

The Village Association (VA)

Handover of the Village Association by Linden Announced

It is almost 5 years since interested residents started working with Linden to hand over the VA to its members. Linden agreed to establish an 'advisory committee' 3 years ago which has met regularly to drive this forward.

A number of problems had to be overcome, the most serious being the future ownership and maintenance liabilities of Nichols Close, the link road between Guards Avenue and the Tesco entrance which was to be transferred to the VA. Happily, after protracted discussions, this road was transferred to Tesco ownership in May of this year and so, going forward, will be their maintenance responsibility. There are some other issues that need to be addressed without delay (for example the repairs needed to the children's playground and the Cricket Pavilion) and these are under discussion with all concerned.

Members should have received a letter from the Company Secretary of the VA, Q1 Professional Services, inviting people to stand as directors.

- Nominations are sought in accordance with a revised memorandum and Articles of Association of the VA (these are its 'rules and regulations' and these will require an Extraordinary General Meeting of Members to adopt them, planned for the end of the year).
- There are 6 places available for home-owner members, 2 for commercial members and 1 for a Social Housing member. Should there be more nominations than there are places in each category, an election will take place on 30th September to determine who will be elected.
- Following that a new 'shadow board' will be appointed to sit alongside Linden until the EGM takes place after which those directors will assume responsibility entirely.

An informal open surgery this Wednesday, 29th July 6-8 pm

Location: the ground floor of the Linden building

No appointment is necessary, just turn up. **A second surgery is planned for Wednesday 16th September** at the same time and place. We very much hope that you will take advantage of these surgeries to find out more and to have any questions you may have, answered.

A site plan and the new Memorandum and Articles are available on Hazelvine's web site and can be found at:-

www.hazelvine.com (log in under 'my account' and click on 'my downloads')

The set up of The Village and the number of bodies engaged (and therefore their various responsibilities) is rather involved and members of the current VA Advisory Board (and a representation of Linden) are ready and willing to offer explanations or to provide further guidance if needed at the surgeries.

You are urged to participate in a vote if that proves necessary (should more people stand than there are places available) to ensure you have the representation you want to manage your Village Association. Details of those willing to stand as Directors of the VA will be sent to you by Q1 Professional Services after the 19th August deadline for nominations.

More information can be obtained from Mark Patchett, advisor acting for Linden: <u>mark@mpconsultancy.org.uk</u>

Or

Contact the existing Advisory Board of members: thevillageassociation@hotmail.co.uk

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