



Heathfield Residents Association Newsletter

News From The Board of Directors

Our first Newsletter of 2024 – apologies that we have only issued one this year; time was against us, but we hope to produce these regularly in the future. In this edition we have highlighted some of the more important activities undertaken by the Association this year.

Over the last twelve months all the Directors have contributed fully to ensuring the Association has functioned effectively and efficiently – in what has been a particularly busy year. This includes work on estate maintenance, house sales, finance and dealing with communications from residents and third parties.

Also in 2024 the directors and volunteers undertook a clean up of the play park to ensure it remains in good condition for users.

Michael MacKay: 1935-2024



We would like to make neighbours aware that Michael MacKay passed away in October following a

fall at home. Michael had lived in Kingsway since 1983, so he was one of the original owners who moved here when the houses were sold by Blue Boar. Michael will be sadly missed by all those that knew him.

Join Us!

The Board of Directors are also appealing to any resident who would be prepared to join us to help manage the Association in what is a very important and crucial role. The task is not onerous or difficult and mainly involves helping with any administration and/or assisting with other minor tasks that crop up occasionally. The Board meets once a month to discuss HRA business and we would encourage you to join us to help promote, develop and plan the future of Heathfields. **So**

please come forward and support us and your estate. If you are interested use the 'Contact Us' form on our website: hra-duxford.org.uk or email the secretary at: secretary@hra-duxford.org.uk. Thank you.

Keeping you Informed - HRA documents

We felt that it would be useful to provide as much information as possible for the benefit of our residents and third parties - and that this information is readily accessible. To this end several new and amended 'Information documents' were added to the HRA website. These included *Contacting HRA*, *Directors Roles*, *Winter Gritting (of Roads)*, and *Abandoned Vehicles*. There are now 21 such documents on the website. If anyone has any suggestions for adding to these please contact us and we would welcome any feedback.



Conveyancing – A Busy and Productive Year for HRA



£4,675 net – The amount earned for HRA in 2024. This was due to twelve houses being sold, or are in the process of being sold, and transferred to new shareholders. All the owners were provided with a 'Welcome Pack' to ensure they had up to date information about the Association. There are still eight houses currently for sale, so we anticipate several more people moving onto the estate over the next few months.

Scanning – A Major Undertaking

Over the past 40 years the Association has accumulated a vast amount of paperwork covering all aspects of the company's activities such as correspondence, minutes, accounts, property files and finance. This has created a problem for storage, retrieval and sharing. The Board of Directors determined that it was time to modernise and digitise our records. The ongoing process will entail all our paper documents being scanned and the originals stored in an off-site storage facility. The cost for the secure storage is small and we will be able to request any documents if needed.



Estate Maintenance



This year we have again used 'Hardy's' to carry out regular maintenance of the green areas as we feel they are a reliable and competent company with an excellent reputation. They have done a great job in tidying and clearing the foliage, paths and other green areas. We will continue to use them in 2025 as part of a regular contract.

You may have also noticed that we have started a programme of replacing the older wooden posts on the estate with more robust, composite ones. This work was agreed in the June 2023 Business Plan. The posts are longer-lasting, low maintenance and we think they look much better than the wooden ones, many of which had started to rot quite badly. Geoff and Sue worked hard to find a value for money product and a reliable contractor to fit them. The second stage replacement will proceed in the spring.

Reminder – HRA Fees



Just a reminder that the HRA fees will increase by £36 per annum to £180 from 1st January 2025. Despite this increase we remain committed to delivering value for money. Please ensure that you adjust your payment methods to reflect this change - payments can be made in full on 1st January, or alternatively £15 pm or two payments of £90. If you require any further information on this please email Sue Meehan, Finance Director, via finance@hra-duxford.org.uk.

Dates to Remember

The following events will be held at the IWM Duxford in 2025. We mention this as a reminder that the local roads are very busy on these days.

- VE Flying Day – 10th May
- D-Day Flying Day – 7th June
- Summer Air Show – 21st and 22nd June
- Americans Flying Day 25th July (Friday)
- Flying Event – 16th August
- Battle of Britain Air Show – 6th and 7th September
- Flying Finale – 4th October

The Directors of HRA wish all residents a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

