

ERA News



YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS

YOU

Your residents' committee needs to you
Join us and make a difference to your community
By becoming a member of the ERA Committee you can help mould the future of
Eastbury

If you would be willing to volunteer a small amount of your time to help with your local community, please contact Alan Moss on 01923 826829 or committee@eastburyresidents.com

SAVE THE DATES (both events to take place at Eastbury Farm School)

COMMUNITY AFTERNOON – Sunday 17th June – 2 'til 5pm
AGM – Thursday 28th June – 8pm

A Vision for Eastbury

Dear Residents

Over the past 12 months your committee has carried out a review as to how it sees its role following the advent of the Batchworth Parish Council.

Its conclusion was that the role of the Residents Association has changed, as much of what we carried out in the past which was to represent residents of Eastbury has been taken on by the Parish Council.

The ERA committee also determined that it no longer represents the current demographic of Eastbury which has changed significantly over the past 15 years. The committee believes that it should represent the entire Eastbury community not just those that are members of the Residents Association. It believes that the Residents' Association needs to represent the demographic as it is today and wishes to encourage every resident in Eastbury to be a member of the Residents Association simply by living in Eastbury.

The advent of the Parish Council has allowed us to examine how we see the role of the Residents' Association now and in the future and how it can truly represent Eastbury.

The Parish Council has taken on significant responsibility in ensuring that Eastbury is protected and retains its character; our councillors are Eastbury residents who care about the area in which we live. Where does this leave the ERA?

Eastbury is unusual as it does not have any focal point for the residents who live in our area, somewhere where the community to come together. We believe that we should create a focal point, thus creating a village environment that will benefit the Eastbury residents for many years to come.

Our vision is to create a community centre for the local community on the recreation area on Batchworth Lane. This is a long-term project possibly up to 5 years and we would hope the community will work together to ensure that this vision becomes a reality. This will allow a focus for the whole community. Over the past months we have been speaking with the District Council and Parish Council as to the viability of our concept and whilst it will not be easy it is achievable.

We firmly believe the role of the Eastbury Residents Association is to create a better environment for the whole of the Eastbury community, we want to bring the Eastbury community together by providing a range of facilities that can be utilised across the whole demographic.

The Residents' Association will continue to work with the Parish Council to represent Eastbury residents and to ensure that does not lose its character and continues to offer the wonderful environment that we currently enjoy. We believe our vision enhances everything that Eastbury currently offers, but without your support our vision cannot become a reality.

To ensure that our vision becomes a reality your committee fully appreciates that it will need the support of residents working together to overcome the hurdles, together we feel confident that our vision will become a reality.

To ensure that we succeed we need a Residents Association committee that represents the community, we need enthusiastic people of all ages to join us. The Committee ask that you put your name forward at the forthcoming AGM to join us on the committee so that the Eastbury vision can become a reality.

If you do not see yourself sitting on the committee but would like to help please come forward as there is much to do if we are to make a success of what we hope to achieve

To start this work, we are relaunching our website and bringing it up to date, we hope you appreciate the changes we have made. Key to the vision is that every resident is informed so we have taken the decision that every resident in Eastbury should automatically be a member of the ERA and kept up to date with the regular newsletters and with access to the website.

However, the ERA does need funds to ensure that it can continue to represent residents in Eastbury. It needs funds to enable it to produce regular newsletters and updated website content and funds to ensure that it can act on behalf of residents with the Parish council, District council and County Council. It will also need funds to ensure that it can continue to represent the community whilst we do the work to bring the vision to reality.

We are therefore asking, via the website that each household makes an annual donation of £10 to enable us to take this important work forward, whilst continuing to represent the community. You will have noted that that this year we have not collected the current £2 ERA fee whilst we have drawn up our vision.

We firmly believe that our vision will create a centre, a focal point for the community that will benefit all young and old, now and for the future.

Prior to our AGM on the 28th June, the ERA is organising a “family fun afternoon” on the 17th June where we will present the vision to the community whilst bringing the community together in a fun and informal setting. We strongly encourage our residents to attend this fun afternoon as this is an opportunity for you to hear the vision and voice your opinion to help create a vision for the future of Eastbury.

The committee believes that the future of the ERA will be in doubt should it not gain the support of Residents.

I look forward to meeting with you at our presentation and fun day and the Residents Association AGM.

Alan Moss
Chair

Community afternoon

Sunday 17TH JUNE 2018 2pm until 5pm

This is a chance for Eastbury families to meet and have some fun! There will be an opportunity to discuss the community vision with committee members as well as fun activities for youngsters such as:

- A bouncy castle
- Face painting
- Football competition

Come and join us at Eastbury Farm School for a chance to meet up with the community

We value your opinion

Are you supportive of our ideas and vision for the development of the Eastbury playing fields and tennis courts?

Send us your email address via our website so we can keep you informed

**Send us your views opinions and ideas on our vision
(committee@eastburyresidents.com)**

What does the Eastbury community need? Let us know

New Website

Check out our new website:

www.eastburyresidents.com

We also have a new email address:

committee@eastburyresidents.com

Useful App

Check out 'Nextdoor Eastbury'

This gives access to information and links to people within your local neighbourhood
A great way of connecting and sharing

Useful website

Check out the 'Owl' website

Owl provides crime updates and tips via neighbourhood watch

Request to residents

Parking

A number of residents have raised the issue of parking within the Eastbury area, and especially parking on both sides of the street. This could potentially restrict access to emergency services should they ever need to pass through the neighbourhood on an emergency call. Please make an effort to allow adequate room between parked cars for a fire engine size vehicle to easily access.

Bins

Please be considerate when putting your bins out – leaving them on the footpath impedes access for pedestrians, wheelchairs and pushchairs. Perhaps either park your bins on the grass verge or just inside your boundary. Many thanks.

THE FUTURE - YOUR EASTBURY, OUR VISION

Times have changed

The role of the ERA has changed since the advent of the Batchworth Parish Council. The Parish Council has taken over most of the role of the ERA. The Parish Council can take decisions, raise finance and has real power, the ERA does not. The ERA now has to work closely with the Parish Council and it has already started to do so.

Does the ERA represent the full demographic of the current ERA community?

NO! The ERA is struggling to attract the newer Eastbury residents. To survive the ERA has to move with the times and be relevant to all of our residents.

Can the ERA become relevant to the whole demographic of Eastbury residents?

YES! But it must change and to offer something that it does not at the moment. It has to offer vision that is attractive to the community as a whole. A vision that will draw resident's young and old which will offer them something that will attract them and their families so they can feel it is their own and will allow them to buy into future of their community.

VISION FOR THE DEVELOPING EASTBURY PLAYING FIELDS AND TENNIS COURTS

At present Eastbury does not have a centre, a focal point an area that can be used for the benefit of the community. The ERA has a vision to create a focal point for Eastbury residents by developing the recreation area on Batchworth Lane. The ERA wants to develop a facility that will benefit the community as a whole, a facility that will benefit the community for years to come, a facility that will be used by the whole demographic of the community.

The development of the recreation area in Batchworth Lane will allow us to achieve this.

We want to be able to include the whole community in the project, so that the community can have a say in what facilities and activities are hosted. We believe that this is a 5-year project but throughout that time facilities will be improved and activities promoted. Throughout the ERA will work closely with the Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council. The project will create an environment that will provide facilities and activities that will cater for all residents of Eastbury. To achieve this, we need the local community to join us to make our vision a reality. We need people to join the committee and create something that will benefit us all.

FACILITIES

The Recreation area will provide increased facilities to include:

- A full-size football pitch plus facilities for 5 aside
- A larger play area with increased facilities
- A jogging and running track
- Benches and picnic tables

- An Outdoor Gym
- Coffee Shop with seating

This will create a range of facilities for many of the community and we hope that this will be attractive to our younger residents as well as all generations.

We also wish to build a **Community Centre** that will become a focal point of the area. This facility will be able to be used for the benefit for the community. The Community Centre will provide a Community Hall that can be used for many social and day time activities, such as bridge, Pilates, afternoon social events and social functions. The Community Centre will be environmentally friendly.

We also envisage a limited number of outdoor events using the Receptions area, the events that could be considered are a Christmas Fair, Country Market and Summer Fete. Meetings for groups such as Scouts, Guides etc.

The key to the vision is to ensure that a focal point for Eastbury is created and integral to this would be a Coffee Shop providing an additional amenity a meeting place for all the community.

Throughout we would consult with the community and work closely with both councils as we try to get the project through to its conclusion.

Should the residents determine that they do not want to work with the ERA to create this vision for Eastbury, your committee does not see any future for the ERA and it would recommend that the residents association is wound up and the funds distributed to suitable good causes.

FINANCIAL

Your committee has taken the decision that subject to the community's approval it will contribute up to £17,000 toward helping to implement our vision.

Obtaining funds from Northwood HQ. For communities, the "Armed Forces Covenant" is a promise of mutual support between a civilian community and its local armed forces community. A Covenant Fund is available for community projects that offers small grants up to £20,000. However, this could be a lengthy process with no guarantee of success.

The scheme will be fully costed, what we are looking for now is approval from the community so that we can move forward.

Should we get approval from the community we would look towards raising funds from:

Fund raising through community activities.
Approaching the Lottery for a grant.
Funds from both Parish and District Council.

The Committee
Eastbury Residents Association
committee@eastburyresidents.com

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY 28TH JUNE 2018

Notice is given to members that the Annual General Meeting of Eastbury Residents Association will be held on Thursday 28th June at 8pm at Eastbury Farm Primary School, Bishops Avenue, Northwood. Members are invited to put forward nominations for the Executive Committee and to submit items for the meeting agenda. Nominations and Agenda Items should be sent in writing to the secretary, Victoria Cook, 7 Bourne End Road, Northwood, HA6 3BP by the 9th June. However, nominations and items for discussion will be welcome up to 14 days prior to the meeting

To view the 2017-18 accounts for the Eastbury Residents Association, please visit our website www.eastburyresidents.com.

AGM Agenda

THURSDAY 28TH JUNE 2018

1. To confirm the Minutes of the 63rd Annual General Meeting
2. To approve the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018
3. To receive the Chairman's Report
4. To elect Officers and other Members of the Executive Committee for 2018/19

The following officers have been nominated and offer themselves for re-election

Chairman:	Mr Alan Moss	8 The Fairway
Secretary:	No Nomination	
Treasurer:	Mr Pankaj Anand	41 Westbury Road
Membership:	No Nomination	

The following members of the committee have been nominated and offer themselves for re-election:

Mr Ian Cristol	33 The Fairway
Mr Andy Tooley	19 Crofters Road
Mr David Reynolds	40 Davenham Avenue
Mr Barny Patel	15 Ross Way

The following resident members have been nominated and offer themselves for election:

Mr Vikas Arora
Mr Sachin Shah

5. To appoint the Independent Examiner Paresh Kotecha
6. Presentation of the Vision for Eastbury Residents Association
7. Question and Answer Session
8. AOB

The Meeting will be followed by wine and soft drinks giving an opportunity for one to one discussion with the executive committee