

## PARKING

Parking causes a lot of frustration for residents and is an area that the VA receives a lot of communication about. It is clear that there are more vehicles on the development than it was designed to accommodate, and the number continues to rise.

The VA does not intervene in individual parking disputes but does support residents in providing clarity on the entitlement and use of parking spaces and will, through the Wardens, look to address cases of inconsiderate or dangerous parking.

As the number of vehicles rises the VA appeals to all drivers to be considerate and mindful as to where vehicles are parked and to think of others when parking, this includes:

- **Using driveways where available.**
- **Not abandoning vehicles on the development.**
- **Not using visitor spaces as a personal space. These are intended for the use of resident's visitors.**
- **Where allocated car park spaces are available then use them rather than other spaces.**
- **Not parking on bends or close to junctions. This reduces the line of sight and makes it dangerous for others. It can also make it difficult for the buses and larger vehicles to get around the development.**

The VA is going to consider if additional spaces could be created to help alleviate the issues. Clearly this could be costly so would need to be considered carefully but if you have any ideas on this then please get in touch. Thank you for your consideration and support in helping reduce the frustrations associated with parking.



## DIRECTOR VACANCIES

As a result of recent resignations, The Village Association have vacancies for both a Resident and Business Director to join its Board.

The VA is responsible for ensuring that the development is maintained to a high standard and is for the benefit of all. We are accountable for circa £300,000 of annual spend and our work includes contract management, legal documentation, dispute resolution, resident support, community engagement and undertaking initiatives to further improve the development. Experience is not required but a willingness to get involved in supporting our community is essential.

If you are interested in either opportunity then please either contact the VA via email [office@thevillageassociation.org](mailto:office@thevillageassociation.org) or come along to our Resident Surgery on the 30 March to speak with an existing Director and understand more about the role.

## THE WARDENS

John West and his Warden team of Alasdair and Matt have been busy patrolling The Village and working hard to 'keep the peace' for the benefit of all residents. We have received a lot of very positive feedback for the excellent job that they are doing, most notably at the last AGM, and so we are keen to extend their current contract for a further two years which will take it to 31st March 2021.

CCTV was introduced earlier last year and is located on the warden's hut by the entrance to The Village. We believe it acts as a strong deterrent to potential criminal activity and anti social behaviour and it has proved very helpful with assisting the police to catch perpetrators. As outlined at the last AGM we now intend to extend the CCTV coverage at The Village by introducing a 3rd camera close to the end of the Arc and near the playground which will provide good coverage of the northern and western end of The Village. We are also installing an ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) camera close to The Village entrance on Guards Avenue with the aim of helping to detect and deter crime and therefore providing greater protection to residents.



The Village Association is very grateful for the hard work and expertise of John West and his team in enabling all these developments to happen.

## THE VILLAGE CODE

After a consultation period with residents, The Village Code has been updated. The changes bring the code up to date, making it even more relevant to today's life in The Village.

The updated Village Code can be read on the VA website at [www.thevillageassociation.org](http://www.thevillageassociation.org) or on the Wardens notice board.

## SERVICE CHARGE DIRECT DEBITS

A new webpage has been opened to make it even easier to setup a Direct Debit with Hazelvine.



The new page has a downloadable Direct Debit form which can be completed and returned to Hazelvine. When filling it in please remember to use your Hazelvine account number which can be found on any previous correspondence received from Hazelvine.

## LANDSCAPING

Last year we had to fell the three large oak trees in Sergeants Place as they had become diseased and potentially unsafe. We had feedback from residents telling us that they appreciated the extra light coming into their homes, so we were keen to replant smaller trees which would add colour to the gardens, without them growing too large.

We can report that Acacia have now planted eight ornamental cherry trees in the gardens. Each of the two main flower beds, surrounded by low hedges has four trees, two flowering in the Spring and the other two flowering in the Autumn.

Acacia have had a busy planting season and are now tidying and cutting back foliage ready for spring. Acacia have now also repaired the fence between Stirling Drive and The Grove.



## RESIDENTS SURGERY - 30TH MARCH

As a result of requests made by residents at the AGM for more direct engagement with the Association, the VA are holding an open surgery.

**Saturday 30th March - 10am -12pm**

**The Fleeting Brook.**

This 'drop-in' session is designed to provide an opportunity for residents to hear and engage in the work of the VA as well as to further improve the transparency of the VA and the projects and work we are involved in.

The VA surgery will be open to all residents and businesses within The Village to come and discuss any relevant topics and ask questions. We hope to see you there!