



Manor Park & Hempstead Fields Residents' Association

Summer Newsletter



Message from Paul Sparks, Chairman of the Association:

I was delighted with the attendance at our recent AGM and it is very encouraging to all our volunteers that you take a real interest in our community.

However, only about 1 in 10 of our households have joined the Association which costs just £5 per year. As well as supporting the area where you live, members also enjoy a range of discounts and special offers from our local shops and businesses - further details are shown on our website or we can send you details.

We have now purchased and installed a new planter on the grass verge at the Browns Lane entrance and our thanks to Uckfield Rugby Club and Brighter Uckfield for helping with this and to my wife Dorothy for filling it with soil and planting the colourful flowers.

If you have any ideas on how the amenities in our neighbourhood can be further improved, then please let us know. Hope you have an enjoyable summer and autumn.

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Surgery Car Service

Need help getting to your GP appointment at one of the surgeries in Uckfield?

If you live in Manor Park, Hempstead Fields, Manor House Court, Shaftesbury Court, Streatfeild House or Grants Hill Court then you qualify for this service. Just call: **01825 578006**



As Independent Financial Advisers in Uckfield we are pleased to help residents with any life assurance, retirement or investment needs.

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Odds and ends

- Following a request made at the AGM, we plan to lay a hard surface under the '**Lest We Forget**' bench in Southview Drive.
- Another request was made at the AGM was for a **second bench** to be placed somewhere near the Water Tower. We are looking into where this might be sited and where we can obtain the funding.
- It's the **75th anniversary of VE Day** next May – we would really welcome your ideas as to how we might mark this with a community event.
- We continue to get new businesses joining our **Shoppers Discount Scheme** – just produce your membership card to get your discount, replacement cards available from our Secretary.
- We are really pleased that nearly 140 households are members of the Association but we would love to meet our **target of 200 members!** If you haven't joined yet why not contact Peter our Secretary c/o 2 Woodlands Close or you can email him at mphfres@gmail.com

The future of Streatfeild House



As previously reported in the local media Wealden District Council has decided to go ahead with a project to provide 55 new upgraded homes on the site of Streatfeild House.

We understand that an application has been made to the government to allow the council to borrow money to fund the scheme and that various options are being considered.

Many of the residents of Streatfeild House have begun moving into the excellent accommodation provided at Grants Hill Court. Those who have chosen to do this being eligible for a home loss payment.

Streatfeild House is an important part of our community and the Association will continue to keep in touch with Wealden as the project progresses. We have already floated the idea of a sensory garden being incorporated into the design. Whilst no promises have been made there was a positive response to the idea.

In the meantime, we are looking at offering to extend the Surgery Car Service and the Good Neighbour Scheme to all the residents of Grants Hill Court.

Know your Councillor?

Following the recent local elections, we thought you might find it useful to have the up to date contact details of all the Councillors that cover our patch.

Town Council:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---|
| ● Donna French | T: 07796 796466 | E: donna.french@uckfieldtc.gov.uk |
| ● Jacqueline Love | T: 07751 699782 | E: Jackie.love@uckfieldtc.gov.uk |
| ● Chris Macve | T: 07901 685842 | |
| ● Angie Smith | T: 07796 122945 | E: angie.smith@uckfieldtc.gov.uk |
| ● Colin Snelgrove | T: 01825 762774 | E: colin.snelgrove@uckfieldtc.gov.uk |
| ● Paul Sparks | T: 01825 764287 | E: paul.sparks@uckfieldtc.gov.uk |

District Council:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| ● Uckfield North – Peter Waldock | T: 07411 769123 | E: cllr.peter.waldock@wealden.gov.uk |
| ● Uckfield East – Paul Sparks | T: 01825 764287 | E: cllr.paul.sparks@wealden.gov.uk |

Uckfield College rebuild – the Project Manager answers the 20 questions put to him at the AGM

Is the project on schedule? - Yes, the north block should be completed late June 2020.

Assuming we have a good summer and with the students absent will this speed things up? - Yes, it will allow more deliveries (as agreed with the planners)

Pleased to see that double yellow lines have not appeared – Yes, we are only using traffic cones when necessary – as agreed with Paul Sparks. Once all the long lengths of steel have been delivered the parking restrictions will not be necessary.

Is the stone wall on the boundary going to be retained? – Yes, it is.

Parts of the site are prone to flooding, has this been recognised? - Yes, additional drainage has been incorporated into the scheme.

Downsview Crescent has never looked so clean, maybe the street sweeper is being used too frequently, could it be extended to other roads on the estate? - Sorry no, have to abide with planning conditions.

The road surface in Downsview Crescent is deteriorating, who will make this good? - The road was surveyed before the work started and it will be reinstated to the same condition at the end of the project.

It was noted that ESCC Highways had been repairing potholes in the last day or two. Any repairs by the contractor are subject to the permission of ESCC – takes 8-10 weeks.

What are the current parking arrangements for those working at the site? - They are instructed to park in the Luxford Field car park behind Tesco. Not all sub-contractors are abiding by this, if they persist they will lose their contract.

Could a Park and Ride system be introduced for them? – No sorry, sub-contractors start and leave at different times

Could they use the playground during the summer break? - Kevin will speak to the College about this idea

Please tell us about the portacabins on the site - There are extensive welfare facilities for the workmen, all designed to be eco-friendly

The Considerate Constructors Scheme includes a requirement to support the community, how is this being addressed? - Through engaging with the College and Manor Primary – visits by students etc.

Currently the site attracts a score of 4.5 stars in the Considerate Constructors Scheme, what would need to be done to get the full 5 stars? - Only very large projects can achieve 5 stars where they can afford to devote extensive funding to community projects.

Noticed that the fencing in the tree protection area has been moved back, why is this? - One tree is dead and necessary for operational reasons – permission has been obtained from the planners.

What has been the greatest frustration? - Co-ordinating deliveries from suppliers as far away as Sheffield and Northern Ireland.

Will the shrubs along the fence bordering Downsview Crescent be replaced? - Yes, new trees and shrubs will be planted in accordance with the planning requirements

How are you intending to engage with local residents, for example are you planning to take groups of residents around the site? - For health and safety reasons it is difficult to show people around a working site but happy to accept visitors (by prior arrangement).

Will the new college be able to take more students? – No, but this was a Education Au, decision

Will a new pedestrian crossing is included in the scheme? – the Association understands that it is not part of the scheme.

Good Neighbour Scheme – here to help

A reminder about our latest initiative, the Good Neighbour Scheme. We have several volunteers willing

- to help with tackling an odd job around the house,
- filling in a complicated form, or
- to simply pop in to have a cup of tea and a friendly chat

To contact us call **01825 578017** – just leave a short message if we are not there to take your call.

Poppins joins our Shoppers Discount Scheme

Poppins the High Street restaurant has joined the discount scheme and is offering members a generous 10% discount!



10% off

Our new planter in Browns Lane -

something to brighten your morning as you wait to get into London Road



Thank you, Uckfield Rugby Club, for your donation towards the cost, Ric Mears for the groundwork and Brighter Uckfield for constructing it.



Contact Us:

Post: 2 Woodlands Close, TN22 1TS
Email: mphfres@gmail.com
Facebook: @ManorParkResAssoc
Good Neighbour 01825 578017
Surgery Car: 01825 578006

George Moss
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George

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