

Fox Lane & District Residents' Association

Website: <https://foxlane.net>

22nd October 2020

Dear Resident

Correction - we have found that a link was missed - in the article on Cervical Cancer. This has now been corrected so we are resending.

As ever we hope that you are keeping well in mind, spirit and body. The two current big ticket items are of course The Covid Crisis and the LTN. But cancer screening is also high on the list too. So, do look at the link below. We also include a number of other relevant articles and hope that you find them of use and interest. One day we will be able to restart our open meetings. Let's hope that we don't have to wait too long.

Supporting Local Business.

FLDRA has been a stalwart supporter of our local business during the Covid crisis. With a special focus on our vibrant dining scene. As we are now placed under Tier 2 restrictions it remains critical to those businesses to give them our support - Eat Locally - by dining out or getting take-aways. Our list remains up to date - with fortunately few closures since our last newsletter. It does appear that we have lost our Polish deli in Aldermans Hill. Businesses tell us they are suffering, with some saying that getting through coming weeks and months is critical to survival. But there is good news too. Greens, on Green Lanes, is undergoing a change of management and a refurbishment. We have a new Japanese restaurant - Takenoya - just north of Park Avenue. And for those with a sweet tooth, a new confectionary store should open shortly. MyTime has now introduced a wide range of foodstuffs - with fresh vegetables and packed goods - in addition to their friendly café.

For a full listing - [click here](#).

LTN Scheme

The trial scheme is now fully in place and it is a major talking point.

Many residents say it has transformed their road, that they sleep better, can hear the birds and talk to their neighbours without the continuous noise of cars. Vehicle fumes are gone and there is a noticeable return of the cyclists, who appeared during lockdown, but vanished as traffic returned.

However, FLDRAs regrets that in some social media the debate has turned hostile and intransigent. Responses that try to shame or discredit specific groups or individuals are particularly unacceptable. As a result, some people do not feel safe expressing their views. Upsetting threats to withdraw custom have apparently been made to shop keepers. Individuals have received equally disturbing and abusive communications. We call this out. Neither can we condone the vandalism that is now taking place such as destroying the camera on Fox Lane. FLDRAs calls on everyone to listen to and respect different experiences of the impact of the LTN. It is clear that some people benefit from the scheme and others are disadvantaged, but everyone must be heard.

We note that initial shortcomings about poor signage are being addressed, though many may feel that the Meadway and Fox Lane cameras remain inadequately signed, and some road closure signs are missing. However, we also note that some signs have been deliberately removed or defaced, which is unacceptable and actually exacerbates some of the issues reported. Perhaps replacing temporary with fixed signage would readily resolve this problem.

To date the entry cameras have resulted in £70,000 of fines at the Meadway filter, and £29,000 on Fox Lane. Some of those affected complain that these fines are unfair due to the poor signage, and that the penalties are too high. Perhaps the use of warning letters in the early stages rather than fines would have been an alternative approach and less alienating. For some the fines are a legitimate and beneficial tool, but for others it adds to the "pushbacks" against the scheme.

Long queues are forming at certain times of the day on all the main roads surrounding the LTN area, as expected. This situation may improve with time. The impact needs to be fully assessed during the trial. However, the extra 'covid' traffic, seen across all London suburbs at present, complicates the issue. Off-peak, the surrounding roads generally appear to at "normal" levels. It is FLDRAs's policy to argue for extra traffic calming, crossings and a 20mph limit

on all the surrounding roads.

Behaviours have visibly changed. There appears, for example, to be far more walking and cycling to school. The speed of the remaining traffic within the LTN area is noticeably slower. But crossing Bourne Hill is more hazardous. Some shops report loss of trade, others a higher footfall, and parking has shifted tactically to avoid the Fox Lane barriers. Let us see how this evolves.

We are concerned that the current format of the trial may not answer a number of very important questions, and we will be raising this with the Scheme planners though no proposed meetings have yet been scheduled. Such issues include, for example :

- Pollution and noise levels in the immediate and wider area
- Broader impact on surrounding areas and communities – including traffic speeds, traffic volumes, congestion and journey times
- Lifestyle impacts – changes in driving, walking, wheelchair use and cycling. Also shopping, visits or daily activity
- Impact on public and emergency services, although they do monitor their own response times
- Impact on all relevant bus routes
- Impact on businesses

This week FLDRA wrote to Enfield Council to seek clarification about arrangements for access by emergency vehicles to the LTN area. It appears that the police and ambulance services will not be using keys to remove bollards, but will use prescribed routes instead. As yet, fortunately, this has not been put to the test. [Link](#)

FLDRA requests that all the feedback and responses are made publicly available in a fully transparent process and that Council officers make themselves readily available to answer residents' questions and concerns.

At this stage, the FLDRA committee feels it would not be appropriate to express an opinion one way or another on the scheme itself. We are committed, however, to raising key questions about the benefits and costs of the scheme for our community. And to ensure whatever scheme is finally agreed upon, it brings about real benefit to all our community

The FLDR committee thus encourages everyone to make their individual views known through the formal process set out by the council and described in the leaflets that we have now all received.

To submit your comment on the Lets Talk Enfield web site go to: <http://letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/foxlaneQN>

On specific traffic issues you may also write to:

Head of Traffic and Transportation

London Borough of Enfield

Silver Street

London EN1 3XA

Essential Toiletries Appeal - Can you help ?

As we head towards a difficult winter, many families and individuals around us are facing real hardship. Benefits do not cover basic needs and people are having to choose between food and electricity bills. Many more could soon be losing their jobs and their homes. There are already a number of brilliant schemes run by some of our shops and local churches, and many of you are contributing to foodbanks in North Enfield, Bounds Green and Tottenham .

In the Fox Lane area, some amazing work is being organised from St John's Church in Palmers Green, in collaboration with the Women's Refuge, care homes, homeless and disabled charities and others. Rev Julie Coleman explains that the help is given directly to those who need it. She has told us that there is a constant need for toiletries for both men and women. We would love our lovely Residents Association members, friends and neighbours to help!

We aim to collect toiletries essentials for men and for women, containing basics such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant and hand sanitizer. Would you be able to donate one set of toiletries per month (or as often as you want) through the winter? We hope there will be volunteers on each street who can collect the bags from you, or you can take them straight to the church store on a Friday between 11:30 am and 2pm, if you prefer. We may also need volunteer drivers to put the collected items in paper bags and take them to their destinations.



Above - women's Pack



Above - men's pack

Already we have received an encouraging number of donations. So, if you want to help, please email us on info@foxlane.net or contact your nearest street collection volunteer as follows:

Conway Road: Julia Mountain

Derwent Road: Lia Dover

Old Park Road: Ibrar Dar

Grovelands: - please use info@foxlane.net

Lakeside Road: John Phillips

Ulleswater Road: Richard Mapleston

Play Streets

Play streets are great for both kids and adults. It's easy to do, and no cost involved provided you get your application in before 31st October see [link](#):

And further info [here](#):

Deadline to apply for play streets for 2021 is 31st of October. Its a straightforward application from this link, and residents can apply for 12 dates (typically 1 a month)

Cervical cancer screening campaign

The focus of the NHS on Covid has had a severe impact upon the treatment of other life threatening diseases, with enormous backlogs and consequentially potential disastrous effect. One such area is Cervical Cancer screening, where testing has been put on hold for many months.

Councillors Maria Alexandrou, Dinah Barry and Vicki Pite have jointly compiled an information leaflet reading the booking of Cervical Screening tests. [Click here](#)

Health

Enfield Healthwatch October Newsletter – [Click here](#)

Black History Month

2020 registration form - [Click to Download](#) - Enfield Racial Equality Council invites everyone to celebrate Black History Thursday 29 October at 7.00pm via Zoom.

Talk about the Windrush generation with special guest speaker Jacqueline McKenzie, a Human Rights Lawyer, Steel pan entertainment, storytelling and poetry.

To receive a programme and invitation, please complete the registration form and send it to Sue at info@enfieldrec.org.uk

Enfield Presents Black History Month at the Millfield

[Click to Download](#)

Active Enfield

There are many opportunities for Sports and exercise – too many to list. But [click here](#) for listings and booking forms

Meridian Water

Meridian Water may not be geographically close to the FLDR area but it has huge implications for the provision of **housing** and for the **council's budget**.

The report of a Scrutiny committee came to cabinet last week and, according to Councillor Barry) the chair was not allowed to present it nor were any comments made except to note that it had been received. You can read the report – which is very long – [click here](#):

Xmas Social

As you already know we will not be holding our normal Xmas Social this year, and consequently cannot have our charity Auction of Promises. Which means that we will not be able to make a donation to Noah's Ark Childrens Hospice. So it would be great if as an area we could all make good this gap. [Click here](#).

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