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RAM

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Members

THE MAGAZINE OF
THE HESTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
FEBRUARY 2020

THE MEMORY LIBRARY
(see page 34)

THE HESTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

(Non-Party Political)

Founded in 1928 as 'The Heston Ratepayers Association' DEDICATED to the preservation of our heritage and the maintenance of an acceptable standard of environment for all residents of Heston present and future.

OFFICERS

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Copy for inclusion in RAM by 10th of each month.

Monthly meetings are held at Heston Community Centre, Vicarage Farm Road, Heston, on the FIRST Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm, except August. New Members welcome.

Visit us at www.hestonresidentsassociation.org

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No. 979

OSTERLEY STATION CAR PARK – REDEVELOPMENT

In January we advised the reader that a planning application (P/2019/3551) had been received by Hounslow Council in respect of the redevelopment of the Osterley Station car park. The proposal is to construct two residential buildings comprising 68 self contained units with provision for commuter parking beneath the new build.

The **Osterley & Wyke Green Residents' Association** subsequently submitted a very reasoned and fair assessment of the application. Whilst acknowledging that some improvements had been made to pre-application proposals, there remain a number of concerns about the submitted proposal including:

- a) **Overdevelopment** - whilst an improvement is acknowledged, the proposal still constitutes an inappropriate/overbearing development for the area and is out of line with previous local developments.
- b) **Scale & Massing** - whilst the reduction of 50 units, from 118 to 68 (3-6storeys) is significant, there remains an overall dominating/massing impact on the area.
- c) **Great West Road** sightline is adversely effected, impacting on the character and heritage of the immediate area.
- d) **Adverse impact** on local residents quality of life, due to creation of over dominant mass and the loss of amenity of outlook, privacy and essential benefits of daylight/sunlight.
- e) **Impact on heritage asset** resulting from a failure to protect/enhance the existing listed station building.
- f) **Housing Mix**, considered to be inappropriate as 51(75%) of units are single bed, the remainder (17) are 2/3 bed. Not in line with the more pressing need for more family units.

g) **External space**, planned separation distances between the proposed developments are considered inadequate with associated overshadowing and lack of daylight.

h) **The loss** of some commuter car parking spaces will obviously impact on local parking, although much of nearby street parking is covered by CPZs

In summary, whilst there has been a considerable reduction in the size of the development, for the reasons listed the impact on the local area will still be considerable. An objection has been lodged.

With thanks to OWGRA.

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WHO WOULD BE A FARMER?

Spotted recently on a bag of baking potatoes “I’m not looking my normal gorgeous self, but I still taste great, buy me and support British Farmers affected by Floods”.

NOTICE of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 4 MARCH

The Annual General Meeting of
Heston Residents' Association
 will be held on **Wednesday, 4 March 2020**
 at the Heston Community Centre at 7.30 pm.
 Nominations are invited for Officer and Committee posts.
 These should be received by the Secretary on or before
 13 February 2020

SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2020

Annual Subscriptions were due on 1 January 2020.
The minimum subscription is £5.00 (£10.00 postal) and should be sent to:

The Treasurer, 68, Sutton Road, Heston, Hounslow TW5 0PL
 Cheques should be made payable to: Heston Residents' Association.
Please use the form and envelope provided with the January RAM.

Please do not send cash through the post
Members are encouraged to renew subscriptions as soon as possible.

SPEAKER'S CORNER - HRA MEETINGS 2020

Wednesday 5 February, Presentation - Heathrow, Community Engagement Team

Wednesday 19 February, Presentation - update Tesco / Homebase

Wednesday 4 March Annual General Meeting

HESTON & CRANFORD AREA FORUM & PLANNING COMMITTEE DATES 2020

Heston & Cranford Area Forum: 2020 12/3 starting at 7pm @ Heston Community Centre

Planning Meeting: 6/2, 5/3, 2/4, and 14/5 starting at 7.30pm @ Hounslow House

For further information contact: Committee Administrators: Joti Patel 8583 3356 (H&C Area Forum) or Wendy Merry 8583 2061 (Planning).

HESTON HEALTH CENTRE

Seema Malhotra MP is due to visit the Crosslands Surgery in early February to meet with the partners in order to achieve a better understanding of the situation as well as to work out carefully the next steps in order to acquire funding, prior to writing to the Minister.

THRIVING COMMUNITIES FUND LAUNCHED

Hounslow Council's Thriving Communities Fund was recently launched.

The Fund will make available approximately £1.9m to deserving causes. The intention is to provide a new, simplified way for community groups to apply for funding to improve their communities. The new scheme brings together a number of existing funding streams which have supported community and voluntary sector services, into a new, single point of contact for all types of council community funding.

Cllr Katherine Dunne, Cabinet Member for Communities & Workforce, announced the details saying: "This is an ambitious programme and part of the five year 'Thriving Communities Strategy' (2019 – 2024) which the Cabinet approved last year. The scheme sets out how the council will work in partnership with our residents, our voluntary and community sector and other public bodies and businesses to deliver positive and lasting benefits for the many different communities across the borough.

She added, "So whether you are a small sports club in need of some new equipment costing only a few hundred pounds, or a fully-fledged Community Centre looking for up to £50,000 to keep your facility going, the Thriving Community Fund could be the answer you have been looking for. We have gathered together funding from the key Cabinet areas of Communities, Housing, and Regeneration, and between them I am delighted that we have simplified the arrangements for communities to access them".

Full details of the Thriving Communities Fund are available on the Council's website.

LONDON'S BOROUGH of CULTURE 2021?

In the December RAM we reported that Hounslow had submitted a bid to be nominated as the London Borough of Culture for 2021. Recently it was announced that Croydon, Greenwich, **Hounslow**, Lewisham, Haringey, Hammersmith and Fulham, and Sutton will compete to become the London Borough of Culture for 2021 and 2023.

The two winning boroughs will each be awarded £1.35 million to deliver an ambitious programme, placing culture at the heart of their communities and celebrating the unique character of local people and places. Boroughs can also win Cultural Impact Awards, each receiving up to £200,000 to deliver cultural projects. The successful bids will be announced in February.

The London Borough of Culture is a programme run by the Mayor of London to promote culture across the capital. Waltham Forest was the first Borough of Culture for 2019 with Brent taking over the mantle in 2020.

The Borough's website comments that "Hounslow's bid outlines an exciting programme of cultural events and initiatives that will bring different people together, sharing their time, ideas and energy. It would be a great opportunity to get investment into the borough, showcase what makes Hounslow special, and use culture as a catalyst to bring great opportunities to the borough, developing skills and talents and developing collaboration between creative delivery partners, schools, colleges and industry." and "If Hounslow wins the title, we will receive £1.35m to support the delivery of our programme in 2021. As welcome as this funding would be, winning Borough of Culture is more than additional investment; it's very much focused on unlocking our potential, the mobilisation and sharing of ideas and aspirations throughout the borough; creating a cultural superhighway and unleashing an unstoppable movement of people, ideas and opportunity."

Compiled by D R Blackett

Support Local Traders

HEATHROW NEWS

LOCAL LIAISON GROUPS (LLG)

Heathrow is keen to establish stronger links with local communities and Residents' Associations and to this end the Heathrow Community Engagement Team has established four teams and Local Liaison Groups, with a directive to work in these areas as follows:

Aspiration is to hold quarterly, community-led local forums specific to those communities

Enable local voices to be heard, share ideas, allow us to keep local residents informed on how the LLG project is moving forward and be on hand to answer questions

Independently chaired

Initial facilitation and ongoing secretariat provided by Community Engagement Team

Proposed groups: **East** Heston, Cranford & Cranford Cross LLG, **South** Stanwell Moor & Stanwell LLG, **North** Harmondsworth, Sipson, Harlington & Longford LLG, **West** Iver Colnbrook, Poyle & Ritchings Park LLG

HEATHROW & BREXIT

Heathrow judges the key points to be as follows:

Objective:

- To safeguard a high level of passenger satisfaction and experience throughout Brexit
- Ensure that any disruption is minimal and managed.
- Clear and open communication – share its plans

Major impact areas:

- Heathrow has assessed impacts to the passenger journey & cargo (e.g. Road Management Plan)

Activating operational contingency plans:

- Operational IRT ready

Joint planning:

- Heathrow is working with: Border Force, Metropolitan Police, cross-agencies, local authorities, Border Delivery Group, London Resilience & Team Heathrow

Managing the day and onwards:

- Additional measures if the UK leaves without a deal.
- Here to Help & additional terminal resources will be present to support passengers

Agility:

- Constant review will be conducted to reflect emerging circumstances

What affect could Brexit have on Heathrow?

Cargo

- Changes to processes. Only 7% of cargo for Heathrow is to/from the EU but delays in processing could cause congestion.
- 73% of vehicles coming to cargo come from 15 minutes away and the individual businesses based there are working with Heathrow to manage traffic.

The Passenger Journey

- Passengers' –e-gates, passport validity, settled status, visas, E111, pet travel, duty free. Heathrow is planning to have additional resources on site to support our passengers with the right information.

The significance of the above is that it highlights the extent to which Heathrow has had to consider and make provision for the impact of **Brexit**



ST LEONARD'S CHURCH, HESTON

St Leonard's Church, Heston Road, Hounslow. TW5 0RD

Monday 3rd February 7.30 pm

Bishop of Kensington's Teaching Evening.

All are welcome

Sunday 23rd February 12.00 pm

Community Sunday Lunch – Join us for a Free Hot Meal

Wednesday 26th February – Ash Wednesday

9:00am Morning Prayer

9:30am Imposition of Ashes

7:30pm Sung Mass with Imposition of Ashes

Email: office@parishofheston.org web: www.parishofheston.org

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BAREFOOT

In April 2019 Anna McDuff completed the London marathon in a respectable 3hours 44mins, but as if running 26.2 miles wasn't enough of a challenge, quite remarkably she ran the whole distance barefoot and was still smiling at the finish line.

Born in Kingston, Surrey, in 2015 McDuff ran the 2000 miles along the Te Aratoa Trail in New Zealand. She ran unsupported with all her equipment in a 14kg back pack through New Zealand's back country for 148 days, scrambling through forests, along ridge lines over mountain passes along beaches and swollen rivers. She slept wild most nights although on occasions she was taken in by the Kiwi people

In running the London marathon, Anna McNuff was preparing to run some 2620 miles, the equivalent of 100 marathons, across Britain barefoot. The adventure started in June 2019 in the Shetland Islands and ended in Wimbledon on the 17 November. Over the five months, Girl Guiding ambassador and running adventurer McNuff ran along rugged coastlines, through cities, towns and villages, across moors and down the odd A-road. She spoke to Girl Guides along the way about taking on challenges that they believed to be just beyond their reach. Some Athlete! Some Performance!

Compiled by D R Blackett

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ENGINE IDLING

The Hounslow Council web-site asks the questions:

What is idling?

Idling is the act of leaving a vehicle's engine running while it is stationary. Whilst this is often unavoidable for short periods of time, there are some instances, such as waiting for children outside schools and in traffic jams, when idling is not necessary and

Why is idling bad?

It results in unnecessary use of fuel, an increase in emissions and can also create a noisy environment for adjacent residents, schools and businesses.

It is reported that an idling engine can produce up to 150 balloons of harmful exhaust emissions per minute, wastes half a gallon of fuel an hour and is a major contributor to the 9,000 premature deaths across London linked to air pollution (Air Quality News, 2019).

What is being done?

Vehicle Idling Action is a London-wide, education and behaviour change campaign to help reduce localised air pollution caused by motorists who leave engines running when parked.

Hounslow is one of 28 local authorities working to educate road users. This project builds on the success of a pilot project in the City of London and is being funded by the Mayor's Air Quality Fund.

Further details of the work being done by the council to improve air quality can be found in the new Air Quality Action Plan.

Hounslow Council relates that it is committed to preventing unnecessary engine idling in the borough to help lower vehicle emissions, improve local air quality and protect public health.

Following a public consultation which indicated support for further action, idling is now subject to enforcement action across Hounslow. (witness notices in the public place)

Hounslow Council says: "Although we are committed to raising awareness to change behaviour in the long term and educate through signage, it also has an enforcement role.

As outlined in the cabinet report, any driver of a motor vehicle parked on the highway who refuses to switch off their engine if asked by a Civil Enforcement Officer can be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice.

The charge to the motorist is £60, but if this is paid within 14 days it is reduced to £30.

BAG FOR LIFE

Research carried out by Greenpeace has revealed that the sales of bags for life rose by 26% to 1.5bn last year. The increase prompted a call for the standard price to be raised from 10p to 70p to cut the plastic mountain which it is argued is fuelling pollution.

Campaigners are calling for higher charges for the bags or a complete ban as the research showed households bought an average of 54 a year.

Bags for life must be used four times to be better for the environment.

Retailers say they have reduced plastic packaging for their own-brand products.

In 2018, supermarkets put an estimated 903,000 tonnes of plastic packaging onto the market, an increase of 17,000 tonnes on the 2017 footprint.

It is reported that seven out of the top 10 supermarkets increased their plastic footprint year-on-year. Only Waitrose, Tesco and Sainsbury's achieved reductions, and those were marginal, the report said.

Juliet Phillips, an ocean campaigner at EIA (Energy Information Administration), said: "It's shocking to see that despite unprecedented awareness of the pollution crisis, the amount of single-use plastic used by the UK's biggest supermarkets has actually increased in the past year.

"Grocery retailers need to tighten up targets to drive real reductions in single-use packaging and items. We need to address our throwaway culture at root through systems change, not materials change – substituting one single-use material for another is not the solution."

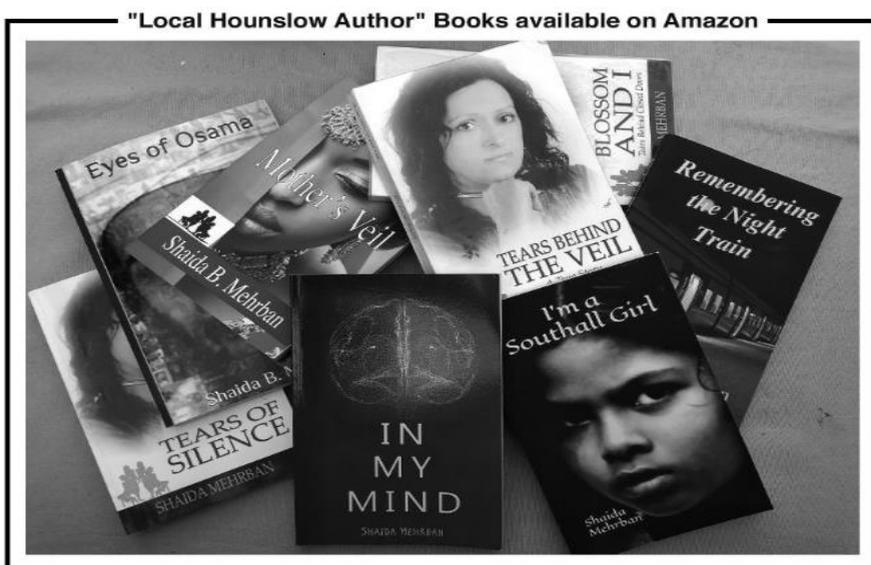
The rise in the sale of bags for life suggests some consumers are simply switching from single-use plastic bags – many of which have been removed from stores – to the thicker bags, which contain far more plastic by weight and are therefore of particular concern. Iceland's sales of such bags rose tenfold in the past 12 months, and Tesco increased its sales from 430 million to 713 million.

Branded goods make up 367,000 tonnes of the packaging supermarkets put onto the market. The survey revealed that these big brands were a driving factor behind the rise in plastic packaging, showing supermarkets had failed to force their suppliers to take action. Only Tesco had given suppliers an ultimatum to cut excessive plastic or face products being delisted, and the campaigners urged others to follow suit.

The report praised innovations like Waitrose's experiment with refillables in its Oxford store, where more than 160 items of loose fruit and vegetables and 48 other products are available for customers to refill, including pasta and grains, coffee, frozen fruit, beer, wine and cleaning products.

A **reusable shopping bag**, sometimes called **bag-for-life** in the UK, is a type of shopping bag which can be reused **very many** times. It is an alternative to single-use paper or plastic bags. It is often a tote bag made from fabric such as canvas, natural fibres such as jute, woven synthetic fibres, or a thick plastic that is more durable than disposable plastic bags, allowing multiple use.

Compiled by D R Blackett



LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS Heston & Cranford

CoL = Certificate of Lawfulness

Heston Primary School:P/2019/4409: Installation of a solar-dome.

Spitfire Estate:P/2019/4486:Re-cladding of the existing warehouse and creation of \ new car parking area.

724A,Bath Road:P/2019/4718:Loft conversion above existing flat with installation of 3 roof lights and demolition of a redundant chimney.

- 48, Marnell Way:P/2019/3955:Erection of 2 bungalows on land to the rear with amenity space and on site parking.
- 45, Orchard Avenue:P/2019/3558:Erection of a 2 storey side extension, front porch and part 1/part 2 storey rear extension.
- 41, Spring Grove Crescent:P/2019/4767:CoL for the erection of a rear roof extension with hip to gable conversion and 2 roof windows.
- 320, Heston Road:P/2019/4729:CoL for the erection of a rear roof extension.
- 59, Burns Way:P/20189/4723:Erection of a rear extension to the house.
- 101, Cranford Lane:P/2019/4694:CoL for the erection of a single storey rear extension AND P/2019/4693: CoL for the erection of a rear roof extension with hip to gable conversion and 2 roof windows.
- 60, Moulton Avenue:P/2020/2022:Erection of a single storey side extension.
- 366, Great West Road, Master Robert Hotel:P/2019/4830:Variation of Condition 2 to increase the number of hotel bedrooms from 118 to 125.
- 41, Sonia Gardens:P/2020/0001:retrospective application for the change fo use to 2 self contained flats.
- 6, The Glen:P/2020/0009:Erection of part 1/part 2 storey side and rear extension with conversion of the garage into a habitable room.
- 23, Walnut Tree Road:P/2019/4842:Erection of a rear roof extension with hip to gable conversion a juliet balcony and front roof windows.
- 5, Kingsley Road:P/2019/4843:Erection of a rear and a part 1st floor rear extension.

REPORTED CRIME

The following are extracts from the crime report for the borough for the **3 months to the end of November 2019**. Borough wide there were **6599** reported incidents, **a fall** of 146 (2%) on the previous 3 months.

Hounslow Central is a hot spot area for criminal activity and there were 834 incidents, 13% of the overall total but an overall decrease of 67 (7%)

Locally, Cranford 294 incidents, -13 (4%), **Heston Central** 263 incidents -51 (16%),

Heston East 320 incidents +45 (+16%), **Heston West** 400 incidents-47 (11%)

Others, Isleworth 220 incidents -63 (22%) and **Feltham W.** 262 incidents -65 (20%)

Selection of other forms of crime:

Burglary:

Borough 638 +186 (41%), **Hounslow Cen.** 45 +11 (+32%), **Cranford** 27 +3 (+13%), **Heston Cen.** 28 +13 (+87%), **Heston East** 31 +12 (+63%), **Heston West** 41 +25 (+156%).

Drugs:

Borough 414 -5 (1%), **Hounslow Cen.** 58 -38 (40%), **Cranford** 25+7 (+39%), **Heston Cen.** 29 +7 (+32%), **Heston East** 24 +12 (+100%), **Heston West** 39 +6 (+13%)

Theft from M V:

Borough 664 +17 (+3%), **Hounslow Cen.** 51 -14 (-22%), **Cranford** 31 +!, **Heston Cen.** 22 -14 (39), **Heston East** 21 n/c, **Heston West** 60 +1

ASB Calls:

Borough 2093 -352 (14%), **Hounslow Cen.** 84 -37 (-31%), **Cranford** 128 -10 (31%),

Heston Cen. 70 -20 (22%), **Heston East** 81 -28 (26%), **Heston West** 121 -5 (4%) and **Isleworth** 88 -58 (40%)

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PLANTING TREES and GREENING the BOROUGH

Currently there is a considerable amount of discussion and debate in the media regarding the planting of trees to create a greener and cleaner environment for the future.

To this end Hounslow Council recently issued the followed statement:

"A greener borough benefits both people and the environment – it provides homes for wildlife and helps to absorb pollution. London Borough of Hounslow's greening strategy considers all measures to achieve this outcome through trees, wildflowers and carbon capturing plants.

In November 2019, the Council supplied local community groups plant over 800 native trees at Harvard Hill Park and De Brome Open Space. Similar community projects are ongoing and will provide extensive tree planting opportunities over the coming months.

Our streets will receive a further 140 trees over the coming year in partnership with our highway's provider. Our borough parks will feature an additional 125 planted trees as part of the programme, with many more locations being identified.

A rapidly progressing proposal for the planting of 1000 new trees in partnership with the local business community is also in development.

Seeding has already taken place for 20 new urban wildflower sites - with many more to feature in our parks, providing over 10,000m² of new wildflower area in total throughout the borough.

In January 2020, the Greener Borough Strategy paper will be put before our Cabinet with an accompanying action plan of measures to set out our ambitious greening efforts. This plan will outline key areas such as tree planting and protection."

Comment: whilst this initiative by the Council is most welcome, the proposal to plant 140 trees in the borough's streets and 125 in the parks in the coming year, is an insignificant contribution. A planned programme for the maintenance of existing trees and the planting of replacement and additional trees in the borough has not been apparent.

D R Blackett

THE HOUNSLOW WONDER

I am pleased to report that following the article about the Hounslow Wonder, (p7 Dec. RAM) I received an email from Mr Paul Kennerley, Deputy Representative Lord Lieutenant for Hounslow advising that he had recently joined the Mayor, Cllr Tony Louki, in a tree planting.

Mr Kennerley and the Mayor planted a Hounslow Wonder and a Feltham Beauty in Gunnersbury Park as part of National Planting Tree Week.

D R Blackett

RE: Article in December RAM about the Hounslow Wonder Apple

Mr Peter Edwards from Heston wrote to say "I have had a sapling in my garden for about three years now. It had taken and put on growth but, as yet, not produced any fruit.

Three years ago I attended an annual apple growers exhibition in South London and amongst the apples was the Hounslow Wonder. I had never heard of it and so bought a very small sapling.

I hope that my tree will eventually produce fruit.

Thank you, Mr Edwards, for sharing this with us.

OWL MESSAGE - CASH POINT SCAMS

Please take notice that there has been an increase in Cash Point / ATM scams. So please be vigilant. The most common is a device called a Lebanese Loop. This is a simple device that prevents your card being returned to you. At some point during your transaction the scammers will obtain your pin number. This can be achieved by simply looking over your shoulder or by fitting a tiny camera to the ATM to capture your pin. The other is called Card Skimming which uses an electronic device that reads your card number combined with a camera to gain your PIN.

There is **one** important measure you can take to prevent this. **Cover your pin** - place your hand or wallet as close as you can over the keypad as you enter your **pin**. The scammers **need your pin**. You are not only covering it from someone looking over your shoulder but more likely a tiny undetectable and unexpected camera somewhere on the ATM.

It is suggested that you Search Lebanese Loop and/or ATM scams in Youtube. There are many excellent videos that will show you all the scams and how to protect yourself.

A device was removed from Tesco's ATMs in Feltham High Street on 29th November. So if you used the ATMs at Tesco's please check your statements.

If your card is not returned - **DO NOT LEAVE**. Get someone else to call a member of staff from the shop or bank to assist.

The message is take note of other persons present when using a cash point.

ON THE MOVE

Pharmaceutical giant **GSK** is planning to move 1,400 staff from its base in Stockley Park to Brentford.

Its UK base had been based near Heathrow for 30 years but **GSK** made the offices on the 'golden mile' on the Great West Road its global HQ after a series of mergers.

The Stockley Park site had handled research and development for the company. They sold the complex to warehousing company Prologis earlier this year. It is understood that no job losses would result.

TESCO / HOMEBASE SITE DEVELOPMENTS

At a special meeting on the 8 January Chairman, David Blackett, welcomed Duncan Matthews, Land & Development Director, Berkeley / St Edwards Group to the Community Centre, to provide members with a general picture of the proposed re-development of the Tesco and Homebase sites,

The proposal is to demolish the Homebase structure and build a new Tesco Extra with a footprint of 60,000sq ft with 400 parking slots (down from 625) on two levels, a cafe, community space but no petrol station. In addition, 470 residential in 5 blocks, ranging from 9 to 16 storeys are proposed. Tesco will move across when the store/car parking are functional; the residential build will be ongoing.

Once Tesco has moved then enabling work can commence on the vacated site and the construction of some 1600 units can commence; 35% of all units will be affordable and the whole project will take some 10 years to complete. It is anticipated that planning applications for the sites will be submitted mid 2020.

The underlying concern shared by many residents is the impact on the local infrastructure, and the need for this to be recognised by the local authority and other responsible agencies. The most obvious are the demand on the NHS, including hospitals, local GP service and other health and social care services, education, public utilities (water/sewage, gas, electricity) public transport even pressure on the local authority and a 101 other services which are taken for granted.

As the situation is ongoing with further changes likely to be made before planning applications are submitted a further presentation is planned for the 19th February, at the Heston Community Centre.

Patel Taylor, a London based Architecture, Landscape and Urban Design company has been selected to prepare the plans for the development of the Homebase site at Gillette corner on the Great West Road. This site will eventually be home to the new Tesco store.

Patel Taylor, founded in 1989, is an award-winning architectural practice based in Clerkenwell, London. It operates from its own studios in Rawstone Street, in an old warehouse converted by the firm in 2011. Award for Master Planning & Public Realm in 2015 and Architect of the Year 2013.

D R Blackett

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THE ALZHEIMERS SOCIETY

The following is a follow up article to that on page 30 of the January RAM.

The Alzheimer's Society, with HQs in London and founded in 1979 by Dr Anne Hunter and Brian Hunter is a United Kingdom care and research charity for people with dementia and their carers. It operates in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, while its sister charities Alzheimer Scotland and Alzheimer's Society of Ireland cover Scotland and the Republic of Ireland respectively.

The symptoms of Alzheimer's disease are generally mild to start with, but as more brain cells are damaged over time the symptoms get worse and start to interfere with a person's day-to-day life. This makes them different from the changes that lots of people experience as they get older, such as being a bit slower at thinking things through or occasionally forgetting something.

There are some common symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, but no one's experience will be exactly the same as anyone else's.

For most people, the first signs of Alzheimer's are problems with their memory – in particular, difficulties recalling recent events and learning new information. This is because early on in Alzheimer's the damage is usually due to a part of the brain called the hippocampus. This has a big role in day-to-day memory. However, the person's memory for events that happened a long time ago is not usually affected in the early stages.

As Alzheimer's disease progresses, memory problems will usually affect someone's daily life more and they may:

- lose items (such as keys and glasses) around the house
- forget a friend's name, or struggle to find the right word in a conversation
- forget about recent conversations or events
- get lost in a familiar place or on a familiar journey
- forget appointments or significant dates.

As well as memory difficulties, people with Alzheimer's are also likely to have – or go on to develop – other problems. These include problems with thinking, reasoning, language or perception such as:

- speech – they may repeat themselves or struggle to follow a conversation
- seeing things in three dimensions and judging distances (visuo-spatial skills) – going up or down stairs or parking the car might become much harder
- concentrating, planning or organising – they may struggle with making decisions, solving problems or carrying out a sequence of tasks (such as cooking a meal)

A person in the earlier stages of Alzheimer's will often have changes in their mood. They may become anxious, depressed or more easily annoyed. Many people lose interest in talking to people, or in activities and hobbies. These changes can be challenging for both the person with dementia and those close to them to live with.

Anyone finding things difficult should ask for support from a GP or other professional.

Details: Alzheimer's Society, 43 - 44, Crutched Friars, London, EC3N 2AE Call 0330 333 0804. National Dementia Helpline 0300 222 11 22

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ANAEROBIC DIGESTION

A regular listener to the Farming Today programme on BBC Radio 4, I was particularly interested by one feature item recently outlining the way in which a farmer was diversifying some land area to introduce an

Anaerobic Digester to make use of food waste which might otherwise have gone to landfill or an incineration plant.

Anaerobic digestion is recognised by the Government, Defra, the Welsh Assembly, the Scottish Parliament, Friends of the Earth and the National Farmers Union as one of the best methods for food waste recycling and dealing with farm waste and sewage sludge.

Anaerobic means 'in the absence of oxygen'. The biogas naturally created in sealed tanks is used as a fuel in a CHP (combined heat and power) unit to generate renewable energy i.e. electricity and heat.

What's left from the process is a nutrient rich bio-fertiliser which is pasteurised to kill any pathogens and then stored in large covered tanks ready to be applied twice a year on farmland in place of fossil fuel derived fertilisers.

Every tonne of food waste recycled by anaerobic digestion as an alternative to landfill prevents between 0.5 and 1.0 tonne of CO₂ entering the atmosphere, one of the many benefits of anaerobic digestion.

Estimated total UK post farm-gate food and drink waste is around 10 million tonnes per year, 70% of which could have been avoided. This has a value of over £20 billion a year and is associated with around 22 million tonnes of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Households generate 7.1 million tonnes/year of which 5.0 tonnes are avoidable. Overall 13% of edible food and drink purchases are wasted at a cost of £540 per year for an average household. Levels of food and drink waste by **commercial and industrial businesses** in the food sector amount to around 3.1 million tonnes, with a value of over £5.1 billion

In 2019 the government awarded more than £4 million to four redistribution organisations across England to help overcome barriers to getting food, currently going to waste, redistributed onto people's plates.

The successful bids – from Fareshare, Company Shop Group, The Felix Project and Food Works Sheffield – will receive funding through the first tranche of a £15 million scheme.

The projects will enable existing food redistribution companies to take more surplus food from manufacturers and retailers and stop it going to waste.

A further round of funding will focus on improving infrastructure for companies to redistribute even more of the estimated 100,000 tonnes of food - equating to 250 million meals a year – which is edible and readily available but goes uneaten. Instead, this food is currently sent away for generating energy from waste, anaerobic digestion or animal feed.

Hounslow Council's weekly food waste collection provides householders with the opportunity to recycle any food waste which will ultimately be collected for processing at an Anaerobic Digester Unit.

The following should be placed in the green box provided:

Fruit and vegetable peelings, plate scrapings, bread, meat and fish bones, shredded paper (small amounts), out of date / rotten fruit and vegetables, out of date meat and fish, and unused/out of date pre-packed food (please remove wrappings).

Food for Thought!

Compiled by D R Blacket

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DOWNTURN in RECYCLING

Recent data released by Defra indicates that the amount of household rubbish being recycled dropped from 45.2% in 2017 to 44.7% in 2018.

Last years % rate was the worst since 2015 when 44.3% was recycled and below the 2014 figure of 44.9%.

"The Daily Telegraph's Zero Waste Campaign is calling for the recycling system to be simplified and the Government is consulting on improving labelling and cutting down on the amount of sorting households need to do.

According to the data, the **East Riding of Yorkshire** authority achieved the **best** recycling rate with **65%**. The **London Borough of Newham** was the **worst** with **16.9%**!

The amount of waste generated by each household fell by 2.2%, from 403kgs (888lbs) to 394kgs (868lbs). The total waste from households fell from 22.4mill tonnes to 22mill. tonnes in 2018.

Whilst the amount of waste going to landfill dropped by 500,000 tonnes to 2.8 mill. tonnes, the amount of rubbish incinerated rose by 400,000 tonnes to 11.2mill. with the added benefit of generating of electricity.

Over-riding all the highs and lows of the annual statistics, there still remains the call for a national strategy for recycling. Different local authorities accept a variety of materials which may be processed in different ways. This is exemplified by the fact that fewer than 1 in 5 councils accept plastic bags despite the fact that most of them are recyclable.

There is a need for each local authority to achieve a recycling rate of 50% by 2020. It is quite clear, and has been for some time, that this is not now achievable, calling for a simple national strategy.

Compiled by D R Blckett

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ALL CHANGE

Unilever, which owns brands like Surf, PG Tips and Walls, has said it plans to halve the amount of **new plastic** it uses over the next five years: **the company is responsible for producing 700,000 tonnes of new plastic a year**

Unilever's boss, Alan Jope, told the BBC he plans to slash that figure by using more recycled plastic, creating more reusable bottles and finding other alternative materials. He nevertheless maintains that plastic is a "terrific material". He also feels that many of the alternatives are worse, saying: "A hysterical move to glass may be trendy but it would have a dreadful impact on the carbon footprint of packaging."

Mr Jope said Unilever, the UK's biggest food producer, which also owns dozens of health, beauty and cleaning brands, "was trying to remain relevant to younger consumers who worry about plastic use." But Mr Jope said responsibility for reducing plastic could not fall to industry alone. He called on UK councils to harmonise recycling policies so that manufacturers can make instructions clearer to consumers. He added, "If there was a standardised approach to collecting, sorting and processing, I think it would allow industry to standardise labelling and make it easier for people to segment their waste." Unilever, has insisted that changing their packing would not push up prices.

The move follows similar announcements by several other companies. In April **Procter & Gamble**, which makes Fairy and Lenor, announced that it plans to halve the amount of plastic it uses by 2030. **Nestle** announced that it would phase out all non-recyclable plastics from its wrappers by 2025 and **Coca Cola** has said that it will double the amount of recycled plastic it uses in the 200,000 bottles it makes every single minute by next year.

We shall see!

THE MASTER ROBERT HOTEL

After what seemed an eternity the new 125 room hotel, the ibis Styles London Heathrow East, on the site of the former The Master Robert - opened its doors to guests at the end of December.

Splendid Hospitality Group acquired The Master Robert Hotel over 16 years ago. The property was demolished and rebuilt and re-launched

as ibis Styles London Heathrow Airport East hotel in December 2019. The redevelopment includes a private housing development to the rear of the site consisting of 34 units. 18x3 bed, 4x2 bed houses and 12x2 bed flats, access via Palmer Close.

"It is noted that the new build

draws inspiration from Hounslow's Golden Mile and early to mid-20th century buildings such as the Hoover building, (former) Firestone HQ and the Gillette factory. With clean lines, neutral curves and geometric patterns inspired by Art Deco, this stylish interior will add a touch of new-found glamour to the property."

ibis Styles London Heathrow Airport East is Splendid Hospitality's fourth franchise with Accor Hotels

Note: A further planning application was submitted on the 23/12/2019 seeking to increase the room numbers approved at 118 to 125.
Compiled by D R Blackett

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COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Civic Voice, a national charity for the civic movement, has emphasised the need for communities to be given a 'meaningful voice' at every stage of the planning system.

It believes that this would create an "accessible, balanced and collaborative (ABC) planning system" to ensure that conversations are had with everyone – not just those who are already engaged. It also calls for a rebalancing of power within the planning system.

A survey of Civic Voice members found that 80% of people feel that developers do not effectively engage with the community and 72% said

the same about local authorities. Recent research undertaken by Grosvenor Britain & Ireland also found a significant distrust of the planning process within communities. Just 2% of the public trust developers and only 7% trust local authorities when it comes to planning for large scale development.

Joan Humble, chair of Civic Voice said " We can either ignore this research and carry on as we are and continue to face the same challenges in building the homes the nation needs, or we can accept that the system is not working for local people and do something about it,"

As well as calling for an 'ABC planning system', Civic Voice outlines a number of other requests, including:

- The introduction of a pre-application community consultation stage and a limited community right of appeal into the planning system.
- A strengthening of statements of community involvement so they are set out in accessible English, and explain how the local authority and developers will be expected to engage meaningfully with local communities on planning.
- Introducing an 'Office for Public Participation' to oversee standards and consistency in public consultations. For major developments it would be an independent 'honest broker' to carry out the pre-application consultation with the local community, removing any perceived conflict of interest for the developer.

Humble explained: "Whether right or wrong, people believe that the decisions impacting their local area are not made locally, but by outside interests, which, once the development has finished, move on. By calling for a meaningful right to participate at every stage of the planning system, we can change this. With the use of new planning technology, there is no reason why this cannot happen."

Ian Harvey, director of Civic Voice, added: "We have a planning system that may not be completely broken, but it certainly needs rebalancing and fixing to work better for communities. Doing so will ensure we build a modern planning system with communities at the heart. With these changes, we believe we can build the homes that we need and ensure that everyone in England can say, 'we care about where we live'."

To achieve meaningful participation in towns and cities, it is argued that the following safeguards apply:

A 1. Ensure that every local authority has an up-to-date local plan in place, supported by a non-technical summary, highlighting the key facts of the plan. **2. Utilise** existing and emerging technologies to form a 21st century future-ready planning system. **3. Require** developers and local authorities to provide a clear summary of how the community's feedback has informed decision making.

B 1. Give community representatives a meaningful voice at every stage of the planning process, including introducing a 'pre-application community consultation' stage and a limited community right of appeal.

2. Increase the time community representatives can speak at planning committees to a new national standard of **at least** five minutes. **3. Make** sure planning committees have the appropriate skills and training to ensure balanced, non-party political decision making.

C 1. Give local authorities the powers they need to enable their town and city centres to prosper by rolling back the expansion of permitted development rights. **2. Strengthen** Statements of Community Involvement (SCIs) so that they set out how the local authority and developers will be expected to meaningfully engage with local communities on planning and **3. Broaden** the role of neighbourhood planning into wider community plans which set out the community's vision and ambitions for the area. Ensure that plans remain community led.

The underlying message is that if communities are engaged earlier and meaningfully it is argued that it will: **a)** Speed up decision making **b)** Increase confidence and trust in those decisions and **c)** Connect people to their community, increasing civic pride.

"Communities should have a say throughout planning process."

KNIFE CRIME in LONDON

Knife crime in London reached a record high in 2019, with many Londoners - mainly young people - sadly losing their lives.

The number of people that died as a result of a violent incident in the city in the 12 months to October 2019 was 136. Each of these people will have left behind grieving family, friends and loved ones - and every death sends shock waves through local communities as people struggle to come to terms with a loss of life on their doorstep.

Westminster had **1,223** knife related crimes between October 2018 and October 2019 and was also the second worst borough for knife crime by population.

Haringey experienced **980** knife-related crimes over the 12 months. **Southwark** had **830** knife-related incidents, a slight decrease on last year's figures for the same period.

Enfield experienced an increase of over 100 knife crimes on last year's figures pushing the borough into the top worst list with **773** crimes this year.

Hackney **762** knife-related crimes this year, up from 652 for the same period last year.

Knife crime in the other London boroughs for the 12 months to October 2019 was: **6. Newham - 750, 7. Brent - 673, 8. Lewisham - 636, 9. Lambeth - 621, 10. Camden - 609, 11. Tower Hamlets - 606, 12. Islington - 589, 13. 17. Hammersmith and Fulham - 450, 18. Greenwich - 449, 19. Wandsworth - 442, 20. Redbridge - 424, 21. Waltham Forest - 412, 22. Hillingdon - 408, 23. Hounslow - 404, 24. Kensington & Chelsea - 377, 25. Havering - 325, 26. Harrow - 277, 27. Merton - 265, . 28 Bromley - 246, 29. Richmond upon Thames - 211, 30. Bexley - 203, 31. Kingston upon Thames 203, 32. Sutton - 151 and City of London 60**

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HEATHROW'S FLY QUIET & GREEN LEAGUE TABLE

Some interesting points from a recent Heathrow Fly Quiet and Green league table:

SAS took the top spot in the league table, of some 85 airlines, as the airline reduces early and late flights, **benefitting the airport's local communities**. The Scandinavian flag carrier also scored well for its operational performance by improving its track keeping, following Noise Preferential Route flight paths precisely and using Continuous Descent Approach - a quieter landing method.

In addition to encouraging airlines to fly their greenest and quietest aircraft at Heathrow, the airport is also calling on the Government to invest in the production of sustainable fuels. Over £4bn is generated from Air Passenger Duty annually and the revenue generated from this tax could help to accelerate the production of bio-fuels and support the ambition of a net-zero carbon aviation industry by 2050.

The 'Fly Quiet and Green' league table compiles the results of the airport's top 50 busiest, rating how each airline scores for operational factors such as punctuality, track keeping, continuous descent approach and monitors the fleet upgrades that help to reduce emissions. Both 787 Dreamliners and Airbus A350s are among the top environmental performers, helping airlines to rise in the rankings.

Heathrow has tough rules and regulations on noise which have played a major role in driving developments in quieter aircraft technology. Limits and restrictions in force at Heathrow, and in particular those that apply to flights at night, promote the use of 'best in class' aircraft.

The Fly Quiet programme is intended to further encourage airlines to use quieter aircraft and to fly them in the quietest possible way. The programme includes the UK's first ever league table which ranks airlines according to their noise performance.

Benefits for the community

Since the 1970's there has been a tenfold decrease in the number of people within Heathrow's noise footprint, despite the doubling of aircraft numbers over the same period. This decrease has continued in recent years even while flight numbers have remained steady, thanks to the newest generation of aircraft like the A380 entering service.

Managing the impact of aircraft noise for local communities is not just about improving technology. How and where aircraft are flown are other important factors for reducing the impact of noise. Airlines, airports and air traffic controllers employ a number of procedures to limit noise in this way and Heathrow has been at the forefront of promoting the use of these.

Note: flight numbers were set at a maximum of 480,000pa following the T5 Inquiry.

Benefits for the airlines

While Heathrow provides financial incentives for airlines to use the quietest aircraft through variable landing charges, the FQG league table also provides airlines with opportunities that can help them identify their strengths and weaknesses or highlights areas they can target for improvements to the KPI's within the programme.

Metrics like the Continuous Descent Approach (CDA violations) and Track deviations on departure (TK violations) allow the airlines to monitor their performance and efficiency. A climb in the rankings can result in the welcome side effect of long term financial savings for an airline.

The top twelve performing airlines out of fifty listed in order of performance were:

SAS, Oman Air, Aer Lingus, British Airways (short haul), Air Malta, United Airlines, Flybe, Singapore Airlines, Air India, DLH, British Airways (long haul) and Finnair.

Results are published on a quarterly basis, the above are 3rd quarter 2019.

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The NOISIEST & The QUIETEST

Compare My Move Ltd, a Cardiff based house removal company, has recently published details of the noisiest areas based on noise complaints registered between 2016 and 2019.

Tower Hamlets achieved the best rating in the London area as being the quietest borough, considerably quieter than Westminster.

The **10 noisiest** boroughs in the London were: **Westminster** – 50,569 noise complaints, **Kensington & Chelsea** – 41,499, **Hammersmith & Fulham** – 41,412, **Southwark** – 32,273, **Haringey** – 16,319, **Wandsworth** – 11,759, **Greenwich** – 11,265, **Ealing** – 11,264, **Redbridge** – 9,878, and **Waltham Forest** – 9,143

The **10 quietest** boroughs in the London were: **Tower Hamlets** – 2,037 noise complaints, **Kingston upon Thames** – 2,401, **Camden** – 2,614, **City of London** – 2,774, **Bexley** – 3,399, **Richmond** – 3,615, **Hounslow** – 3,948, **Sutton** – 3,948, **Merton** – 5,163 and **Croydon** – 6,413

Perhaps the residents in some areas are far more accepting and just can't be bothered to complain?

THE MEMORY LIBRARY

The January RAM (p39) featured a new artwork - the Memory Library - which explored and indeed celebrated the memories of Hounslow's local community. The Library enables those lifetime memories to be recorded and retained and enjoyed by future generations. The immediate feedback from visitors to Heston Library is very positive - extremely satisfying for the artist Marie Klimis.

The installation was formally opened in Heston Library on 16th December and will then tour other Hounslow Libraries during 2020. .

DEATH by PLASTIC

The media frequently reminds us of the impact that plastic waste can have on wildlife, principally marine life, but also birds and land creatures.

As such my attention was drawn recently to the devastating effect plastic waste has had on the hermit crab population. A study carried out by the University of Tasmania assisted by the London's Natural History Museum found that hermit crabs, because they do not make their own shells seek discarded ones as they grow bigger.

Dr Alex Bond, from London's Natural History Museum, described the problem as "insidious."

He said: "Hermit crabs do not have a shell of their own, which means that when one of their compatriots die, they emit a chemical signal that basically says 'there's a shell available' attracting more crabs who fall into the (plastic) containers and die, who then send out more signals that say there are more shells available." Essentially a gruesome chain reaction.

The study found 61,000 crabs trapped in debris on Henderson Island. in the South Pacific and 508,000, on the Cocos Islands in the Indian Ocean.

Hermit crabs need lots of friends! They thrive in large colonies, where they often sleep piled up together. They enjoy climbing, foraging, and exploring and they even collaborate in teams to find food. Hermit crabs can live for more than 30 years in their natural habitats on tropical seashores,

Whilst these instances may be thousands of miles away from our shores, they example the appalling effect that discarded plastic waste can have on innocent natural life.

The study was published in the Journal of Hazardous Materials and researchers warned that marine plastic pollution is a global issue and that comparable losses of crabs on a global scale would impact on ecosystems.

Compiled by D R Blakett

WESTBROOK ROAD, HESTON

Following both informal and Statutory Consultations regarding traffic / parking problems in Westbrook Road, Heston, associated with the dropping off / picking up of pupils by parents and carers, the following proposals are to be progressed.

a) The proposed school keep clear in the lay-by opposite nos 6-22 Westbrook Road be progressed with the operational times of Monday-Friday, 8.15-9.15am and 3-4pm, (previously proposed as 8.15am-4.30pm).

b) The proposed school keep clear opposite nos 42-60 Westbrook Road be progressed with the amended operational times of Monday-Friday, 8.15am-4pm (currently 8.15am-4.30pm).

c) The extended double yellow lines on Westbrook Road at its junction with New Heston Road and Church Road respectively along with those proposed at the entrance school car park opposite nos 56-66 Westbrook Road be progressed.

d) The proposed single yellow lines on Westbrook Road adjacent to no 82 New Heston Road and opposite nos 88-94 Westbrook Road respectively be withdrawn.

The Statutory Consultation which ran from the 27 May-24 June 2019 resulted in 22 representations with 17 objections and 1 partial objection; an overwhelming outcome.

A Works Order will now be raised with arrangements made for Hounslow Highways to carry out the above proposals; residents will be kept informed.

Compiled by D R Blackett

CRANFORD PARK, THE PARKWAY HAYES

A Planning Application for the central area of Cranford Park has been submitted to Hillingdon Council relating to the bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund; everything is subject to funding being granted by it in 2020.

The application is in respect of: "The erection of a detached cafe building, outdoor seating area with access, and minor alterations to the listed cellars beneath, minor alterations to the listed stable block with change of use to B1, extension to the existing car park, alterations to the existing information centre building and construction of bin store including all associated external works."

Chairman, Heston Residents' Association has advised Hillingdon Council of the Association's full support for the application which includes Listed Building consent.

D R Blackett

BE WARNED

The following is based on a report I received from a local resident who was keen to share an unfortunate experience with the RAM readership. Responding to a knock on the door, the householder was advised by the caller that he had a problem with the ridge tiles on his roof and that

it could be fixed for £xxx (cash), the householder agreed to having the work carried out and went into town to draw out £xxx.

At this point he was confronted (in town) by the caller who advised that having carried out a further inspection, more work was necessary to the tune of £xxx; a total of nearly £1000 (cash) was handed over,

That was the last the householder saw of the individual and the money and of course no work was carried out.

Subsequently, the householder called in a roof specialist who reported that there was not a problem with the roof.

This is not the first time that a householder has been confronted by and taken in by a fraudulent rogue caller and regrettably it will probably not be the last.

The underlying message is, do not be taken in by such fly by night callers. Thank them very much and tell them you will look into the matter. Then seek the advice of a qualified craftsperson.



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AN INTRODUCTION to the OWL MESSAGING SYSTEM

RAM regularly includes messages circulated by the **OWL** system. The following provides the reader with an introduction to the system, its benefits and the opportunity to join OWL.

Neighbourhood Watch is about supporting your community and encouraging residents to look out for each other. It's also about the local Safer Neighbourhood Police supporting Watch Schemes by

providing information on current crimes in the area enabling members to have the opportunity to stay one step ahead of the criminals.

The Online Watch Link (**OWL**) System was created for Neighbourhood Watch coordinators and members to:

- communicate on matters of crime
- offer information on crime prevention, advice on improving home and personal security
- provide regular local updates from your local police
- build stronger ties with Neighbourhood Watch leading to safer communities
- encourage neighbours to watch out for one another, particularly those more vulnerable members.
- fosters a tangible community spirit as you get to know your neighbours

OWL is a quick, easy and flexible system that fits in with your lifestyle. It allows information to be sent both ways, **OWL** will send out e-mails and alerts when the police need your help and you will be able to share information directly and discreetly with local officers. **OWL** is Secured by Design and has been given the national police approval, so your details and privacy are protected.

OWL is used by the Metropolitan Police Service, London Boroughs of Redbridge, Tower Hamlets, Barnet, Ealing, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Hackney, Brent, Barking & Dagenham and Harrow in partnership with local Neighbourhood Watch coordinators to communicate with residents and businesses across the Boroughs.

OWL provides the public with the latest local crime alerts sent by email, telephone or SMS. It is an advanced solution for police and communities to grow and manage Neighbourhood Watch, Business Watch, Shop Watch and dozens of other schemes.

OWL is the first and only communications system to be an approved member of Secured by Design, an initiative from MOPAC that aims to reduce crime through innovative products and processes. The SBD logo is the only symbol that guarantees national Police approval of a product.

OWL's security is tested daily.

During and after the login process, all data sent between your computer and **OWL** will be securely encrypted over the Internet. Please keep your **OWL** password a secret and never disclose it to anyone, not even someone claiming to be an official from the police or **OWL**.

At the time of going to press the OWL system had a signed up membership in Hounslow of 8800, including Heston East 863, H.Central 650, H. West 777 and Cranford 79 - the lowest ward total in the borough. Hounslow Central was also low with 134.

To sign on - see Online Watch link - owl.co.uk/met

MOPAC: The **Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime** is a functional body of the Greater London Authority responsible for oversight of the Metropolitan Police. It came into being on 16 January 2012 at midnight, replacing the Metropolitan Police Authority, as envisaged by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011



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