

GREENHILL MANOR RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

www.gmra.org.uk

Newsletter: Summer 2024

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Your Association keeps busy

Speeding traffic is a concern for GMRA residents so Committee members regularly join the Harrow Community Roadwatch held monthly in Sheepcote Road. Supported by Transport for London, members of the public operate a speed gun. Speeding motorists are sent a letter telling them they have been exceeding the speed limit and what could happen if they do it again. Anyone wishing to take part should contact the police. There has been some improvement.

Litter picking has resulted in the area looking better including the Belmont trail link. Hemuna thanked the current volunteers but more volunteers are still needed.

There has been some improvement re **drug dealing**. Anything observed should be reported to the council and the police.

Road representatives continue to **help individual members** with eligible problems.

Hemuna Pather-Carr, Chairperson



Louise Baxter

Harrow's BID

Louise Baxter, the manager of the Business Improvement District, talked to the Annual General Meeting on 15th May. The BID is not the council but brings together the council, the police and local business and many agencies, including homeless charities, in order to improve the central area.

When local businesses join BID, they pay a set percentage of their rateable value, which is used to make Harrow a more vibrant and welcoming location. They benefit from the increased footfall in the town centre [in fact higher than Watford]. All businesses are encouraged to join Harrow Business Against Crime [HBAC]. This gives access to BID's secure DISC database which contains details of known offenders, beggars, and those causing anti-social behaviour. Images help identify individuals who are causing trouble so they can be deterred from entering businesses.

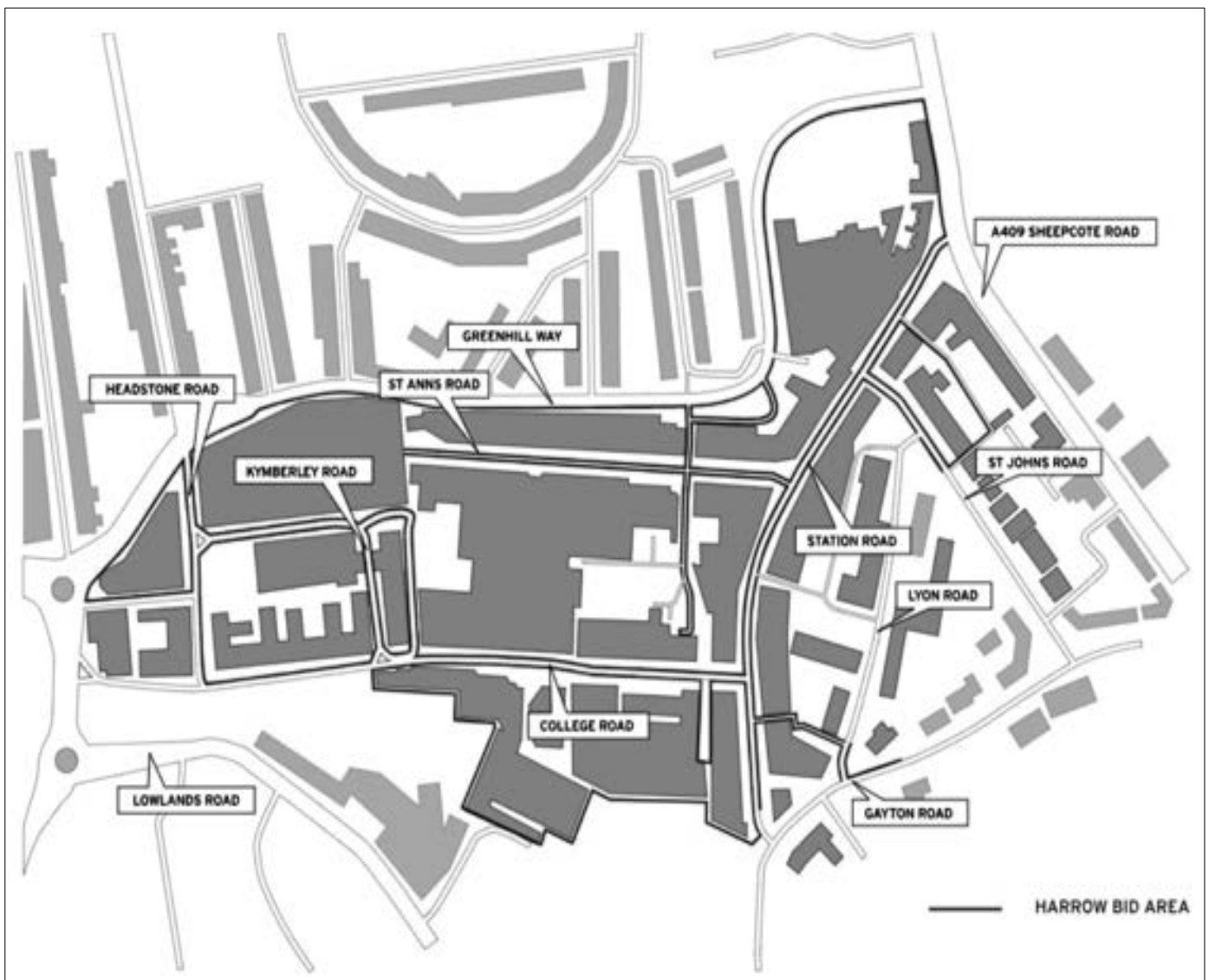
BID also organizes Town Link radios via a sub-contractor Resound, for a small charge. This links businesses with the CCTV control room at Harrow Council, the BID, and the police. This is a useful tool for businesses to warn each other of potential threats.

Working closely with various departments in Harrow Council means BID is our voice and can highlight matters of concern from broken paving or street lights, to highways, cleansing problems, enforcement and car park issues.

Louise is working on two places where businesses overflow on to the pavement and obstruct passersby. This could be referred to the council but things may change since the council is proposing to open more kiosks in St. Anns. The BID has staff trained under a scheme supported by government and the drinks industry who inspect licensed premises.

This has helped to ensure our pubs and restaurants offer high standards of care to their customers and meet their legal responsibilities. Venues who pass the various social, welfare and health & safety checks receive accreditation plaques. Harrow town centre is promoted via BID's social media accounts and events are organized to make the centre more attractive, for example, visiting reindeer before Christmas.

Map showing the BIDS Harrow Town area of activity





What happens to Harrow's Recycling?

We all spend time separating our rubbish. Rinsing out yoghurt pots for recycling, scraping our leftovers into the food bin and generally just doing our best to put the right thing into the right bin.

So, have you ever wondered what happens to your recycling once we collect it?

The council's recycling team has followed the journey of your dry recycled waste from the moment it is collected to when it is processed and recycled into new products.

Our friendly and hard working crews empty your recycling bin, and the lorries drop this at Harrow's Recycling Centre. Each lorry collects up to 11 tonnes of dry recycling. However, it is not sorted here but transferred to a processing plant we use for our recycling.

It is at this processing plant where the sorting and separating takes place. This is an impressive process where the use of technology makes separating household recycling easier. Magnets are used to pick out different types of metals. A trommel, a huge spinning tunnel, is used to separate objects of different sizes, and infra-red sensors are used to detect the different types of plastic that arrive at the site.

However, we can't just rely on technology. There is plenty of hand sorting that takes place, where staff work around the clock removing items that have been incorrectly placed in recycling bins. Once the separation process is complete, it is then shipped to manufacturers who use the materials to make new products so reducing the amount of energy needed to make their products and lowering the environmental impact of sourcing raw materials. For example, it takes 75% less energy to make a plastic bottle from recycled materials than it does to make one from scratch.

Did you know that you can play a role making the recycling process more efficient and cost effective by avoiding contamination? It happens that sometimes we make the mistake of thinking that something is acceptable in the recycling bin. That's why it's so important to check and put the right things in the right bin.

Two of the biggest culprits of contamination found in household recycling are clothes/textiles and food waste. By reducing the amount of these two contaminants in your blue bin, we can improve the quality of Harrow's recycling.

This is why the Recycling Team has been working hard to encourage uptake of weekly food waste collections and to promote the TRAID charity who work in partnership with the council to collect textiles for free from residents' doorsteps. Textiles collections can be booked online **Book a Free Clothes Collection to Donate to Charity Retailer TRAID** or by calling 020 8733 2595.

We hope this has been a useful explanation of the journey Harrow's recycling takes. Please feel free to reach out to us with more questions:

Recycling.Team@harrow.gov.uk

Money News – Subs Rise

As stated in the previous newsletter the Association is a way for us to have a voice with the council and the police about anything that is bothering all of us and to develop a feeling of belonging and taking pride in the neighbourhood.

The annual membership fee is going up from £1 to £2 after many years, as agreed at the Annual General Meeting. The three newsletters a year have been produced by a non profit making body but will in the future have to go to a commercial printer, which will cost considerably more. The other main outgoing is hire of the hall for the Annual General Meeting so we would like a lot more of you to come next year, when we plan to have a volunteer driver and parking underground with a prebooked permit.

To help with costs, will anyone who is willing to receive their newsletters by email complete the contact form with email address and postal address on the GMRA.org.uk website. To keep your details safe the association will register with the Information Commissioner's Office, which governs Data Protection – a further expense.

The representative for your road will still call to talk to you even if you pay your membership online [**now £2**] but, if you do so, give your name and address and use your address as reference. A/c Name: Greenhill Manor Residents Association Fee: **£2**. Sort Code: 54 21 41. Account No: 29203791. Reference: your address.

New Street Trees



This year (2024) Harrow Council has planted around 500 street trees. Harrow has traditionally been seen as a green borough and we intend to keep it that way. Unfortunately, over recent years 100s of trees have been lost due to disease, old age, storms and drought. Our re-planting programme is committed to replacing as many of these losses as resources allow as well as creating new locations.

Please help us nurture your new trees? We really hope you understand the value that street trees offer and ask for your assistance in ensuring they have a good start in life. In order to help it thrive it would be wonderful if you could find time to water a tree. Perhaps you could get together with neighbours and arrange a rota! There is no obligation but we would love to hear from you if you wish to.

Why Trees are so important for our wellbeing



Air quality: trees absorb pollutants and produce Oxygen

Combat climate change: trees absorb greenhouse gases (Carbon dioxide) and hold storm water

Noise reduction: Absorb sound /reduce traffic noise

Provide Shade: Tree canopies provide sun protection and reduce surface temperatures

Street appearance: Street trees improve the image of our neighbourhoods

Mood and wellbeing: It's proven that our mental and physical health benefit from trees

Habitat for nature: Trees provide much needed homes for wildlife

Get involved with local groups to find out more:

<https://www.trees.org.uk/Help-Advice/Public/Watering-young-trees-in-dry-weather>

<https://www.facebook.com/harrowparks/>

<http://www.harrownccf.org/>

<http://www.treesforcities.org/>

<https://sponsor.treesforstreets.org/scheme/harrow-sponsor-a-street-tree?> Source provider=

Ideally the young tree should be given a good water at least once a week with the equivalent of two buckets of water during spring and summer months (April – September).

It's better to give it a good soaking rather than little and often but any watering you can manage will be very Welcome. Water into the plastic irrigation tube (or bag) if there is one provided.

Use rainwater if possible. Washing up water is ok provided no bleach products are present. Ideally it's best to water early morning or evening. Do not over water – if the ground is saturated there is no need.



Keeping Harrow Safe

The Greenhill Safer Neighbourhood Panel (GSNP) meets quarterly and draws together various bodies helping to provide a safer, better environment in Greenhill. Representatives from Greenhill neighbourhoods, Greenhill Councillors, the Police (Greenhill Safer Neighbourhood Team), Harrow BID and the Harrow Safer Neighbourhood Board all attend the meetings.

The GSNT covers the whole of Greenhill. The main focus is on Harrow Town centre. Their patrols in the town centre are there to help and support shoppers as well as to deter criminal and ASB activity. It is backed up by chat sessions, such as Coffee with a Copper or shopping centre meeting points where friendly advice on how to stay safe from the effects of crime is provided. Crime is ever-changing and all residents are advised to sign up to OWL for updates on new hazards to avoid.

GSNT reported recently to the Panel that Greenhill Ward, which includes the town centre, has the highest reported anti social behaviour in Harrow and the highest reported theft from person offences. There were 299 theft offences reported in the last six months and 205 violence against the person offences.

In May 2024 the team, both plain clothed and uniformed officers, together with BID, Kingdom Security and the council took part in Operation ECO to tackle key offences such as robberies, retail theft and theft from persons. The results of the operation saw numerous crime reports being generated for Theft offences and arrests for Breach of Criminal Behaviour Order, failure to appear and theft offences as well as stop and searches. The result of this operation highlighted that an increase in police presence reduces the likelihood and opportunity for theft offences to occur which is one of our main priorities.



Harrow Baptist Tennis Club

We are a very friendly, local tennis club looking to increase our adult and junior membership whilst encouraging people to get fit and socialise. We have 4 courts available with social play available on Saturday afternoons from 2.30 pm with afternoon tea at 5pm and Wednesday evenings from 6pm during the spring, summer and autumn months. After the clocks change at the end of October, we play on Saturday mornings from 10.30am and Wednesday mornings from 11.00am with coffee and biscuits at 12 noon. Members may book courts to play their own sets when social tennis or league matches are not taking place. We do require a reasonably competent level of play to join in these main social tennis sessions, but our coach, Pamir, is very keen to introduce tennis to youngsters and adults who wish to learn and improve their game & can offer individual and group sessions.

We will have a couple of one-day club tournaments for members Liz Saunders on Saturday 29th June and Edgar Boulton Handicap Doubles on Saturday 7th September. The main club tournaments are underway, culminating with Finals Day on Saturday 20th July. In addition, teams in the Middlesex leagues for competition against other clubs.

The address of the tennis club is 44-46 Bonnersfield Lane, Harrow, Middx HA1 2LE. Our entrance is through the lane between houses No 44 and No 46. Please come along one Saturday afternoon to see what we're all about.

To join the tennis club and if you have any questions, please contact the Membership Secretary, Keith Mayes on 020 8428 1279 or e-mail him on hbtctreasurer@gmail.com.

Your Local councillors

Cllr.Dan Anderson

Dan.anderson@harrow.gov.uk 020 8424 1897

Cllr.Ghazanfar Ali

Ghazanfar.ali@harrow.gov.uk 07940 50944

Cllr.Aneka Shah-Levy

Aneka.shah-levy@harrow.gov.uk 020 8424 1897

Councillors hold a surgery at Greenhill Library in central Harrow on the 3rd Saturday of every month from 10.30-12.

Greenhill Library also has an information point staffed by council workers to help with accessing council information, paying bills etc.

Your Member of Parliament

As we go to press: **Gareth Thomas** who lives locally, went to school in Harrow and has been Harrow West MP since 1997.

PLEASE NOTE There will be a General election 4.7.24

The constituency office is:

132 Blenheim Road,
West Harrow,
HA2 7AA
Tel: 020 8861 6300.

Surgeries are usually held on Fridays on a weekly basis.

gareth.thomas@harrowlabour.org

His Parliamentary address is

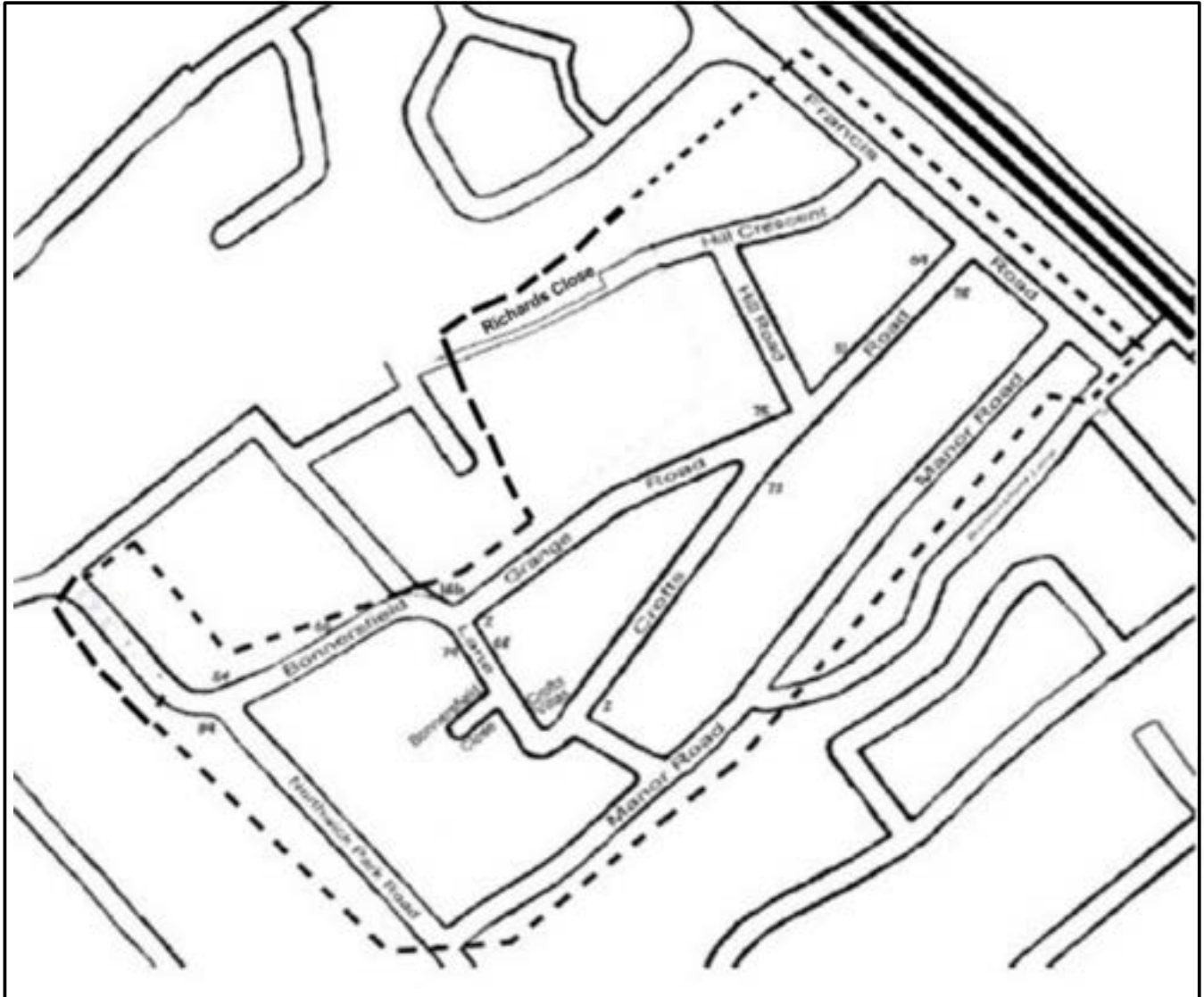
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AATel: 020 7219 4243

Fax: 020 7219 1154

thomasgr@parliament.uk

About the Association

Showing 2023 boundary



The Association is a non-political, non-religious organisation run by your neighbours for the benefit of all residents in Greenhill Manor (see map), whether they are owners of houses, flats or tenants.

GMRA Membership & Contact

By Post: Hemuna Pather-Carr,
41 Northwick Park Road, Harrow HA1 2NY
Email: gmra@gmra.co.uk
web page: <http://gmra.org.uk/contact-gmra.html>

When you cannot recall the GMRA website URL, search for two words together **GMRA Harrow**

Your Current GMRA committee

Chairperson	Hemuna Pather Carr, 41 Northwick Park Road
Deputy Chairperson	Deputy Chairperson – <i>Volunteer needed</i>
Secretary	Helen Shorter 55 Grange Road
Treasurer	Eddie Griffiths 11 Northwick Park Road
Webmaster	Noor Mohamed 71 Bonnersfield Lane
Road Representatives	
Bonnersfield Lane, Bonnersfield Close & Croft Villas	Simon Dunkerley 11 Manor Road
Crofts Road	Elvira Miranda 5 Grange Road
Francis Road	Muhib Anish
Hill Crescent, Hill Road, Richards Cl.	Volunteer needed
Grange Road	Helen Shorter, 55 Grange Road
Manor Road	Godfrey O'Callaghan 14 Lowndes Court email: gdo@btinternet.com
Northwick Park Road	Sylvia Farooqi Northwick Park Road

Please visit the Greenhill Manor Residents' Association Website
www.gmra.org.uk.
 or search: GMRA Harrow

Useful Telephone numbers

All MAJOR emergencies: Fire, Police or Ambulance	999
Harrow Council switchboard or www.harrow.gov.uk <i>also on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, LinkedIn, Twitter</i>	020 8863 5611
Metropolitan Police – Urgent	999
Police UK website for reporting or information	www.police.uk
Metropolitan Police, request Harrow Police Station	(020) 8423 1212
OWL – https://www.owl.co.uk	
To report a crime that has occurred but not urgent Anti-Terrorist Hot Line Crime Stoppers (confidential) Greenhill Safer Neighbourhood Unit	101 0800 789 321 0800 555 111 (020) 872 2780
To report an electricity power cut	0800 783 8838
National Gas Emergency Service	0800 111 999
Water leak (Affinity Water)	0800 376 5325
Blocked Drain (Thames Water)	0800 316 9800
Telephone Preference Service – to stop unwanted calls	0845 070 0707
Mail Preference Service	(020) 7291 3310
Harrow Energy Efficiency Advice helpline and Energy Saving Guidance	0800 838 650
Brent and Harrow Trading Standards Service Shoppers rights	(020) 8937 5555

Get to know the police website for advice, reporting crimes,
local crime reports and much more:

www.police.uk