

#### **VICE CHAIRMANS COMMENT**

What a challenging year this has been and I hope for all our sakes that 2021 improves very quickly. Firstly, I would like to wish all our residents a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year.

We have received questions as to what has the SRRA been doing during lockdown, well there are a few things to consider, firstly a number of our committee, myself included that are in what is considered the vulnerable group so we haven't been able to get out and see what is going on, it doesn't mean that we have not been dealing with problems as far as we possibly can, some of the points I will cover later in the newsletter. Secondly many of the agencies that we have to interface with at the council etc have been understaffed and/or busy dealing with additional problems created by Covid 19. We have all been affected by the current situation, it prompted me to pen a verse as to my feelings at the moment. I include it here and hope it sums up 2020 —

#### Christmas 2020

What a challenging year this has been With many friends and family seldom seen But the festive season with lovely gifts and food Will no doubt help to improve our mood? There is one thing that will always provide a lift Its knowing that **FAMILY** is the greatest gift

There has been much work carried out to improve South Ruislip with planters, new pavements, additional trees and Christmas lights to name just the main points, we are all proud of the way that our community has been and hopefully will continue to improve. One of the things that we can all do at the moment is to use and support our local shops and facilities. Its in everyone's interest that these facilities remain open for all of us to use.

#### LIDL

The works in front of LIDL seem to have been going on forever, or not as it appears that very little has been done in recent weeks, following a question to the council I received the following explanation. It seems that a large water main has collapsed, it is over 800mm across. The repair has to be agreed between the Council, the water company and the Environment Agency. We have now been informed that a repair solution has been agreed by all parties and are just awaiting a commencement date.

### <u>HS2</u>

The planning permission has been approved for the building of the vent shaft in South Ruislip. We are expecting the work to commence shortly, the route for vehicles to and from the site is south along Victoria Road to the Eastcote Arms round-about then through Northolt to the A40. (more in the updates P5)

Where work is ongoing in other areas there has been many complaints with respect to excessive deposits of mud on the roads, if you see this happening in South Ruislip please report it immediately to the Council or HS2 Complaints Office. They have had to take an injunction out against the contractors in other areas so it is a known problem.

HS2 and its environmental vandalism together with riding roughshod over communities which is well documented in the local and national press. The next problem for us is work to be carried out in Bridgewater Road, Long Drive and West End Road.

## **PAVEMENTS**

Many people myself included are extremely concerned with respect to the poor condition of many of our footpaths, the following is an extract of information received from LBH -

There are around 2800 roads in Hillingdon and up to 100 roads are surfaced annually. Consequently in Hillingdon and in common with every local authority throughout the UK, there is a substantial and often growing waiting list of roads and footways, particularly residential and local roads in need of major resurfacing or reconstruction. Unfortunately, this list greatly exceeds the amount of funding available, which means that we have to prioritise accordingly.

Footways for inclusion in planned annual resurfacing programmes are prioritised primarily based on their condition. We recently commissioned independent consultants to undertake condition surveys of the entire highway network in the borough, which included all the footways in the South Ruislip area. These surveys will inform future maintenance decisions and consideration of footways for inclusion in 2020/21 footway resurfacing works programmes.

#### **GLEBE FARM**

At our last quarterly meeting, if I can remember that far back, we had a presentation with respect to the development of the Glebe farm site. At the meeting the proposals were generally felt to be an improvement on the current use of the site and would hopefully produce more considerate neighbours for our residents. The proposal has now been formally submitted to LBH and I understand a letter sent to residents in the area. The letter asks that residents let the SRRA know if I they are happy with the proposals or not, please let the secretary know as soon as you can if the there is general acceptance of the plans then we will pass that on to the council planning department.

# A Message from H4ALL

Due to Covid, front-line clubs/support groups have been forced to close for the foreseeable future. More people are staying home-social isolation has a huge detrimental effect on individual's health and well-being.

Prior to the pandemic, H4All had a handful of volunteers making regular, vital calls to clients. Since the start of Covid this service has grown considerably.

Our volunteers call one or two clients a week for a friendly chat to see how they are and if they require any support. We have received some fantastic feedback from some of our clients who really appreciate the regular calls –

"I look forward to him calling I have only spoken to him for a short while, but he already feels like a good friend I feel that I can truly discuss problems with him without him trying to suggest things to fix them. When I speak to my son or health care professionals, they always tell me what I can do but to be honest I just want a good moan."

'It's so nice to have a regular call, even if it's just general chit chat. It breaks my week up I look forward to her calling. She's very friendly and a great listener'.

WE NEED YOU.....

Are you able to make a commitment to call a minimum of two of our clients a week on an ongoing basis? Full, comprehensive training is given. Get in touch please send an email to <a href="mailto:volunteerhub@h4all.org.uk">volunteerhub@h4all.org.uk</a> and we will contact you with the next steps.

Thank you,

**H4All Stronger Together** 

**NB** Special thanks go to **PCSO John Dickens of Cavendish Ward**, who when contacted, visited on the same day a lady who lives alone and who was very concerned at it appeared that someone had smeared her door bell with an unknown substance. Issue sorted out immediately. Many thanks!

## STONEFIELD PARK. (Elaine has monitored this park for 30 years)

In March that brought lockdown every morning Brian and I would walk round Stonefield Park and admire all the lovely daffodils in swathes across the park that Hillingdon Council Green Spaces had planted.

It lifted our spirits as well as everyone else walking round the park - they all commented!

Then came 13 new trees planted that quickly became an attraction for the birds and they would sing at the top of their voices - it was particularly noticeable as the street were so quiet - no cars and for us in South Ruislip no planes buzzing in and out of RAF Northolt. The sound of nature was wonderful. We also kept the new trees watered in the hot summer days so we did not loose them!

When the wild flowers appeared Bourne Primary School children were fascinated by the bees and other insects enjoying the nectar. We really enjoyed the different colours and texture of the wild flowers and look forward to their return next year- P.S. we have seen more bees in our gardens - a real plus!! I hope Hillingdon is making a bee corridor to improve nature taking advantage in this difficult time and counteract the impact of the virus. More and more people were using the park for walks and a break from isolation at home. Sadly that meant more rubbish left in the park so Ali and I would make a point daily to keep Stonefield Park rubbish free. The impact has been worth it as now people seem to respect the park and it is much cleaner-lead by example is the best

Take care and keep safe and look around our park and your gardens to be aware of the wonders of nature Life is precious!!

Elaine Haynes Park Steward

message.

### THE FAIRWAY PARK (Sue Milage is a new Park Steward )

Sue has enthusiastically taken on the role of managing the new Park Notice board in the Fairway Park. This is a great park with a play space for tots and a more adventurous equipment including a zip wire.

Sue says" I do so hope you have seen the new notice board in The Fairway Park. I am regularly updating the notice board and if you have seen the new notice board and if you have seen the new notice board and if you have seen the new notice board in the Fairway Park. I am regularly updating the notice

board and if you have something you would like to post you can contact me through SRRA or Lynne Kauffman 2 Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a much improved Healthy, Happy, Safe and Prosperous 2021 Sue Milage Park Steward

# THINGS TO REMEMBER

Our brilliant recycling and waste collection teams will be working on Bank Holiday 28th December ,Saturday 2nd January and Saturday 9th January.

| Normal Collection Day   | Revised Collection Day   |  |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Thursday 24th December  | NO change to collections |  |
| Friday 25th December    | Monday 28th December     |  |
| Monday 28th December    | Tuesday 29th December    |  |
| Tuesdat 29th December   | Wednesday 30th December  |  |
| Wednesday 30th December | Thursday 31st December   |  |
| Thursday 31st December  | Sat 2nd January          |  |
| Friday 1st January      | Monday4th January        |  |





Thanks to the recycling and waste collection teams for all their dedication and friendly approach to their roles.



# **CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE FROM OUR SNT Protect your valuables**



Don't advertise your goods/ keep valuables e.g laptops and keys out of sight/ mark your property / take photos of valuable items /consider buying a safe or safe storage.

# Safeguard your building

Don't keep gifts and display/ lock all windows and doors if you go out/ cancel deliveries if you go away/ make sure you locks are strong enough.

# Secure your outside

Make sure gift boxes are disposed of carefully/ keep gates and sheds and garages locked/ don't leave tools around/keep hedges low/ install door or security lights/ install trellis or spiky plants to stop burglar climbing fences.

# **Happy Christmas**

from PC Solanki, PC Frimpong &PCSO Annmarie Chapman-Bennett.

**Contact:** SouthRuislip.SNT@met.pnn.police,uk **Twitter:**MPSSouthRuislip, **Phone**: 07843291993

# Good news and Interesting Changes in South Ruislip



Lets go right back to September and November the months where the sacrifices of service personnel in the World Wars and conflicts around the world were commemorated in slightly different COVID secure surroundings. As you can see many local residents reflecting on their own thoughts, including Ruislip Stars Nursery making and placing their own tribute. Our scaled down commemoration had to have security to ensure face and space rules were upheld.









# **Next comings and goings**



We said "GOODBYE" to Sanja a face on the South Ruislip Shopping parade with his car spares that helped many of us out of problems with our cars. Sanja retired to spend more time with his family and we give him our thanks and best wishes for the future.

In came Lewin with his Pharmacy. Here seen being welcomed by Cllr Kauffman.



# What's new?



You are all familiar with our very informative notice board on the shopping parade thanks to local resdents Roger and Sandra. Now we have additional ways to share news. Elaine and Sue have taken on being Park Stewards keeping our excellent new Stonefield and Fairway Park notice boards up to date.



Is there any news you would like to share or ways you can help us to be a stronger community?

Elaine and Sue are waiting for your ideas.



You have probably already noticed our three Parks—Stonefield, The Fairway and Field End Recreation ground-all have been awarded GREEN FLAG status. To gain this accolade the Park must be a good place for residents e.g. play spaces and outdoor gyms, litter free, safe, and have good community involvement.<sub>4</sub> Councillors have thanked Hillingdon Green Spaces Team on our behalf for their support.

# **Community Activity**



Local residents, the SNT and Ward Councillors launched the Look Closer Campaign. The Safer Neighbourhoods Team wanted SRRA to help to launch their programme to keep a focus on safeguarding young people in the community. Local retailers whole heartedly supported the launch with the help of some retailers.





Even during lock down our residents and local communities groups were able to show the strength of the community in South Ruislip. A project to enhance our **South Ruislip Community Centre** happened during the autumn. David Patterson the business manager of **Queensmead School** and John Webber contractor from **Morgan Tindall Construction** worked together and donated the materials and builders to improve the patio area enabling more hire for social gatherings and improve the toilets at the community centre Sally Coster Centre manager said" It is great to be able to work together for the benefit of the community".

South Ruislip volunteer litter pickers were out again in action again following lockdown. It is good to have new members joining.



Our Local - **The Middlesex Arms** are getting a great name for getting into the festive spirit. Halloween was a real challenge for Cheryl and the two James's they turned the whole pub into a real spooky atmosphere. Such a shame Christmas will not give Cheryl the chance to show off her creativity again!









Support your local friendly small businesses who support South Ruislip the area where you live work and play!
Our local businesses like the Simply Flowers, the hairdressers, Costa Coffee, Elliott Estate Agents, Post Office, the Pharmacy, Paul's Fish Shop, and hospitality such as The Grill, The Ramada and The Middlesex Arms

You may have seen the poster on the cross roads and the adverts in all the shops windows asking for our help. We are encouraged to shop locally-take away, click and collect or customer service. If we don't support the shops we will loose them.

# Have you noticed



Do you remember the beautiful wild flowers that sprung up along the verges in Victoria Road? Recently you may have noticed this flower emblem on the right. You all commented on the beautiful wild flowers last summer. In 2020 Hillingdon's Green Spaces team have worked hard to increase that re-wilding of verges. This makes the verge more attractive and is an improvement on rather roughshod grass cutting!





## **Christmas Lights**

2018 Lights at last in South Ruislip.

2019 the same lights.

2020 baubles in the Tree near the station.

2021 Seeing Eastcote's Christmas tree perhaps that should be our future aim.



Two years ago Christmas Lights came to South Ruislip with some beautiful green and yellow banners. This year the Ward Councillors went one stage further and managed to get funding for baubles in the tree near the station. We need to take this further—any ideas?



As mentioned by Sid Jackson the work on the South Ruislip VENT SHAFT at the back of B&M approaches fast. The schedules show

February 2021 as the start date and the associated disruption. Ickenham have experience a cavalier approach by HS2 removing their established allotments and destroying mature trees—with no consultation. We need to be watchful on the works in our area , Any complaints need to go to **HS2enquir**-

ies@hs2.org.uk (get a registration number) freephone 08081456472 or complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk

The picture to the right was a response from when we tried to visit the site in October—security was very tight.

Below is a picture of the vent shaft at Chalfont St Peter so you can see the magnitude of the works and the structures that need transporting into the area to support the walls of the shaft.

# Roads in South Ruislip designated as construction lorry routes in red

Ickenham High Road Swakleys RoadHarvil Road Breakspear Road South

Victoria Road

Field End Road Western Avenue

Bridgewater Road CCTV Surveys (7the Dec 2020) Gt Central Av Utility surveys (16/02/2021)

These roads are associated with the construction, tunnelling and spoil removal, utility diversions and civil engineering works. HS2 works begin to close down on 23rd December and resume on 4th January 2021. Actual Lorries forecast on the left. Our start date February 2021.



### SOUTH RUISLIP VENT SHAFT

8(25)

LGV average for the period

Forecast LGV average for the period

# SRRA wish all residents happy Festive Season

2020



In these days leading up to the festive season we are experiencing Tier 4 restrictions. Try to make the best of keeping in contact through the phone, social media ,cards and letters.

Most of all KEEP SAFE, STAY HOME Remember HANDS-FACE -SPACE



#### **CONTACTS REMINDERS**

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#### **POLICE**

PC Solanki, PC Frimpong &PCSO Annmarie Chapman-Bennett.

**Contact:** SouthRuislip.SNT@met.pnn.police,uk **Twitter:**MPSSouthRuislip, **Phone**: 07843291993

#### **HS2 COMPLAINTS**

HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk (get a registration number) freephone 08081456472 or complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk

#### WARD COUNCILLORS

Clir Hurangee 01895 250 316 Clir Kauffman: 07786262241 Clir Tuckwell: 01895 250 316

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# We all want to wish you a

# HAPPY HEALTHY PROSPEROUS AND PEACEFUL 2027

