

FOUR OAKS ESTATE NEWSLETTER



Issue Number 9 – March 2018

WELCOME

This newsletter will be sent by e.mail in a format that allows easy reading on a mobile device or tablet. An A4 PDF version will be uploaded to the website and is available by e.mail. A paper copy will be posted to those who do not use e.mail and have requested one.

Fibre-Enabled Broadband update

As reported previously an order has been placed with Openreach to upgrade cabinet 32 (located on Hartopp Road near the tennis club). This will significantly improve broadband speeds for those houses served by this cabinet and the latest update from Openreach suggests the upgrade will be completed over summer.

Footpath & Verge Improvement Plan

Under this plan improvements to significant stretches of Bracebridge Road have recently been carried out. The verges have been repaired and the footpaths re-covered with Breedon gravel. Works of this nature will be ongoing, subject to funding and prioritisation.

Two of the directors will be 'walking' the entire Estate again shortly to ensure that the areas most in need of improvement are identified and prioritised.

Also under this plan pavements in The Moorlands and Knowles Drive are about to be replaced.

Neighbourhood Watch scheme – Hartopp Road

A Neighbourhood Watch scheme to cover Hartopp Road (and the cul-de-sacs that run off it) is in the process of being set up. Clare Horrocks, who is a resident, has initiated this and will be taking on the role of co-ordinator. Neighbourhood Watch is probably well known to you and the scheme has been running for many years. Full details of how the scheme works and what the role of co-ordinator entails can be found at www.ourwatch.org.uk. The first Neighbourhood Watch scheme was launched in 1982 and local schemes are organised on a road-by-road basis. If anyone is prepared to consider acting as the co-ordinator for 'their' road please let me know and I will pass your details to the local Police Community Support Officer who would then contact you.

AGM – Thursday 26th April at 7.30pm

This will be a very important meeting and will be held as usual at the tennis club. There will be a free buffet at 7pm kindly sponsored by Aston Knowles Estate Agents. Andrew Mitchell MP will be in attendance and will give a short address. In addition potential road closures will be discussed and new Articles of Association will be put forward. Full details will be sent to you in early April.

Grounds Maintenance matters

Upkeep of the verges is an ongoing and difficult exercise as they are commonly damaged by inconsiderate parking and commercial vehicles, including refuse vehicles, delivery lorries and vans. Our grounds maintenance contractors regularly repair this damage to keep the verges as neat as possible. In addition the Estate is mechanically swept around every six weeks with additional sweeps after adverse weather.

The orange bag scheme for 'green waste' has proved extremely popular with residents and around 700 bags are removed weekly weighing around five tons.

A message from Sutton Coldfield Town Council **Britain In Bloom**

Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council is entering the Heart of England in Bloom competition, the regional element of the prestigious national Britain in Bloom competition for the first time. Sutton Coldfield in Bloom will provide a wonderful opportunity to showcase some of the Town's hidden environmental and horticultural gems and local treasures to the 'In Bloom' judges who will visit the town in July. Entering the competition is also a great opportunity to promote the town at a regional and national level, as well as a chance to bring communities together and kick-start a range of innovative local initiatives. I would be really interested in hearing any ideas you have for Britain in Bloom, and would be particularly pleased to hear from any local horticultural or community groups who may wish to participate. Please contact me at:

Clare.Horrocks@SuttonColdfieldTownCouncil.gov.uk

Four Oaks Estate Ltd

Registered in England: Company Number 00224411

Secretary: Stuart Tullah 01543 - 481376

E.mail: stuart.tullah@gmail.com

Website: www.fouroaksestate.com