



CORONAVIRUS



Lockdown is now being eased, but many problems and uncertainties remain. It has affected us all in North Uxbridge in various ways, everyone differently –

- Those working at home
- Tackling home schooling
- Dwindling savings
- Concerns regarding general health and emergencies, let alone Coronavirus
- A feeling that the 'old normal' will never return

The impact of the virus has been more severe on some groups, eg –

- Shop/restaurant/pubs/entertainment/airport workers and many others
- Young people, either in education or looking for employment opportunities
- Those living alone
- Those with health conditions

Other groups are 'in the front line' – NHS and other workers in essential services.

Glimmers of hope come from the new emerging sense of community and mutual support. Many of us have learnt new 'techno' ways of communicating with friends, neighbours and family.

Make sure you keep up to date with the public services available by visiting the LBH website. For example, the Harefield Civic Amenity site opened on 11 May.

H4ALL

This is a partnership between LBH and five local Charities to provide help and support to the most vulnerable members of our community. The Service is available to all who are unable to leave home and can't get help to do shopping, get medication, etc. If you need help, or would like to volunteer, this Service can be contacted on COVID19Hub@hillington.gov.uk or call 020 3949 5786.

FOODBANK

The Food Bank is open Monday to Thursday from 10 a.m. to approximately 2 p.m., depending on demand. They sometimes leave early at about 1.45 p.m. The Food Bank Manager is Mr. Daniels, tel. 07718 054246 and the address is – Food Bank Warehouse, 30 Oxford Road, UB8 4DQ and is situate just behind Willow Carpets as you leave Uxbridge past the Swan and Bottle.

PLEASE KEEP THE DONATIONS COMING!

UXBRIDGE GAZETTE

It has never been easy to put your hands on a copy, even in 'normal times'. The best source is Sainsbury's – but then came the queues! The good news is that, if you say you are just coming to pick up a Gazette and not doing any shopping, Security will let you in. Barbara Fisher, who lives in North Uxbridge, often flags up issues significant for us in her Bmail column.

MASTER BREWER SITE

Over many years, attempts have been made to develop the former Master Brewer site and adjoining land at Hillingdon Circus. Proposals have included supermarkets, hotels, community facilities and housing. The latest – and biggest – proposal is from Inland Homes for the erection of housing tower blocks – one at 11 storeys, six at 8 storeys, two at 7 and several smaller blocks. Application reference 4266/APP/2019/3088. For a whole host of reasons, Hillingdon Council Officers have recommended that it be refused. However, the Mayor of London has 'called in' the Application and proposes to decide it himself.

This has filled local people with alarm. They fear that the Mayor may apply standards appropriate to Central London, but which do not take into account the impact on local communities where London merges into countryside. We share the concerns expressed by the Ickenham Residents Association and the Oak Farm Residents Association and have agreed to support them. The Ickenham RA have

asked David Simmonds, their MP, to request the Secretary of State for Communities to 'call in' the Application from the Mayor. Such action is only taken for schemes of national significance. We have, therefore, written to our MP, Boris Johnson, in the following terms –

“We urge you to protect the wellbeing of present and future residents by supporting the calling-in of the Application for determination by the Secretary of State – to ensure a balanced view is taken. We ask your support for the taking of this step on the following grounds:-

- This Application is of national significance because it would set a dangerous precedent for other, unsympathetic, multi-storey blocks outside Town Centres and takes no cognizance of the host environment and its ability to absorb the service needs of the future residents.”



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