

HAMPTON NORTH WARD

WARD NEWSLETTER

June 2020

Dear Resident,

Beware the Scams!

One of us was nearly caught. Apparently, this is a common scam. We received a message from a known local resident telling us that she was away from home, looking after two relatives with the virus. She asked us to purchase some tokens for her. It seemed a reasonable request! However, a phone call to the resident concerned confirmed that she knew nothing of the matter – and her e-mail account must have been hacked. Beware! This seems to be a widely used scam, all the more plausible if it comes in the name of a person well-known to the recipient of the message. If you receive such a message, check before paying!

Our Campaign – Support the Shooting Star.

We thank all those who responded to our appeal. There is a very short video on <https://youtu.be/SprEYyW6iKs>. The video produced a good response with lots of donations. The hospice tells us:

“20-year old Madeleine has been supported by Shooting Star Children’s Hospices since the age of three but never needed emergency respite care until an infection saw her in hospital separated from her Mum in the middle of the pandemic. Mum [Katherine] tells the story...

“Arriving at the Hospice was welcome relief for Madeleine and me: friendly faces and a safe environment mixed with excellent nursing care was just what we needed. Madeleine and I will be here for a little while to manage the symptoms left over from the pneumonia. This is the first time we’ve ever had to come in as an emergency like this and I’m truly grateful. I do not know what we would have done had Shooting Star Hospices not been there.

*“You can help Shooting Star Children’s Hospices be there for families like Madeleine’s by donating to **www.shootingstar.org.uk/crisisappeal**”*

Houses of Multiple Occupation

A constant concern! In this ward there are several small terraced houses that have been turned into five bedsits – small cramped accommodation. In another case an HMO is a children’s hostel. All of these have been recently licensed by the Council. We have now received legal advice concerning the grounds on which a licence can be revoked. We are studying that very carefully.

The White House

We understand that HOTCA is about to surrender the lease to the Council – which we have been advocating. Our view remains that the best solution is to integrate the management of The White House and the Youth centre – and bring back the YMCA.

Highway Works

Some local highway works are recommencing:

Oak Avenue from 1st June

Acacia Road from 8th June.

There is night roadworks at the junction of **Uxbridge Road and Park Road** over the next few days.

Green Waste

As the Council suspended this service which individual residents had paid for we asked the Council for a rebate. However, we have accepted the alternative that the contract period will be extended so that residents receive 52 actual weeks of proper service

Services and Support During the Lockdown

We have received full details of Council services and the services provided by two of the largest social landlords – RHP and PA and can supply full details to any resident who requests them from us.

Shorter Items

- two blocks of flats in the ward – **Longford House and Thirlestane House** – have had food collections as a “trial”. We would like to know whether this has proved to be satisfactory.
- At our request officers checked the **Green Link** that runs from the **Oak Avenue Nature Reserve** and Hatherop Road and found all the authorised access points to be open and accessible
- We are dealing with a drain problem in **Buckingham Road**
- We referred to RHP and the Police issues arising from the **Travellers site**.
- We passed to the Council a request for funding from the local Scouts
- We received a number of responses to our item setting out a resident's proposal for a bridge from **Wordsworth Road**. Most respondents were not in favour and the number in favour does not justify further action from us
- We urged the Council to withdraw two **PCNs** received by a key worker: although this was refused the Council has, in response to our action, reduced the amount
- The SID (Speed Indicator) in **Uxbridge Road** was due to be replaced on 18th March. We are not happy that this did not occur and are now awaiting the promised restoration.
- As of today we have no further news concerning **Buckingham School**.

STOP PRESS

Short videos on local issues – non-political from us ! – are obtainable from time to time on www.facebook.com/rbconservatives or <https://twitter.com/LBRuTTories>.

Keep in touch – tell us of issues that concern you – suggest some ideas for improvement...we are here to listen and to help.

(Councillor) KATE HOWARD

(Councillor) GEOFFREY J. SAMUEL