



## **LPRA committee meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023.**

**Present:** Rupert Keppel-Palmer, Gary Slinn, Kelly Welch, Ian & Marie Whale.

**Apologies:** Christine Belton-Brown, Emma Found, Lewis Howard.

### **Agenda**

- **Surrounding roads – programme of improvements – update**

Gary provided an update on the crossing that has been installed by KCC by the Bricklayers Arms. There are no road markings, only a drop-kerb close to existing drop-kerbs. A query has been raised with KCC as to whether road markings will be added. This will not be happening and we have been informed that the works have been completed.

- **Cycleway – update on parking**

We have received written confirmation that overnight parking will continue to be accessible on Papyrus Way and that this hard-fought addition to parking capacity will not be removed once the cycle way has been installed.

- **Panattoni – Bellingham Way noise reduction proposal**

Panattoni have indicated that they would be willing to plant a hedgerow along the Bellingham Way boundary of our estate in order to assist in noise reduction due to the increased level of traffic on this roadway to the new industrial park. We will be progressing meetings with Panattoni to consider and effect timely implementation of the best and most suitable option.

- **Playground**

A request for consideration of allocation of a budget to ensure that the soft surface of the playground is renewed given its current condition. Also, consideration for a request to FP to

price up replacement of one item of children's play equipment given the ongoing popularity of this area of our estate.

- **Christmas lights competition**

Agreed we should once again seek to promote community engagement through a competition for the best 'dressed' house and flat with an agreed prize allocated to both properties.

- **Request for purchase of solar powered outdoor Christmas lights for various areas of the estate including but not limited to the pagodas and park trees.**

Agreed.

## **AOB**

There was a detailed discussion around the lack of support that our estate continues to receive from both the Parish Council as well as KCC in respect of key improvements to the environs;

- This includes recent changes to road furniture on NHL.
- Consideration of amendment of the existing road layout close to the Papyrus Way entrance to the estate in order to allow for residents to be able to exit the estate eastwards along Papyrus Way / College Road to join the new road through the Panattoni estate towards Station Road.
- The ongoing concerns around speeding traffic especially vehicles coming from the industrial parks at the northern end of NHL and the associated risks to pedestrians crossing the Papyrus Way / NHL roundabout
- Installation of speed bumps close to Blu 3 in order to reduce vehicle speeds in the immediate vicinity of our estate

Despite best efforts over a considerable period of time, including conversations with the Parish Council, KCC as well as Panattoni – there has been a noticeable lack of traction gained from these organisations in support of any such improvements.

The committee considered what further options are now available to highlight the concerns across a number of these improvements / our surrounding road network.

One possible solution considered is a video vlog and subsequent presentation to key decision makers. This may provide a better representation of the views of our neighbourhood. This will require further effort to produce, edit and present – with further meetings required with key committee members versed in video production.

It was further considered whether a meeting with Parish councillors around these subjects may seek to gain further support in moving these ideas forward.

Associate membership to the RA was offered to one of the councillors – Ray Haffenden last year subject to a number of conditions being met. It was noted that one condition remained outstanding – and unfulfilled – which requires resolution.

The committee agreed that it is their aspiration that an approach to the Parish Council could be effected once the conditions of our associate membership offer had been fulfilled with the intention of progressing this discussion.

### **Replanting of the estate**

An approach to be made to Georgia to get an audit of all of the areas of the estate that currently have dead plants / a requirement for replacement & replanting.

### **Carpets**

Residents are seeking an update on the new carpets fitted to a number of blocks across the estate and when snagging orders will be drawn up.