

Landen Park Estate Residents' Association

NEWSLETTER

December 2020

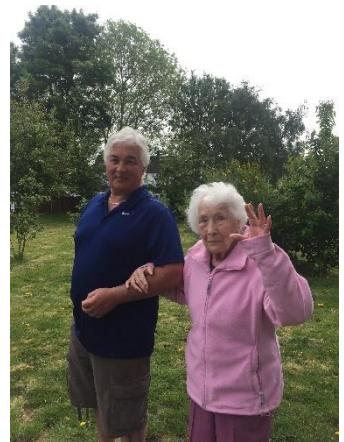


Our newsletter in May was well received. Little did we know then that we would still be in the grips of COVID-19 and would have to endure a second lockdown. We hope you are all keeping safe and well. Please let us know if you are aware of any help needed in our locality. This second Residents' Association Newsletter is to give you an update of what's been going on since May.

THE VILLAGE GREEN

This community space has been an invaluable asset during this dreadful pandemic providing a safe environment for exercise and even a committee meeting venue.

Whilst we have sadly been prevented from holding any events of our own on The Village Green this year, there has been activity in terms of the maintenance and preservation of the area – see inside.



Hedge Saplings

As you may remember from our last newsletter, in March a team of volunteers from the local community planted and staked almost 100 hedge saplings along the border between The Green and the Westvale Park development. The majority of these are still growing and we are keeping a watchful eye on them.



Trees



You may have seen that we hired a local tree company to trim some of the trees on The Green in July of this year.

We alerted residents who are on the e-mailing list to the fact that two of the Ash trees on the Northern side of The Green were found to have Ash dieback. Members of the Committee have made several attempts to have this dealt with by Surrey County Council and the Borough Council and we even contacted the Citizens' Advice Bureau to

seek advice. Ultimately, we found out that we needed to contact the owners of the land as the trees are still their responsibility. We wrote a letter to one of the Directors of Sterling Homes Ltd in late October but are still waiting for a response.



Shrubs Planting

Thanks to Paul and Sarah in Landen Park who donated several large shrubs from their garden, mainly Euonymus and a couple of Holly which we have been transplanted mainly to the area where the electricity pylon was situated, thus filling the gap.

Wildflowers



Wildflowers The wildflower area looked beautiful through the summer. A group of residents cut the dead flowers back in early September in order to maximise the potential for regrowth next year. To enhance the display we will try and sow some more wild flower seeds in March. Huge thanks to Gary who created another sign to alert passers-by of the wildflower site.

The Village Green Christmas tree

It would be lovely to see a few decorations on the Christmas tree this year. If you or your children are feeling creative and would like to make something weatherproof which could be hung on the tree, please do let us know.

Village Green Signs

The two 'Village Green' signs were erected this year by some of the residents. We were also very pleased that the redundant electricity pylon was finally removed. Huge thanks go to resident Lynda who pursued this on our behalf.



Dog Fouling

It has been noticeable that in the last year more people have been exercising their dogs on The Green. This is great, but unfortunately incidents of dog fouling had increased. The Borough Council dog warden visited the site earlier this year and suggested that we erect a couple of signs, which she supplied, reminding everyone to clean up their dog's poo. Bags can then be deposited in the yellow bin on the Arne Grove side of The Green. We are pleased to say that the co-operation on this has improved considerably.

EVENTS

Regrettably, as mentioned above, COVID-19 has prevented us from holding our planned events this year, eg *'The Big Lunch'*, *Summer BBQ* and *Annual Autumn Event*. However, Landen Park Estate residents continuously turned out to participate in **#ClapForOurCarers** and It was fantastic to see so many residents out on Friday 8th May celebrating **VE Day**.



Doorstep Carols – Wednesday 16 December

BBC Radio Surrey is part of this event to encourage residents to sing carols on their doorsteps, so we would love to encourage as many of you as possible to join with us at **6pm on 16 December**. BBC Radio Surrey will be broadcasting the carols so you will just need to tune in at 104FM, 104.6FM or visit the website for more info at <https://www.doorstepcarols.co.uk/is-your-area-involved/surrey>

Grass Cutting

Huge thanks go to residents Matt and Adam for continuing with the regular grass cutting this year. In order to make this job easier, Matt has purchased a ride on mower which has proved invaluable in time and effort. His support is magnificent!

Finance Update – We need your help!

Our financial year runs from 1st June to 31st May.

Last year was excellent with proceeds from events, Council grants and subscriptions/ donations providing us with a good income whilst costs were mainly confined to enhancing the Village Green (initial grass cutting, hedgerow planting and signage) plus liability insurance. This year is a very different scenario with no event fundraising or grants, and income mainly restricted to resident subscriptions/donations. However, we have significantly increased expenditure including: professional tree maintenance work, liability insurance plus possible cost of removal of the trees with Ash Dieback.

We have a shortfall and a target to raise at least £500 but need the support of our lovely residents. We propose voluntary subscriptions/donations of £20 per household. Please email or contact our treasurer (Tina Constanti) direct at 1 Landen Park if you can help.

May we wish you a very happy Christmas and New Year. We hope and look forward to being able to meet up again in 2021.

If you are interested in getting involved in the Residents' Association in any way, or have any queries or suggestions, please get in touch. Also, we are always looking for upbeat contributions to our social media, such as examples and photos of how people are using The Green during lockdown and beyond.

Keep safe, everybody!



<https://landenparkvillagegreen.wordpress.com>



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Landen Park Estate Village Green



LandenParkVillageGreen@gmail.com

