

Dear resident,

As 2023 draws to a close, Highams Residents' Association thank you for your continued support of the work we do to look after The Highams Estate.

### Home improvements

The Highams Estate is designated an Area of Special Character by the London Borough of Waltham Forest. This means that the Estate is a de facto conservation area, limiting the types of improvements that can be made to preserve its architectural character.

Over the last year, HRA has built an effective working relationship with Highams Park Planning Group and the council's planning department. If you want to make changes to your home we can help you to achieve a plan that is more likely to be accepted. To learn more, visit <a href="https://www.highamsra.org/about-hra">www.highamsra.org/about-hra</a>

HRA can also support residents who object to inappropriate developments. We post links to every planning application in The Estate on our Facebook group so you can keep up to date: <a href="mailto:facebook.com/groups/highamsRA">facebook.com/groups/highamsRA</a>

# Doorstep thefts

At this time of year, we want to make residents aware of the doorstep thefts that are being committed around the area, including The Estate.

We urge you to take extra precautions and ensure any deliveries are made to a designated safe place, or neighbour, and not left on your doorstep. One resident recently chased and confronted a thief and got their package back: we advise you not to follow suit.

#### Litter

Litter continues to plague The Estate (as it seems to in most places these days), despite litter bins being provided in hotspots such as at the top of The Charter Road and around the park. HRA has organised two litter picks this year, but after we clear up, more rubbish appears!

If you spot significant litter issues around The Estate, you can report it to the council or let us know, and we'll report it for you: tinyurl.com/39898fdj

# **Christmas Lights**

We love the Christmas lights and decorations festooned across The Estate to celebrate the Christmas period. Once again, we have decided to make a charitable donation rather than hold our Christmas lights competition this year, recognising the efforts made by residents whilst helping those who are less fortunate.

If you would like to lend your support, make a donation to the Highams Park Food Hub: <a href="mailto:tinyurl.com/yc8k9dsa">tinyurl.com/yc8k9dsa</a>

#### **Facebook**

Our Facebook group continues to grow and we encourage residents with Facebook accounts to join, so we can keep you up to date with happenings around The Estate and locale, and answer questions or concerns you may have. It is a private group for Estate residents only, and we look forward to welcoming you to it: <a href="mailto:facebook.com/groups/highamsRA">facebook.com/groups/highamsRA</a>

#### **Volunteers**

If you care about where you live and want to help us in any way you can, please drop us a line. You don't necessarily have to join the committee, and we find being an active member of the community is rewarding and fosters a stronger community spirit.

Highams Resident's Association wish you and your families a happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

David Jennings, Chairman, HRA



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facebook.com/groups/highamsRA

www.highamsra.org