

**Responses to comments / questions raised at the
South Chingford & Highams Park Community Council meeting
held on 7 July 2008.**

COMMUNITY FORUM

Comment 1.

I Woodward (Larkshall Road) submitted the following written request on behalf of residents in Linnett Close: "Could some actions be taken regarding fly tipping in Larkswood.

There is a path leading from New Road to Larkshall Road (next to the Larkshall Pub) that runs between Mead Crescent and Linnett Close. There is regular fly tipping taking place here, particularly from a house in Linnett Close where a significant amount of rubbish appears to have been thrown over the back fence. Please could some action be taken to 1) clear the rubbish and 2) warn the residents about this behaviour?

I previously wrote to the Council by email about this for the "Our Area Matters" day in Larkswood ward, but did not even receive the courtesy of a reply."

Response:

Gareth Jones, Enforcement Manager, Environment and Regeneration

An officer visited the location and the residents were in the process of clearing the rubbish which was a mixture of household and building waste from works they were carrying out. They have been suitably advised about the procedure for waste disposal.

A response to the 'Our Area Matters' query was sent out once the email had been forwarded to the appropriate team.

Comment 2.

H Richards (Hurst Avenue) remarked that work had not been completed on the pavement from Hurst Avenue and around to Chingford Mount.

Response:

Penny Allier, Community Councils Manager

Council officers have spoken to Mrs Richards in the past concerning uneven pavements. An inspection was made and it was established at the time that the sites were below the current criteria for highway maintenance money to be spent on.

WRITTEN QUESTIONS:

Mrs H Richards, Hurst Avenue:

1. Can something be done about the rat population in the bushes around Chingford Mount public toilets that come out at night.
2. Empty properties: a. Marmion Centre b. above shops on the corner of Hall Lane & Cherrydown Avenue.
3. Parking on both sides of Hurst Avenue which often makes it impossible for council vans to get through and collect rubbish on the correct days.

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1.Response:

Jane Herman, Public Health & Pollution Manager, Environment & Regeneration

The Public Health team have been baiting this area, after numerous sightings of rats around Chingford Mount public toilets. This was a surface infestation, we have now baited to extinction as we have had no reported sightings nor any bait taken for the last month.

If residents are seeing them again please do not hesitate to get in contact.

2.Response:

Penny Allier, Community Council Manager

Re Marmion Centre, please see the table of spend items under Valley ward. I have reported the empty property above the shops. There are officers here tonight with a stand inviting residents to report 'orphan sites', residents can speak to these officers about this or other sites.

3.Response:

Steve Leftwich, Parking Section Manager, Environment and Regeneration

This road is narrow and has grass verges so the options for the borough are:

- > Remove the grass verges and grant footway parking
- > Introduce double yellow lines to allow one side only parking

As far as I am aware the borough's policy is to retain grass verges, also there are numerous dropped kerbs which could not be marked for parking on so this may well not resolve the issue.

Double yellow lines will reduce the available parking space by 50% so would be detrimental to the residents.

The issue of obstruction is one that rests with the Police, we have not been empowered to deal with this. If a large vehicle was prevented from travelling along the road by parked vehicles then the Police would have to be called to deal with the problem.

Updates

At the meeting in March, D Lupton reported that in Bellamy Road there were bushes overhanging on the road. At the same meeting, M Cornwall asked if the Council could serve a notice to the Harvester in New Road to clear the litter around the shrubs.

Bill Nisbet from the Community Safety Team reported that clearance of both of these areas would be carried out by Operation Payback (a scheme through which offenders serving community service orders carry out useful manual work such as removing litter, cleaning graffiti and pruning hedges).