring during daylight hours.

When will estate inspections start up again?

The good news is that the Housing Officer is restarting regular estate inspections and the report will be copied to the Steering Group and local ward councillors.

What do we do with bulky items we want to get rid of?

Harrow Council provide a service to dispose of bulky items. Search for 'Harrow bulky waste'.

This service for special collections of bulky waste will not only reduce fly tipping in the Borough but will provide a competitively priced collection for large household items such as furniture and electrical appliances.



COVID SYMPTOMS?

High Temperature **or** Continuous Cough **or** Change in Sense of Taste or Smell



SELF ISOLATE AND GO HERE FOR A TEST

nhs/coronavirus or call 119

Protect your friends and family

Healthy Eating

Do you need support to help you reach a healthy weight? Have you struggled to lose weight without professional help?

There is now a **FREE** weight management programme available in Harrow, run by Watford FC- Shape Up commissioned by Harrow Council's Public Health Team.



Shape Up provides a series of free 12 week courses which include both food and lifestyle education, as well as fun physical activity sessions.

There are both men's and women's courses starting in September 2020, as well as an online version launching this month that you can do from home, in the form of the new Shape Up App!

If you would like to find out more please call **01923 496391** or email rhys.ratcliffe@watfordfc.com

Help Harrow

Local organisations have come together to form a partnership to support Harrow residents during the Covid-19 outbreak. If you need support, advice or food supplies, visit helpharrow.org.



Local heroes

Nominated as Harrow Heroes, thank you to Shaz and Franki for all your help packing and distributing free hot meals over the summer months.

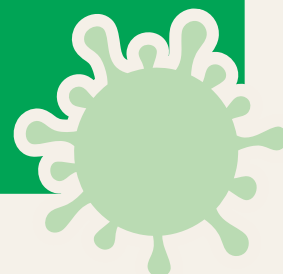
'Just' flu?

Flu kills about 11,000 people in the UK each winter and hospitalises many more.

This year, with Covid cases again rising, it's vital that we do all we can to protect older people, young children and those with underlying health conditions.

If you're eligible for a free flu jab, don't delay - make an appointment with your doctor or pharmacist straight away.

For more information, including in different languages, go to www.harrow.gov.uk/flu



Front door upgrades

Most block front doors on the estate have recently been upgraded, providing residents with increased security. For the remaining addresses, 55 to 108 Wesley Close, work will be completed mid October.



Jack Petchey award win

Young Harrow Foundation and MyYard nominated Willow and Riley for a Jack Petchey Award, which recognises outstanding young people in our region.

They received this prestigious award for their amazing volunteer work helping Jamella to distribute free hot meals earlier this summer.

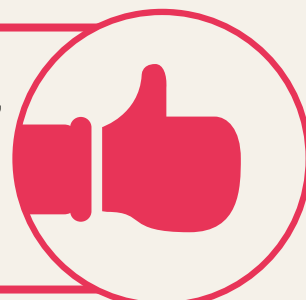
They received £250 to spend on a community project. Thank you on behalf of the Grange Farm community.

Rugby fitness sessions

Thanks to Jamella Ricardo for encouraging the Metropolitan Police to engage with the estate and provide 5 x weekly rugby fitness sessions in the open area. Ben Eynon, Met

Police Youth Engagement Officer and his helpers proved very popular. Thanks to MyYard for providing refreshments and Joan from Higgins for providing moral support.

For helping to arrange the summer activities, a huge thank you to Christchurch Roxeth, MyYard, Raj Kumar, the Metropolitan Police, Higgins, Young Harrow Foundation, Tim Dalton of Harrow School and Harrow Council, who all worked together to create the programme. Huge thanks to the many Christchurch volunteers led by Temi and Carol who delivered fun activity packs during August to over 30 families on the estate.



Thanks to our young cake bakers



MyYard provided cake mixes and yummy ingredients for children to show off their baking skills. The 50 judges had a hard time, but Isra's swirly cake had the most votes – congratulations Isra, Shown here on the left, with her older sister.



Also pictured, Myiesha making her coffee Oreo cake.



Summer workshops organised by My Yard



This summer about 20 young people joined in weekly workshops organised by MyYard. Sessions included singing and composing, craftwork, marketing and exercise classes. The season ended with 3 young ladies selling their handiwork at a market stall and taking home their earnings.



Competitions

The council, Grange Farm Steering Group, Higgins and MyYard organised an online replacement for the summer event as we couldn't all meet face to face this year.

Residents were invited to submit entries to 4 competitions and Councillor Sarah Butterworth and Paddy Lyne, Chair of HFTRA kindly judged the winners and runners up



Fancy Dress winner: Tiana as Princess Jasmine from Disney's Aladdin



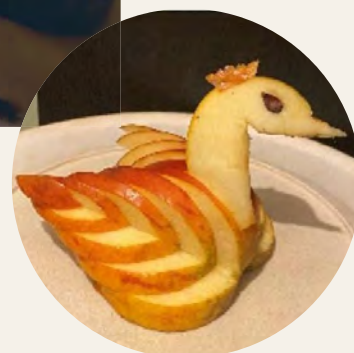
Jam winner: Tiana, who won these vouchers performing a great dance for the Grange Farm 1 minute jam video.



Vegetable and fruit creations winner: Kyan and his Apple Crab



Vegetable and fruit creations winner: Thusmira and her Queen Apple Swan



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.

BUILDING A BETTER
HARROW


Grange Farm Community
Building better lives


Harrow COUNCIL
LONDON