

FOUR OAKS ESTATE NEWSLETTER



Issue Number 28 – December 2022

Security Survey Review Meeting – held on 15th November

The meeting was attended by 54 residents with around 105 additional residents viewing the live stream. Mr Ron Forrest, Chairman, explained why the Estate was not able to run a security patrol scheme itself due to potential serious liability issues and as 42% of respondents were not willing to pay towards such a scheme. At the meeting Mr Farrell Dolan (member of the board leading the survey) highlighted that 41% of respondents are in favour of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, but at the meeting and since no volunteers have come forward. He also highlighted that 53% of respondents wish to see additional street lighting and in response to this the board is formulating a lighting improvement plan which will be a multi-year programme and subject to funding.

Security Patrol Scheme

At the meeting the Chairman applauded the resident-led group that has set up an overnight patrol service, consisting of a liveried van and security guard. The board is supportive of this scheme, which operates from 6pm to 6am, and will willingly assist the group with information and communication. Currently the group has around 62 household members who each pay £30 per week. Every member has the mobile number of the security guard which they can call at any time for immediate assistance. **Any resident interested in joining the scheme or who wants further information about it should email the group at foesltd1@gmail.com.**

Grounds Maintenance matters

The leaf clearance operation has been underway for several months and will be completed in January. It is usually completed prior to Christmas but a considerable number of trees have not fully shed their leaves. In addition we started to see leaf fall as early as September so the operation this year has been a long and arduous task. When this is completed the roads will be fully mechanically swept and all our drain gulleys will be mechanically cleared. In January the Grounds Maintenance Committee will identify which frontages should be prioritised for renewal under the Footpath & Verge Improvement Plan. Some of our frontages are tarmac pavements and one in Heather Court Gardens (on the left as looking from Wentworth Road) will be renewed under the plan.

Edges & Hedges Garden Waste Service

This service was introduced in 2013 after Birmingham City Council withdrew its free garden waste collections. The council's current service is fortnightly paid-for collections for nine months of the year (March to November), whereas Edges & Hedges' service is year-round weekly collections of the bags they provide on a Monday morning.

Please note:

To avoid unsightly piles of bags lying on verges please only place the bags out for collection on Sunday afternoon or early on Monday morning. This will improve the Estate's appearance and tidiness for everyone.

Road re-surfacing – Bracebridge Road

The stretch of Bracebridge Road from Wentworth Road to Ladywood Road has just been re-surfaced. In addition significant 'patches' have been repaired in the upper stretch of Bracebridge Road and in Luttrell Road. We monitor the condition of our road surfaces which have to cope with a considerably higher volume of 'heavy traffic' than in the past. It has been estimated that in addition to the many construction related vehicles using our roads, there are somewhere around 100,000 delivery vans using our roads every year!

Fibre Broadband

We are continuing to explore the project of bringing full-fibre broadband to the Estate. Our original potential partner was Hyperoptic, but they have withdrawn their interest due to the cost of installing the necessary infrastructure. We are however in touch with a replacement potential partner who is at the 'survey stage'. The board fully appreciates the importance of this project and will keep residents advised.

Circulation Information

This newsletter will be sent in a format that allows easy reading on a mobile device/ tablet. A PDF version will be uploaded to the website and is available by email.

Four Oaks Estate Ltd

Registered in England: Company Number 00224411

Secretary: Stuart Tullah (stuart.tullah@gmail.com)

Website: www.fouroaksestate.com