

# Heathrow Villages ward 2024 edition

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Sipson Recreation <u>Ground</u>

# Putting our residents first in Heathrow Villages

Welcome to your *Hillingdon People Local*, which highlights some of the things that the council has been doing across the borough and in your local area during the past two years.

## Thriving, healthy households

#### Investing in leisure facilities and libraries

- The council is committed to providing high-quality leisure centres to help local people stay active and healthy and has invested £2.25 million to upgrade facilities across the borough.
- Thanks to council and Lawn Tennis Association Funding, improvements were made to the tennis courts at Harmondsworth Recreation Ground. To book, visit *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/tennis*.
- The council agreed a five-year Library Strategy, setting out its commitment to

providing a first-class service and ensuring it is efficient and sustainable for the future.

• The council's mobile library makes weekly visits to Heathrow Villages to ensure that residents can access Hillingdon's library service.

#### Supporting young people and families

• Family hubs will be expanded boroughwide, building on existing services, such as children's centres, to offer enhanced and joined up support for families from pregnancy to adulthood within their local communities.



The council's strategy outlines a commitment to putting residents first and ambition that Hillingdon is a safe, inclusive, green, more digital borough with a strong economy.

We have aligned content in this leaflet to the strategy to illustrate how the council is delivering improvements across the borough and in your ward. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ council-strategy.

- A new Youth Offer was agreed, which will launch in April and reflect the diverse needs of today's young people by offering a more flexible format, delivering services locally using existing council buildings, family hubs and digital services.
- The council's Summer Activity Programme was a chance for young people to have fun, make friends, learn skills and build confidence.
- Hillingdon's Children's Services were judged one of the best in England, following an 'Outstanding' Ofsted report.
- As part of its reparation programme, the council works with Heathrow Special Needs Farm to provide opportunities for children to engage with others and take on responsible roles.

#### Supporting older residents

• Over-65s can benefit from free swimming and swimming lessons, free allotments, a winter heater loan scheme and MOVES exercise classes. Over-75s can also receive the TeleCareLine service for free.

#### Council Strategy 2022-2026



- The council launched a falls prevention toolkit to help older people identify risks that could affect them as well as offering practical steps to reduce them.
- Residents and carers living with dementia can access a range of council support and activities, including reminiscence sessions, chair exercise, bingo and music.

#### Promoting health

- Regular led walks are held around Cranford Park. Find out more at *discover. hillingdon.gov.uk/led-walks*.
- The council's commissioned smoking cessation, substance misuse and sexual and reproductive health services, NHS Health Checks, Health Lifestyle Action programme and the NHS Healthy Start scheme are providing health support to residents. For more details visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/health.





## Safe and strong communities

#### Keeping residents safe

- CCTV cameras were installed on Bath Road to combat fly-tipping and crack down on drivers disregarding highway restrictions.
- In response to reports of fly-tipping, a network of cameras was installed in Marlborough Crescent and Cranford Park.
- More than 1.5 million illegal vapes were seized at Heathrow Airport as part of Hillingdon's ports and borders work to prevent unsafe consumer goods entering the UK market.
- This financial year, our fraud team identified savings related to fraud and prevented the loss of more than  $\pounds 9.6$ million. If you suspect that someone is committing fraud against the council, report it at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ report-fraud.

## A thriving economy

#### Roads, footpaths and street lighting

- Parts of the carriageway on Stanwell Moor Road, Cherry Lane, Bath Road, Sipson Lane, High Street, Sipson Road were resurfaced.
- Christmas trees were erected in Harlington High Street, Harmondsworth Village and Sipson Village. Christmas lights were installed on lamp columns in the Glebe Estate, Harlington High Street, Harmondsworth Road, Harmondsworth Village and Sipson Village.

## A digital-enabled, modern, well-run council

#### Cost of living support

 In response to cost of living pressures, the council continues to offer and promote a range of initiatives to support residents, including the Household Support Fund. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/cost-of-living.

### **Communities celebrate and mourn**

• Communities celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, with the council supporting residents to hold street

## A green and sustainable borough

#### Parks and green spaces

- Hillingdon has 67 Green Flag Awards the most held by any local authority for the eleventh year running. Sipson Recreation Ground, Sipson Meadows, Little Harlington Playing Fields, Harmondsworth Recreation Ground and Cranford Park retained their flags.
- Harmondsworth Village Allotments and Horticultural Association won silver and silver gilt awards in the 2023 London in Bloom competition.
- Cranford Park and Huckerby's Meadows are benefitting from a new conservation partnership between the council, British Airways, Heathrow and London Wildlife Trust designed to protect wildlife.

#### **Renewing Cranford Park**

Works to transform Cranford Park into a thriving visitor attraction are due to complete in late spring. With an overall budget of approximately  $\pounds$ 4 million, highlights of the scheme include:

- restoration of the historic high garden walls and 'ha-ha' (a sunken trench which acted as a boundary to the park without interrupting the view).
- improving pedestrian access via St Dunstan's subway, with new paintwork, lighting, planting, signage and an attractive mural
- access to the 18th century stable block where visitors can listen to an interactive audio exhibit (see below)
- a new audio trail so that visitors can discover the flora and fauna of the park
- a new playground in the Pleasure Gardens, featuring several pieces of



- A council-led 'Great British Spring Clean' event took place at Cranford Park where volunteers collected 20 bags of litter.
- Green screens have been installed in 13 primary schools across the borough, including Laurel Lane Primary School. The screens are made of roadside trees.

play equipment, including wooden horses, a climbing frame and a slide.

An outreach events programme continues to take place on site and across the borough. Community archaeology days were held in 2022 and 2023 as well as the popular Apple Day. In May 2022, the project team welcomed primary school students from Cranford Park Academy to attend a workshop which explored the different habitats in the park.





#### Delivering improvements to your area

- The council's ward budget scheme gives the borough's ward councillors funding annually to spend on local projects. These included:
- Harmondsworth Village Allotment Association for a coach trip to Brighton

Find out more at *www.hillingdon.gov.uk/* chrysalis.

#### Waste and recycling services

• The council continues to offer free, weekly and easy to use waste and recycling collections. Find out

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- Improving social and private housing
- Across Hillingdon, 2,619 energy-efficient gas boilers were installed in council homes.
- As part of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, the council has improved the energy-efficiency of 157 homes across the borough by installing loft insulation, double glazing, heat recovery extractor fans and new roofs.
- The council's private sector housing team regularly carries out inspections to investigate disrepair in privately rented properties and to combat landlords providing potentially hazardous living conditions.

#### Securing alleyways

• The council's alley gating scheme helps residents secure their privately-owned alleyways against intrusion. The alley gate on Cranford Lane was repaired.

#### Learn with Hillingdon

- The council's Project SEARCH internship scheme provides invaluable work experience for young people with a learning disability or autism. Heathrow Sheraton Skyline Hotel and Heathrow Marriott Hotel host placements as part of the initiative.
- Hundreds of part-time day, evening and weekend adult education courses are on offer at the council's centres and virtually. Find out more at *www.hillingdon.gov.uk*/ adultlearning.



- The council's Holiday Activities and Food programme supports families by providing activities for children in receipt of free school meals during the school holidays.
- Warm welcome centres and an activities programme are in operation across the borough during winter.

#### **Modernising services**

- A new digital parking permit system was introduced to help residents and businesses apply for and renew permits.
- PayByPhone launched across the borough, giving residents the added option of paying for their parking 'on the go' using an app on their phone. Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/paybyphone.

parties at Browngraves Road and High Street, Harmondsworth.

• The borough united to mourn the death of Queen Elizabeth II, with a book of condolence and space to leave floral tributes opened for residents at the Civic Centre, Uxbridge.

#### Fighting ULEZ expansion

- Hillingdon launched a Judicial Review, alongside other councils, to challenge Transport for London and the Mayor of London's decision to expand the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to outer London because of significant concerns about its social and economic impact. Although the challenge was dismissed by the High Court, our fight continues by lobbying government.
- Moor Lane Allotments to help fund a skip
- Harmondsworth Allotment Association for an event to celebrate the King's Coronation.

Find out more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ wardbudgets.

- Each year, £1 million is spent on Chrysalis projects across the borough. In Heathrow Villages, these included:
- refurbishing the playground at Heathrow Close
- restoring the cellars into a usable space as part of the Cranford Park restoration project
- improving the drainage at Moor Lane Allotments.

more at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ rubbishandrecycling.

 Following a successful trial in summer 2023, the council started to expand its food waste recycling service to council-owned blocks of flats, including Wordsworth Way and The Glebe.

#### **Reducing our carbon footprint**

- As part of the council's commitment to being net zero by 2030, last July the council approved plans to deliver hundreds of charging points in the borough to meet demand as more drivers switch to electric vehicles.
- Last October, the council introduced a new road repair method which uses 80 per cent less energy than traditional asphalt repairs, 85 per cent less carbon and halves the overall cost of repairs.

## Contacting your Heathrow Villages ward councillors



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#### For more information about council services, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk

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