

Hillrise Ward Partnership Meeting

Location: Zoom Meeting
Time: 7:00pm – 8:30pm
Date: Wednesday 23 February 2022
Chair: Councillor Cllr Dave Poyser (DP)

Councillors and Speakers:
Councillor Marian Spall (MS) Hillrise ward councillor
Councillor Michelline Ngongo (MN) Hillrise ward councillor
Zayd Panchbhaya (ZP) Neighbourhood Ward Officer, Hillrise Ward
Lauren McSpadden (LM) Community Safety Officer, Islington Council
Janet Tucker (JT) Archway Traders Association
Tom Forde (TF) Wildling Strip Hillrise Park

1. 1 minute silence for Sandi Philips

Sandi Philips was chair of Elthorne Pride who sadly passed away in late December 2021.

2. Welcome, introductions and minutes of the last meeting

Introductions and details of the last minutes were agreed. No matters arising.

DP and MS said a few words about Elthorne Pride and Sandi Philips.

DP hoped to have a Hillrise ward party soon.

DP spoke about the shape of the ward changing with the boundary changes, and the uniqueness of Hillrise in comparison to other wards.

3. Crime / ASB in Hillrise

Joint presentation with Lauren and PC Panchbhaya. If you would like to see a copy of the presentation, please email Peter.Cook@islington.gov.uk.

Updated police and Islington staff changes. Currently there are 3 police officers and one police community support officer (PCSO). Two PCs are on rotation but PC Panchbhaya is permanent.

PC Panchbhaya reports that things are quiet recently with not many problems in the Elthorne Estate. Crime rates not that high. Priorities still remain the same with motor vehicle crime, drug related ASB and general ASB.

DP asked PC Panchbhaya to comment about the murders that have occurred this year. PC Panchbhaya says he hasn't had any Intel for anything for the future or gang tension. Officers have been involved in covert and overt policing on overtime late at night.

JT says there are still issues with street drinkers and there is a vast increase in reports of shoplifting on the WhatsApp group. JT says she is looking into it and believes it to do with the wider issues in society. Violence is low and phone theft is on the increase. JT says she is chair of the ward panel.

JT will see if any specific stores are being targeted and will let the PCSO know.

LM said the business engagement day needs to be re-arranged due to the recent storm.

There was a discussion about the importance of policing teams working closer together and new ward boundaries.

PC Panchbhaya has asked that the word be spread about weekly police contact meetings that are being set up using MS Teams - PC Panchbhaya to pass links to councillors.

4. Lauren McSpadden – Safer Hillrise Project and Safer Spaces

LM delivered a presentation on the above subjects. Please contact Peter Cook for details of the presentation on peter.cook@islington.gov.uk

Online community conversations about "Safer Spaces" and next steps – Tuesday 1st March 2022 at 1800-2000. You need to register via Eventbrite and then you will get a link to join.

Discussion about the feeling of safety and around Hillrise including Elthorne Park. PC Panchbhaya mirrors the feedback that residents do feel unsafe at night especially with groups loitering.

DP stated that LM presentation was uplifting and fantastic, particularly the bike building event.

Resident Rory (community development officer) announced that he is setting up a women's self-defence class in New Orleans.

5. Jan Tucker - Archway Traders

JT completed a presentation on the above. JT is the chair of the Archway Town Centre business group, a collective of businesses in the area which was formed in 2008. AT (Archway Traders) has a WhatsApp group. AT makes businesses aware of what funding is available. AT advertises the traders including special offers.

AT applies for funding, and has improved the area with new benches and planting.

AT have meetings with councillors, events meetings and other meetings including planning meetings. Covid has had an impact on businesses.

Barry Causton (LBI) mentioned the Cultural Commons Hub which is a project looking at community involvement and how volunteering is working. It will map out the cultural offer in the Archway area and how the offer can be supported.

6. Tom Forde - Wildling Strip at Hillside Park

TF - presentation on Hillside Park. Wildling Strip running along the long wall inside Hillside Park which will hopefully increase the population of small birds, berries and bugs, etc. Wide agreement that it be fenced off. It will enhance the environment.

Action – minutes to be shared with Shan Burgess and Barry Emmerson and have the Wildling Park on the agenda for the next ward panel meeting

TF – discussion about plants being cut back too much to facilitate the feeling of safety, and the need for volunteers to maintain plants at a height to feel safe but to encourage the benefits of wild planting.

Discussion about volunteers.

DP - Shan Burgess is the manager for Hillside Park and she can be spoken to, as to why bushes are cut low. **Shan to be invited to the next meeting.**

7. AOB / residents' concerns

TF – Filming – Alfonso Peron filming an Apple TV series – called Disclaimer - Dresden Road 24th February 2022. They are giving donations to local groups. There will be parking issues.

DP read out the following from Christine Healy:

- Regular maintenance/pollarding of all trees in the Hillside Park adjacent to houses – on a par with the level of attention given to trees in the surrounding streets - Cressida Road, Gladsmuir Road, etc. As of week commencing 17/01/22 there were three separate parking suspensions to facilitate 'Essential Tree Works' in the surrounding streets. No work have been carried out on trees that are in similar proximity to houses next to the park.
- Review of lighting in Cardinal's Way, the height of the trees in the car park of Cardinal's Way make the area dark during the winter. There are only two lamp posts in the main area, review the potential to provide low level lights for pedestrians and car parking spaces.

- Review potential to provide EV charging bollards within Cardinal's Way car park e.g. Visitor Bays or ideally to facilitate connections from the existing lamps in the car park to individual car parking spaces.

DP invited comments.

DP suggested the next meetings be held in June 2022 and February 2023.

Surgeries:

Cllr Michelline Ngongo - first Wednesday of the month at St Mary's Church

Cllr David Poyser - second Wednesday of the month at Hornsey Lane Estate Community Centre

Cllr Marian Spall - fourth Monday of the month at Caxton House

Date of Next Meeting: June 2022 - venue to be decided