

HILLINGDON people

Local news from your council

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Harefield Village ward 2024 edition



HILLINGDON
LONDON

Harefield Village Green

Putting our residents first in Harefield Village

Welcome to your *Hillingdon People Local*, which highlights some of the things that the council has been doing across the borough and in your local area during the past two years.

A green and sustainable borough

Parks and green spaces

- The council received 67 Green Flag Awards – the most held by any local authority for the eleventh year running. Harefield Village Green retained its flag.
- During the past two years, 23,726 trees have been planted across the borough.

Delivering improvements to your area

- The council's ward budget scheme gives Cllr Jane Palmer funding annually to

spend on local projects. Both Harefield Bowls Club and St Mary's Church received funding for the purchase of a defibrillator. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/wardbudgets.

- Each year, £1 million is spent on Chrysalis projects across the borough. A recent improvement at Harefield Village Green created a path to link Vernon Drive's access point to the outdoor gym. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/chrysalis.



PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

Harefield Village Green retained its Green Flag

The council's strategy outlines a commitment to putting residents first and ambition that Hillingdon is a safe, inclusive, green, more digital borough with a strong economy.

We have aligned content in this leaflet to the strategy to illustrate how the council is delivering improvements across the borough and in your ward. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/council-strategy.



Waste and recycling services

- The council continues to offer free, weekly and easy to use waste and recycling collections for Hillingdon residents. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling.
- In summer 2023, following a successful trial, the council expanded its free food waste recycling service to council-owned blocks of flats.
- To date, 28 schools across the borough, including Harefield Infant School, have signed up to recycle their food waste.
- Residents can dispose of waste and recycling at the nearby Harefield Civic Amenity Site.

Reducing our carbon footprint

- As part of the council's commitment to being net zero by 2030, last July the council approved plans to deliver hundreds of charging points in the borough to meet demand as more drivers switch to electric vehicles.



- In autumn 2022, four roads participated in a resurfacing trial using a new, more environmentally friendly form of tarmac, including Springwell Lane.
- Last October, the council introduced a new road repair method which uses 80 per cent less energy than traditional asphalt repairs, 85 per cent less carbon and halves the overall cost of repairs.
- Work took place to replace defunct, electrically lit bollards with zero-emission, reflective versions made from recycled materials.

Read more inside

Safe and strong communities



Improving social and private housing

- As part of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, the council has improved the energy-efficiency of 157 homes across the borough by installing loft insulation, double glazing, heat recovery extractor fans and new roofs.
- The warden call system at Rylstone sheltered housing scheme was upgraded to ensure residents can request help when they need it.
- The council's private sector housing team regularly carries out inspections to investigate disrepair in privately rented properties and to combat landlords providing potentially hazardous living conditions.

New homes for residents

- In November, the council broke ground for the construction of six new homes on the site of former garages in Sullivan Crescent. The new development will deliver four two-storey terraced homes at one end of the site and two two-storey semi-detached houses at the other, along with new trees and car parking spaces.

Keeping residents safe

- Harefield House car park has retained its Park Mark Safer Parking award status for demonstrating rigorous safety standards.
- The council installed a new pedestrian crossing on Rickmansworth Road after receiving requests from local residents.
- The council's CCTV team assisted the Metropolitan Police by providing footage to help capture and convict an organised crime group which was responsible for a series of ram raids totalling £1.2 million and causing £1.8 million worth of damage in the ward.
- The council's planning enforcement team served a notice for an unauthorised roof extension to a terraced house on Newdigate Road which was too high and out of keeping with the area. The owner was ordered to lower the height of the roof and demolish the rear dormer.
- This financial year, our fraud team identified savings related to fraud and prevented the loss of more than £9.6 million. If you suspect that someone is committing fraud against the council, report it at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/report-fraud.



COMMUNITIES CELEBRATE
Residents of Ash Grove and Cllr Hagggar celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

A digital-enabled, modern, well-run council



Communities celebrate and mourn

- Communities celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, with the council supporting residents to hold street parties at Milne Way, Pond Close, Shelley Lane, Leys Close, Hall Drive, Ash Grove and New Park Road.
- The borough united to mourn the death of Queen Elizabeth II, with a book of condolence and space to leave floral tributes opened for residents at the Civic Centre, Uxbridge.
- Hillingdon marked the Coronation of King Charles III, with the council supporting street parties at Milne Way, Pond Close, Leys Close, Hall Drive, New Park Road and Shelley Lane. At Harefield Library a royal themed story time with arts and crafts took place for children.

Fighting ULEZ expansion

- Hillingdon launched a Judicial Review, alongside other councils, to challenge Transport for London and the Mayor of London's decision to expand the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to outer London because of significant concerns about its social and economic impact. Although the challenge was dismissed by the High Court, our fight continues by lobbying government.

Cost of living support

- In response to cost of living pressures, the council continues to offer and promote a range of initiatives to support residents, including the Household

Support Fund. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/cost-of-living.

- The council's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme supports families by providing activities for children in receipt of free school meals during the school holidays, with 2023 the most extensive yet.
- Warm welcome centres and an activities programme are in operation across the borough during winter.

Modernising services

- 153,000 residents have registered for a MyAccount and are contacting us online. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/myaccount.
- The council introduced a new voice-automated call centre system, which supports the caller by providing a digital link to make a report or to request information quickly without having to queue on the phone. Since then, digital transactions have increased by 76 per cent.
- A new digital parking permit system was introduced to help residents and businesses apply for and renew permits.
- PayByPhone launched across the borough, giving residents the added option of paying for their parking 'on the go' using an app on their phone. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/paybyphone.

Enhancing digital connectivity

- Investment was secured from Openreach for 10 exchanges which will connect thousands of homes and businesses with 'Full Fibre' broadband.



SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES
Harefield Children's Centre continues to deliver a range of groups and activities to support families with babies and young children

Thriving, healthy households



Investing in leisure facilities

- The council is committed to providing high-quality leisure centres to help local people stay active and healthy and has invested £2.25 million to upgrade facilities across the borough.

A new chapter for libraries

- The council agreed a five-year Library Strategy, setting out its commitment to providing a first-class service and ensuring it is efficient and sustainable for the future.
- During Christmas 2022 and 2023, Hillingdon libraries hosted more than 140 events and activities for residents of all ages, including a coffee morning for older residents and a Christmas Tiny Tales storytime for children at Harefield Library.
- At Harefield Library residents can also book to use the Tovertafel (magic) table where people living with dementia and disabilities can enjoy a series of 'light' interactive games.

Supporting young people and families

- Family hubs will be expanded boroughwide, building on existing services, such as children's centres, to offer enhanced and joined up support for families from pregnancy to adulthood within their local communities.
- A new Youth Offer was agreed, which will launch in April and reflect the diverse and flexible needs of today's young people by offering a more flexible format, delivering services locally using existing council buildings, family hubs and digital services.
- The council's Summer Activity Programme was a chance for young

people to have fun, make friends, learn skills and build confidence.

Supporting older residents

- Over-65s can benefit from free swimming and swimming lessons, free allotments, a winter heater loan scheme, and MOVES exercise classes. Over-75s can also receive the TeleCareLine service for free.
- An information stall was held at Harefield Library as part of Dementia Action Week 2022.
- Residents and carers living with dementia can access a range of council support and activities, including reminiscence sessions, chair exercise, bingo and music.

Promoting healthy lifestyles

- The council organised more than 100 events in local libraries to mark last February's National Heart Month, including health checks, talking therapy sessions and free activities to improve fitness. It included a children's interactive storytime at Harefield Library where children took part in some healthy heart themed activities.
- Regular free led walks take place along the Grand Union Canal. Find out more at discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/led-walks.
- A free bootcamp is delivered by Our Parks at Harefield Village Green.
- The council's commissioned smoking cessation, substance misuse and sexual and reproductive health services, NHS Health Checks, Health Lifestyle Action programme and the NHS Healthy Start scheme are providing health support to residents. For more details visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/health.



NEW HOMES FOR RESIDENTS
In November 2023, Cllrs Bianco and Lavery broke ground for the construction of six new homes in Sullivan Crescent

A thriving economy



Roads, footpaths and street lighting

- Parts of the carriageway on Springwell Lane and Northwood Way were resurfaced.
- In summer 2022, 10 new Vehicle Activated Signs were installed on roads most likely to be affected by HS2, including Breakspear Road North (near Dairy Farm Lane), Breakspear Road North (near Tarleton Lodge) and Church Hill High Street. This was part of a wider speed reduction scheme to enhance road safety.
- A Christmas tree and lights on lamp columns were erected in the centre of Harefield Village Green.
- Our street lighting replacement programme replaces street lighting columns at the end of their life, gullies on highways are cleaned either annually, six-monthly or three-monthly, and faded line markings are repainted as necessary.

Contacting your Harefield Village ward councillor



Cllr Jane Palmer (Conservative)

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