

Eastcote Village Conservation Area Advisory Panel.
Quarterly General meeting

Held on Thursday 14th March 2013 at The Pavilion, Kings College Road, Ruislip at 7.30.pm

1A. Apologies

Cllr. Catherine Dann, Cllr. David Payne, Cllr. Eddie Lavery, Jess Lee, Keith Barnard, Carolyn Morrissey, Nick Woodley, David Bennington, Jenny Gurdon, Adele Clooney, Ian Murray, Marg Bacon.

1B Present. Lesley Crowcroft, Joan Butfield, Rob Cousins, Jane Neave, Rosemary Bucksey, Linda Furnell, Heather Chamberlain, Karen Spink, Chris Groom, Susan Toms, Steve Place, Gerry Edwards, Gill Hughes. Ed Fuller, Adrian Batten LBH.

2.The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th December 2012 were approved.

3. Matters arising not on the agenda – none

4. Friends Groups

Pinn Meadows:-

- Just before Christmas another planning application for a fenced and floodlit Astroturf pitch and car park on Pinn Meadows was submitted.
- FoPM raised a petition with over 5,500. signatures against the planning application that was presented to a full Council meeting on 28th February. The accompanying FoPM speech was warmly received and the petition was passed to be heard at the North Planning Committee meeting on Tuesday 26th March.
- FoPM also submitted a comprehensive objection letter which raised objections due to conflict with Council planning policies, visual impact, fencing off of public land, traffic impact, impact of Ecology, flood risk, floodlighting, noise, lack of demand and need, impact on trees and the impact on bats.
- Objections to the planning application have also been received from the Environment Agency (citing amongst other things its impact on the River Pinn corridor) Natural England, The Woodlands Trust, Sport England, The Ramblers Association The Open Spaces Society, Eastcote Conservation Panel, Ruislip Conservation Panel, Ruislip Residents Association, Nick Hurd MP and numerous other residents' groups.
- FoPM have also raised a petition with over 5,000 signatures asking for the Council to voluntarily designate Pinn Meadows area as a village green. This has Ward Councillors' support and will be heard at another Full Council meeting.
- LBH have served notice to the Hockey Club forcing them to switch off their lights at 9.30.pm following recent violations with the existing floodlights being left on all night.
- Work is progressing well on the Pinn Meadows Chrysalis project and last week new benches and litter bins were installed with new footpaths and a fantastic interpretation board is to follow.
- At recent working parties on Pinn Meadows we installed a kestrel box, a kingfisher box and bat boxes. Red kites were observed, which are now regulars to the area.

Bessingby/Cavendish Parks

- The 'no dogs allowed' signs should now be in both play areas.
- The new fencing around the Pine Gardens play area has been completed; this was a Chrysalis project
- Chrysalis funding has been granted for the resurfacing of one of the tennis courts. The tennis courts will remain open for public use.
- The crocus planted last autumn are now flowering.
- Traffic signs have been installed on cycle training paths.

- The parks will be entered for a Green Flag award this year
- Repairs to the mound still outstanding. AB (LBH) to follow up.
- Easter Monday – Easter Egg Hunt – DON'T MISS IT

Warrender/Highgrove Parks

- Points from the Friends of Warrender Park meeting held on 15th January 2013:-
- Discussion on wildflower meadow and plans for 2013. Council will do no planting in 2013, just cut as necessary. Group will sow with cornfield annuals for colour
- An elm tree was planted on 15th December 2012.
- Bulbs have been planted around the periphery of the park.
- Outdoor gym equipment and benches, etc. have not yet been fitted as the ground is too wet for vehicles. SH was in the park on 6th March and it was agreed that mid April was probably the earliest when fitting could be considered due to the saturated nature of the ground.
- A notice board has been fitted on the wall of the toilet block.
- A number of complaints have been received concerning the general standard of maintenance re pruning of shrubs and flower bed maintenance.
- The group met again on the 12th March when it was mentioned that a flowering cherry and stone pine had been planted in the wrong place. Also the new wildflower meadow will require spraying and clearing of invasive weeds and hopefully the contractors will be in next week and the ground can then be rotavated and sown in mid-late April.

Eastcote House Gardens

- AB said that the container should be moved next week.
- The locks on the jubilee gates still need to be made secure and the manufacturers will come back with a solution hopefully very soon.
- Stables – checks going ahead but no time frame.
- LC said the padlock on the top gate was in hand.
- KS raised the problem of the flooding from the blocked drain.
- GH said she had received an e-mail from the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator of EPE saying that the police will not enter the gardens after dark. Clarification is needed. Adrian Batten asked for information to be sent to him, for investigation.

5. Treasurer's report

In the absence of the Treasurer the report was read by the Chairman Lesley Crowcroft. The only expenditure since December 2012 was £199.86p which covered materials for elm tree planting in Long Meadow, Pinn Meadows, Bessingby Park, Warrender Park and the Hogs Back. Materials purchased included chicken wire, staple gun, trees stakes, guards, ties, etc. The current balance of the account now stands at £202.05p.

6. Conservation Foundation

LBH has received some elm trees – 150 altogether for the Borough. Other London boroughs were slow to take up the offer of free trees. 6 Elms have been planted in Long Meadow, 3 Pinn Meadows near Elmbridge Drive, 5 near the hockey pitch, Kings College Road. One Tree has been planted in each of the following locations: Coteford Infants, Field End Infants, Warrender Primary, Warrender Park and Bessingby Park. The tree for the Hogsback in NWH is still awaiting a planting date. The DVD with all the information about the project has not yet been issued.

7. Green Belt

No report.

8. Colne Valley

LC attended another Colne Catchment workshop last week. Now that Long Meadow has been 'given' to the FEHG to look after, this section will be transferred to the FEHG agenda.

9. Planning Applications

- It is noted that many applications passed 3 years ago for both extensions and new buildings are now being re-submitted for renewal. Thus the current Government's statements that we need an easier planning process is rubbish. Currently there are 400,000 dwellings approved but not started throughout the country.
- Renewal of planning applications in EVCA :- the Old Barn – to build an extra office block; no.3 Pikes End – a large extension
- Hallmarks – The Rainbow Charity had their 2nd application approved, and are now in residence. There is no sign of the car hire firm moving in.
- Initial House – the appeal lodged by Savills the receiver, was approved by the Planning Inspectorate. There are now very worrying circumstances around this case and others. Appellants are now allowed to submit changes to plans to the Inspectorate, which are not notified to residents, so there is no consultation period. There is still another application waiting to be activated by LBH. Savills will not develop the site themselves – it will be sold on which means there could be more applications from any would be purchaser. S106 conditions apply. The PI refused the application from LBH for funding towards High Street improvements but allowed a sum of £20,000. for the educational projects at EHG.
- Petros – to take away. Refused as secondary shopping area already more than 50% non retail. Same application submitted again claiming that LBH has made a mistake on the % of non retail, refused 2nd time. This shop has now been taken over by a children's and ladies' wear shop. The new owner said that the Landlords prefer take aways because they can charge more rent for a take away, thus the plea that they cannot let the property is a sham.
- Black Horse Public House – application to change the design of the main sign. The proposal does not look anything like a Black Horse.
- 24 Pamela Gardens – EPECA – a very large roof extension, etc. Approved
- FE Infant School and FE Junior School – building now in progress.
- Frank Welch Court off Daymer Gardens – application current to rebuild 42 room care house. This application has now been approved. One of the S106 payments is £30,000 for ecology projects. This will be allocated to improvements to the River Pinn and the surrounding water meadows. This work forms part of the Colne Valley catchment initiative to bring rivers into line with European Water Framework Directive.
- Pinova Cuckoo Hill – this dwelling is built on land forming part of Applegarth. There are continual applications to make changes to conditions. Most have been with drawn, but one outstanding to install photo volvic panel on the roof.
- 16 Field End Road – 2nd application for a side extension, the first being refused.
- RAF Eastcote – CG said that various residents have reported details of unapproved roof windows being installed overlooking adjacent properties and these have been reported to the Council. Some are unrecognisable from the original application. Wimpy have put in a retrospective planning applications for the changed designs. Some of the houses are occupied and it is expected to go to appeal. Houses with an enforcement order cannot be sold . Planning application has been turned down for 18 houses backing onto Azalea Walk.
- Sethi –Erected 2 very large unauthorised floodlit signs. Eventually these were refused at appeal. After an enforcement order one was removed the other still remains plus numerous banners have been affixed to the fence. Hillingdon's Enforcement Officer has been informed. Planning application for change of use to second floor, from offices to an Educational Establishment has been approved.

10. AOB

- HC raised the problem of rubbish in the service road of the car park behind the shops – accumulated rubbish. This is a matter for LBH, and the Chairman to circulate the contact details for reporting this type of problem.
- The side hedge of the War Memorial has been lowered. Last November there were so many attending the Remembrance Day Service many were trying to see over the hedge. RBL Eastcote Branch asked if the hedge could be lowered. They are happy with work. Funding has now been granted for CCTV and this will be installed ASAP.
- **The AGM of the Conservation Panel will be June 6th 2013 at 7.30pm. Venue to be arranged.**
- Community Volunteer Day Saturday 23rd May 10am.Meet EHG car park. Working in Long Meadow.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm