



FOCUS ON FORTESCUE

Welcome to the Spring edition of our newsletter, and a special hello to anyone new on the estate.

With Thanks

On behalf of shareholders we would like to place on record our thanks to Mike Dennis for all his work as FPRA Treasurer. Mike decided to stand down after doing an outstanding job reporting on our financial position and keeping things up to date. We are very pleased to welcome long-time resident Sam Kamleh who recently kindly volunteered to take over from Mike.

AGM

All shareholders are warmly invited to the FPRA Residents' Association AGM on May 23rd in the back room at the Prince of Wales. Come along for a drink, the chance to hear about the running of our estate and the opportunity to vote on any key issues. An 8pm start.

Shut That Door

Please help us keep repair costs down around the estate. The white gates are often left open causing them to blow around and swell in the rain.

Bright And Beautiful

It's your chance to get your green fingers into action. We will once again be running a blooming doorstep competition with the opportunity to win a small prize. Fill your pots and baskets with colour! Judging will be July. Good luck.

Social Reports

It's a while ago but we enjoyed a good restriction-free carols evening with mince pies and mulled wine to finish (thank you very much to

Giles and Vicki!). Thanks also to those who came together to plant more Spring bulbs. It's always great to see the estate come to life after the darker months.

Maintenance Cost

A reminder that the full annual cost for 2023 is £360. The correct quarterly payment is now £90. If you made a payment before the end of March there is a £30 reduction meaning that a quarterly payment is £82.50. Please ensure your standing orders are adjusted.

SHRA

We'd like to ask you to consider supporting Strawberry Hill Residents' Association in the excellent work they do around the village. They rely on contributions/subscriptions from residents and local businesses. Full information on SHRA.org; from litter picks (upcoming 13th May, 10th June and 8th July), social events through to key local campaigns.

Parking Problems

It's been a while since any issues came up with parking as the CPZ (like it or loathe it!) seems to have thinned out the cars from non-residents and alleviated the over-crowding that we used to suffer. There now seems to be some cars however, that are regularly parked across the top of residents' drives/dropped kerbs. This is contrary to Rule 243 of the Highway Code, but LBRUT have stated on their website that they will permit

it across your own dropped kerb, provided that it doesn't cause an obstruction. Unfortunately, as our access roads are only wide enough for two cars, dropped kerb parking can easily cause an obstruction that prevents neighbours next door and opposite turning into and out of their own drives, or worse still, block emergency services and recycling vehicles. Richmond Council is now looking at bringing in a minimum road width to allow dropped kerb parking, so in advance of this, please consider your neighbours when you park.

Neighbourhood Watch

All residents and property owners in our development are members of the Fortescue Park Neighbourhood Watch, which has been in existence for many years. Unfortunately, our signs were removed by the Council's contractors when our streetlights were updated. We have now obtained new signs for the lamp posts and these will go up shortly. We will also soon be distributing window stickers for all houses to display. We're looking for someone to take over from Charles Owens as Neighbourhood Watch coordinator. This is not a big job in what is a very low crime area and really takes little time. Charles can provide full details of the role and assist where needed via e-mail or in person when he is in London. Please let us know if you're interested.