

Northern Approach Action Group (NAAG) **MARCH NEWSLETTER**

Hi Residents!

Further to our last two editions please find the 3rd instalment of the NAAG newsletter. A lot has happened since our last NAAG edition.

FIRSTLY GOOD NEWS STORIES!!

LITTER PICK

On the 24th March the Local development will be having a Citizens litter pick day to co-inside with the CBC initiative. Proceedings will start outside Mill Road play area at 10am with all equipment being provided. Lunch vouchers have been donated by Marks & Spencers, Subway & McDonalds for all those that participate. Please meet us there with friends and family for what will be a great time and a chance to put something back into the local community and have some lunch! Please let us know if you can make it!

TREES

Firstly NAAG has received £1750 in donations for trees to be planted on the roundabouts on the development, in order to make them look more appealing and also to stop idiots driving over the top of them!! The order has been placed with CBC & the trees are to be planted over the next couple of months. We would like to thank George Wimpey, Colne Housing, Suffolk Heritage Housing, Estuary Housing, Royal Bank of Scotland, and Myland Parish Council for contributing to the fund. If you would like to make a small donation to help improve the development further, please contact us and we will send you details. We are looking at further landscaping.

BUS LANE

We have received news that the proposed bus lane will be fenced off professionally using proper slatted fencing on the right hand side of Wallace Road, both sides of the footpath from Hakewill Way towards the hospital and both sides at the entrance to Dickenson Road. This was after we initiated an onsite meeting with English Partnership in early January who owns the land. Work will commence on this shortly with a not insignificant figure being spent.

FOOTPATHS

The footpath to St Michaels Churchyard from Bolsin Drive has been completed and new tarmac has been laid thanks to the goodwill of George Wimpey. This should help no end when pushing a buggy through this area. The footpath from Hakewill Way towards the hospital is currently undergoing adoption and will be widened; changed into a cycle way and a proper tarmac surface will be added by Essex County Council. Currently this is with the Lawyers, so don't expect it to happen before the summer. Currently a temporary surface has been laid. At least we won't have to dodge any of those big puddles anymore!

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping has been under review with Coftons & CBC. New Landscaping plans are being finalised & agreed with both parties with a view to new planting being carried out at the end of March by Coftons along Hakewill Way.

LOTTERY FUNDING

There is currently a £20k lottery bid which has been submitted to improve the whole area along Hakewill Way and commence a neighborhood landscaping project. This was initiated by Places for People housing. However, we may not get approval, but at least the bid is still in for consideration. More news as we know it!

PARISH NOTICE BOARD

Myland Parish Council has agreed to fund a Notice Board to be put up on the development. Once erected we would like all residents to use & advertise any local events that the rest of the community could get involved in. We will keep you posted - literally!

RUBBISH BINS

We have had a number of conversations with CBC concerning the lack of rubbish bins on the development. CBC has agreed to fund two additional bins with locations to be agreed. On top of this we have also approached the Parish Council to see if they can match this offer.

ADOPTION CERTIFICATE

The part 2 adoption certification has been issued by Essex County Council in January, which means as long as Coftons complete the outstanding minor works in the summer of 2007; the older roads will be adopted in 2008 by Essex County Council. The newer roads on St James Park are still to be completed, so these won't be part of the adoption.

From the good news we still have a number of issues outstanding that need to be resolved. They are as follows.

VANDALISM

Vandalism – Various fences and road signs have been vandalised recently on the development that are awaiting repair. If you see any form of vandalism or Anti Social Behaviour report it to the Police or CBC. This behaviour is totally unacceptable!

GRAFFITI

Graffiti continues to be an issue on the development. It seems someone has been bought a spray can for Christmas! Over the last month a number of Road Signs, Walls, and Garages have graffiti on. If you see any graffiti please report it & it will be cleaned up in due course thanks to the Police and CBC.

SHOPPING TROLLEYS

Asda trolleys are still being dumped around the development. If you do see any please continue to report them. To the few residents who keep bringing them up to the development – can you be responsible and actually take them back, or even better don't take them at all! It is of course theft to take them anyway!

LITTER/RUBBISH/DOGS MESS/ FLY TIPPING IN THE BUS LANE

Litter & rubbish is starting to improve on the development. But there are still a few residents who are chucking out rubbish way too early (Wed/Thurs). If you don't know rubbish collection for this development falls on a Monday. Please understand that if you don't clear up the rubbish after yourself it affects all of the residents & gives a negative feel to the development. Come on take pride in your development! There are also issues with dog owners not clearing up dogs mess. We have requested further dog mess bins, but CBC has no budget for these. We are currently having a debate with the CBC Portfolio holder and will report back!

Some residents are also throwing sofas, beds, PC screens and other rubbish bags into the proposed bus lane. These items have been cleared by English Partnership at great cost. Anyone found to be chucking rubbish over their wall and into the area will be prosecuted. Currently we are working with local stakeholders to try and get a periodic skip or waste lorry to try and ensure householders dispose of their rubbish effectively and within the boundaries of the law!

INCONSIDERATE PARKING AND DAMAGE TO ROUNDABOUTS/GRASS VERGES

There are still issues with some residents almost blocking the road, particularly near many of the roundabouts or grass verges. This means other residents either park or drive over the roundabouts/green areas causing vandalism and damage. Please always take care when parking and use your own shared parking area or garage where possible. Due to the issues ECC are currently investigating Yellow Lines and Parking restrictions for the development, although this will be subject to healthy consultation and debate. More as we know about it.

RECYCLING

If you would like a CBC recycling pack to get your Green Box & Garden Waste bags please email NAAG at the below address & we will pop you a copy through your door.

BOVIS HOMES OWNER?

For those of you who own a Bovis Home it would be very advisable to check the shared parking areas. In a number of areas the main square drain covers have started to sink into the tarmac, and degradation has started to occur where the tarmac will start to break away from the drain covers. This happened to one resident and Bovis homes kindly paid to re-tarmac the whole shared parking area! You need to email customerservices.southeast@bovishomes.co.uk and they will arrange to inspect and fix the damage. If you don't raise it now, residents will be paying to fix this in future years which isn't cheap!

CONTACT LIST

As per our previous newsletters please find attached a list of contacts. If you have an issue please contact them directly either by phone or email.

Contact name	Responsibility	Contact number	Email
Roger Bowers @ Coftons	Whole estate – not George Wimpy end	07778 969648 01603 211980	Roger.Bowers@cofton.co.uk
Sonia Duckling	Local Police Officer	07966 196823 01206 762212	sonia.duckling@essex.pnn.police.uk
Colchester Borough Council Customer Services	Customer Services	01206 282700	CustomerServicecentre@colchester.gov.uk
Your Local Representatives.			
MP Bob Russell	Lib Dem Councillor	01206 506600	brooksse@parliament.uk
Councillor Anne Turrell	Lib Dem Councillor	01206 752418	cllr.anne.turrell@colchester.gov.uk
Councillor Nick Taylor	Conservative Councillor	01206 838834	Nick.Taylor@colchester.gov.uk
Councillor Brian Jarvis	Conservative Councillor	01206 756212	Brian.Jarvis@colchester.gov.uk
Parish Council	Parish Council	01206 853400	mylandpc@btconnect.com
NAAG	NAAG	N/A	NAAG2006@AOL.COM