



Highams Residents' Association

Founded in 1955 for the residents of The Highams Estate
AREA OF SPECIAL CHARACTER

Newsletter 12 - February 2014

The Highams Park Plan

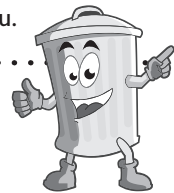
Highams Park was successful (September 2011) in its application for £20k funding from central government to create a formal Neighbourhood Plan. The application was made jointly by LBWF, The Highams Park Forum, and The Highams Park Society. The first step in the creation of the plan is to create a properly constituted body (separate from the Forum and the Society) made up of at least 21 Highams Park residents and businesses, to develop the plan. Two attempts to progress this over the past two years have stalled for practical reasons. These obstacles have now been overcome.

10 people came forward and the group has been meeting regularly, chaired by Gordon Turpin of the Highams Park Forum. This group is the "initiation committee" and its sole purpose is to find and setup the group of 21 or more people needed to create the plan. To do this, the "initiation committee" organised a large scale "launch event" to engage as many Highams Park residents as possible.

The event took place on Saturday 16th November 2013. One of the key questions asked is whether the residents of the Highams Estate feel part of Highams Park.

If you would like to be involved (or just want to know more) please contact the Initiation Committee on their dedicated email address:
highamparkplan@gmail.com They'll be pleased to hear from you.

Waste Less Food



The North London Waste Authority (NLWA), an authority that arranges the disposal of waste collected in the seven boroughs of Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington and Waltham Forest delivers an extensive Waste Prevention Programme to help and inspire people who live and work in north London to reduce waste rather than having to dispose of it after it is created.

One of their priorities is food waste prevention, which can **save a family up to £50 a month** and help the environment, too. They are encouraging residents to get involved and they would be delighted to have your support in this. There are lots of ways you can get involved, all for free:

- They offer free food waste workshops in which they discuss the issue of food waste and provide practical tips and advice to help people reduce their food waste and at the same time save money. They also offer free portion measuring tools, fridge thermometers and recipes.
- They can help you take the "Waste Less Food, Save More Money Challenge" – a chance to reduce your food waste and bills and win an organic veg box delivery for a month.
- You can give them your tips and recipes to include them in the new edition of their cookbook.

If you are interested in getting involved in any of the above please email **highamsra@me.com**

Do you want to be a Snow Angel?

Snow Angels are community volunteers that assist in the clearance of any snow that falls on footways. These volunteers are tasked to clear the snow outside their own property as well as outside properties of vulnerable and elderly neighbours. Over the last 3 years, the scheme has grown from having only 50 people during the initial pilot, to now having over 500 Snow Angels across the borough, made up of residents, Councillors and Council staff. It is now the intention of WF to extend this opportunity to the business community, as gritting the front of business premises will assist in keeping the footways clear of snow and ice during wintry conditions.

Snow Angels have played a vital role in keeping the borough moving during spells of adverse weather conditions over the last few years and more specifically their local areas. Last year saw Snow Angels teaming up to help friends; neighbours and the more vulnerable members of our community get around safely.

WF are looking for proactive, community minded businesses to contact them and register an interest in becoming a Snow Angel to ensure that our borough is sufficiently prepared and equipped to deal with any severe conditions we may experience.

Snow Angels receive a free snow shovel, a free bag of grit, free gloves and a free hi visibility vest.

If you would like to become a Snow Angel then please email on: **environmental.services@walthamforest.gov.uk** or telephone: **020 8496 3000**

WATCH THIS SPACE... for more information about the next HRA event. Have you any suggestions for this year?

www.highamsra.org.uk
email: highamsra@me.com

SECURITY CORNER



Please take care when answering the door to street collectors or door to door salesmen.

STREET COLLECTORS

All charity collection bucket/tins MUST:

- 1) Display the name of the charity on the bucket/tin.
- 2) Be securely sealed.

The collector must be in possession of written authority from the charity and also a permit issued by the MPS. If they do not have a permit they commit an offence.

There are only certain days of the month that collections are allowed to take place and each charity is only allowed to collect once per year in any given local authority area. Therefore, if you see the same person collecting for the same charity more than once a month, they probably haven't got a permit!

N.B. Train stations are subject to different legislation and hence the above does not apply

Details of current permits issued by the MPS Charities office are published on the MPS website (www.met.police.uk/charities). This website also covers other types of charitable collections. charity commission website (www.charitycommission.gov.uk).

Should you feel that the charity street collectors are committing an offence

please contact your local policing team."

Door to door salesmen

We have also heard of a woman going door to door in Wood Lane, giving the impression that she is deaf and mute, and selling drawings. The drawings are quite good but when looked at closely it can be seen that they are photocopies.

HOME SECURITY

Waltham Forests' burglary squad is appealing to residents to take care and lock their doors and windows when leaving their property unoccupied, even if it is only for a few minutes.

Leaving windows open even a little is enough for a burglar to gain entry to your home. Opportunist burglars will also try a door and if it is open, they will simply walk in and take what they can.

Most burglaries tend to be opportunistic rather than planned. So if your home does not look secure, seems uninvited in, or provides unobserved access, it could be at risk. Understanding what burglars look for when choosing their target will help you identify weak spots in your home's security.

Remove temptation: Where possible, try to keep valuables out of sight from windows.

When going to bed ensure that all ground floor doors and windows are closed and locked.

REMEMBER

- by taking just a few simple measures you can dramatically reduce the chances of it happening to you. For more crime prevention advice please visit our website www.met.police.uk/crimeprevention/burglary.htm

24/7 Locksmith
Repair Installation Locked out
0203 582 8175

The above sticker has been found on a number of addresses in Waltham Forest and indeed throughout London.

It is believed to be **BOGUS** as the telephone number does not exist.

Please warn your residents about this and if they find it on their doors or windows they should remove it straight away.

It may be a scam that involves the premises being looked at and then the sticker identifying it as a potential **BURGLARY** premises at a later date.

If you see anyone distributing these stickers please call Police immediately.



The date for the next AGM is 30 April 2014

A reminder of your local councillors and their contact details:

Hatch Lane

Councillor Laurie Braham • Email: zc42@btconnect.com

Councillor Marion Fitzgerald • Email: cllr.marion.fitzgerald@walthamforest.gov.uk

Councillor Geoffrey Walker • Email: cllr.geoff.walker@ntlworld.com

Hale End and Highams Park

Councillor Paul Braham • Email: cllr.paul.braham@walthamforest.gov.uk

Councillor Sheree Rackham • Email: cllr.sheree.rackham@walthamforest.gov.uk

Councillor Darshan Singh Sunger • Email: Cllr.Sunger@instantemail.t-mobile.co.uk