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LOOKING AFTER OUR COMMUNITY

April 2023

Budget Update!

The HRA/Labour budget for 2023/2024 has now been set and finalized.

Below is a summary of what increases will be implemented from April:

- **Council Tax: to increase by 5.94%.**
- **The majority of Council fees and charges will be increased by 4%**
- **Council Tenants: Rent to increase by approx. 7%**
- **Tenants will also have to self-fund any replacement items below £50**
- **Pay and Display Parking charges: Free 30 minutes to remain but Charges have increased : 1 hour charge will increase to £2.10 and for up to 3 hours £5.10**
- **Resident's Parking Permits per annum, charges will now double in cost on all permits. Each individual vehicle will now cost £70**

The HRA/Labour administration promised change, it has now arrived.

Beware Parking Fines

Under the new administration of HRA and Labour the parking wardens have been instructed to be more productive in issuing parking tickets. Our advice is, if you are unable to obtain a ticket, unable to use Ringo and cannot get through to the Council's Parking Department from the number on the machine DO NOT PARK there without authorisation or you will receive a parking fine. Please ensure you park within the white marked parking bays because even one inch over a parking ticket will be issued.

The Administration boasted of change within the borough - Did they mean issuing more parking fines.

CLLR BRIAN EAGLING

TFL Bus Consultation

TFL have launched a consultation proposing changes to bus routes 346, 347 and 497 in Harold Wood and Upminster.

TFL have reviewed bus services in east Havering to ensure services are meeting customer needs and have taken account of feedback from a previous consultation about the 497 held in autumn 2021. A key message from that consultation was a request for bus links between Harold Wood and Upminster.

To find out more about these proposals, how these may impact you, and how to have your say please visit our consultation web page – haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/bus-routes-346-347-497

Alternatively, you can:

Email: haveyoursay@tfl.gov.uk

Your Havering bus services. Your say.

Proposed changes to routes 346, 347 and 497 between Harold Wood and Upminster



Have your say

We're proposing to extend route 497 from Harold Wood to Upminster replacing routes 346 and 347 which would no longer run, and would like to hear your views.

For more information and to have your say please scan the QR code or:

Visit: haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/bus-routes-346-347-497
Email: haveyoursay@tfl.gov.uk
Telephone: 020 3054 6037 (call back service)
Write to: Freepost TFL Have Your Say
Consultation ends Sunday 16 April 2023.

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Write to: Freepost Tfl Have Your Say (no stamp required)

Consultation ends Sunday 16 April 2023

Protest against ULEZ

At the Budget setting Council Tax meeting last month, there were hundreds of protestors complaining about the proposed ULEZ Scheme coming to Havering and all London Boroughs in August 2023. There was a proposal at the meeting for Havering to fund legal action along with some other London Boroughs to challenge the scheme by launching an action for judicial review though unfortunately the Havering Residents Association and Labour coalition administration voted against this proposal. The administration have said they are against the scheme in principle but they are not backing up their words by joining the legal action. Actions speak louder than words but in this case it seems the other way round!



Litter Picking at our Parks

We have for over 11 years been regularly picking litter up at Painesbrook Park to support our environment and it would be good to see more people do this on a regular basis. We also have the Harold Wood Wombles that regularly litter pick at Harold Wood Park. If you are interested in getting involved then contact one of us and we can let you know when we are out and about next picking up litter. We can all do our bit to help by disposing our litter or rubbish in the bins provided when visiting or using our parks. Please keep our parks clean.



Keep Harold Wood Free From Litter

As Spring and Summertime comes could I please ask residents that if you see litter outside your premises to pick it up and bin it as street cleaning is only being done on a 3 weekly cycle now. The Wombles and your Councillors do litterpick in our parks and some of our Wombles Team litterpick in their own roads and on nearby roads. Let's keep Harold Wood free from litter.

Thank you

CLLR BRIAN EAGLING

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please message if any questions.

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Please Support

Ron Lockhart who is 88 years old, and Chairman of the Neighbourhood Centre in Gubbins Lane is doing a Sky Dive to raise funds for The Lennox Children's Cancer Charity. To sponsor Ron the details of the Giving Page will be in the next edition of our Bulletin. The Sky Dive will take place on 5th August at Peterborough Airfield.

ENTERTAINMENT

Harold Wood Bar Club, Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane

Saturday 22nd April - The Limit Duo
Saturday 29th April - GJ4 Band
Saturday 6th May - Coronation Day
At 3pm - Rob and Mandy
8.30pm - Johnny & The Timebombs

ST. PETER'S HAROLD WOOD - MEN'S LUNCH - EASTER

Last month it was a joy to welcome back a previous Vicar (David Banting) as our guest speaker. This month (April), it will be great to hear from our current Vicar ROB HUDSON. Rob will be sharing with us a special Easter themed message.



Speaking of Easter, Please note that because of the way the dates fall this year, our April lunch will be held on the 1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH:

**TUESDAY, 4TH APRIL 2023,
FROM 11:30AM.**

We look forward to welcoming you. To reserve your lunch place, check if you're on the list. To cancel, please tel St. Peter's Welcome Desk on 01708 342080, or email: welcome.desk@stpetersharoldwood.org

See you on the 4th April!

JULIAN HARRIS, CHRIS KNOWLES AND
THE MEN'S LUNCH TEAM

School Streets

The council may be introducing 10 or more School Street schemes later this year. The council said that the existing School Streets Schemes have been reviewed and worked well though they have acknowledged that some displacement has occurred on other roads nearby. The council have said they are listening to feedback and TFL has allocated funding to assess the impact. The council will look to put further parking restrictions in place as the School Streets programme develops and they will consult later this year with residents on the phase 2 schools that were implemented in September last year.

Questions Raised at Council



At the March meeting of the council, we asked 2 questions in relation to the following: 1) Whether there are any plans to introduce Low Traffic Neighbourhood Schemes within the borough as we are concerned that some of Havering's Roads could be closed off to accommodate any schemes of this nature; and 2) We have also asked how many Penalty Charge

Notices have been issued over the 2nd half of 2022 as we have seen an increase in the number of complaints and we believe this is on the back of the Council increasing the number of Parking Enforcement Officers that are employed by the Council. As at the time of writing we are waiting for official responses to be sent back. As we highlighted last month, it seems 'War on the Motorist' yet again.

Pot Holes Defects and Repairs



We continue to raise concerns over the number of Pot holes and defects that are appearing on our roads and pavements and especially the inadequate repairs that are carried out when actioned by the Council. In particular 2 pot holes that recently appeared in Church Road. Three times these have had to be repaired in a very short period of time. Our list of action required for the repair of these Pot holes are growing, but we continue to chase the Council for these to be repaired.

YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

New Rainbow Bridge

Finally the New Bridge has been installed and we are very pleased to see so many residents of Harold Wood and the surrounding areas, once again being able to explore Pages Wood with all the family.

As your local councillors, we really do appreciate all the Thank You's and nice compliments that we have received for our continued efforts in getting this bridge replaced.

Keep your Cars locked

Please be extra careful and ensure that you do not leave any valuables in your car especially overnight. Residents are experiencing a high number of thefts from their cars which occur usually in the early hours of the morning Please make sure your car is locked.

Hope Springs Eternal

After what seemed an interminable winter, it feels like Spring is finally coming. The first day of Spring this year is technically 20th March, but it's usually once we're into April that it starts to feel like Spring has really begun.

The evenings are getting lighter and usually the boiler isn't working flat out to warm the house. Even so, given our climate, it could be snowing when this issue gets delivered!

We understand that the hollow Easter egg symbolises the empty tomb of Easter Day, but what do chicks and bunnies represent? Could it be new life? Hope for a



new start? Or just general hope for the future? Maybe hope for better weather as we watch spring flowers bursting through, but don't forget the old saying, "Ne'er cast a clout 'til May be out"! What about hope for better circumstances? Regarding money, health or work? The wish list is endless, so let's just hope for a better world to live in.

1 Corinthians 13:13 says "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

So keep on praying and hoping for all the above but love can be shown right now, by being kind! There is a new saying that has become a mantra, "In a world where you can be anything, be kind."

Happy Easter

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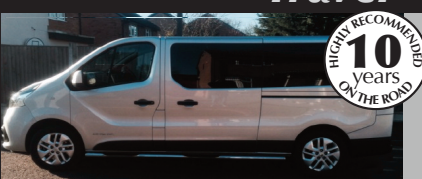


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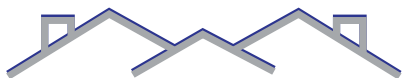


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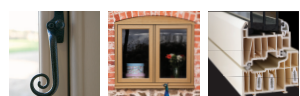
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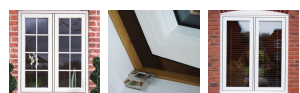


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