

Updates for Residents September 2022

Due to the cancellation of a General Meeting for Residents, which had been planned for 31st August 2022, updates were gathered to be shared with residents via the KRA website and Facebook page.

Actions from last KRA meeting (05/04/2022)

The full minutes of the last KRA meeting can be found at: https://kingsmerecommunity.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/KRA-General-Meeting-05.04.2022-Minutes_final.pdf

Actions for Richard Emery (Countryside):

1. Countryside to chase Persimmon about completing landscaping works (including the grass area by the copse adjacent to Redcar Road. **Countryside and Cherwell District Council are chasing Persimmon for a programme to complete all their landscaping works – Richard will chase again for an update (September 2022).**
2. Countryside to follow-up with Bovis/Vistry adoptions manager about completing Fakenham Street/Pioneer Way junction so Countryside can install the additional gullies that are required to prevent rainwater pooling here. (Also a similar issue at Stratford Way/Whitelands Way junction but that is part of the scope of tender for works prior to adoption.) **Bovis/Vistry adoptions manager has confirmed that they will be completing of the Fakenham Street/Pioneer Way junction and works are due to start on 17th October 2022. Countryside will install the additional gullies that are required to prevent rainwater pooling as soon as Bovis have completed their works.**
Stratford Way / Whitelands Way junction will be completed as part of the Whitelands Way remedial works. (Countryside have awarded the Whitelands Way remedial works to their previous contractor - one further inspection is to be carried out in early September - work is due to start in October 2022.)
3. Countryside to chase Linden/Vistry about landscaping to green route (including removal of hedge that is currently blocking the green route) between Cartmel and Pioneer Way that runs alongside school. Also to check that the problem with the drains/manhole cover in this location has been resolved. **Linden / Vistry have agreed a scope with Cherwell District Council for the green corridor next to St. Edburg's School (linking Pioneer Way to Cartmel) - this work includes the removal of the hedge that is currently blocking the green route. These works will start and be completed during this winter.**
The leaking / overflowing manholes have been repaired - Countryside will continue to monitor these.
4. Countryside to ask CPG where the Grand Village Imperial (and other shops/restaurants in that block) are supposed to store their rubbish. (Currently cages/trolleys of rubbish visible from Pioneer Way.) **The retail units that are next to Pioneer Way on Bicester Retail Park are to store their rubbish in the path at the rear of the units – Richard will monitor this and their management of deliveries.**

Actions for Cllr Dan Sames:

1. DS to follow up with CDC Officers regarding change of use/planning for pockets of land to be used as community style allotments. (There will also need to be ownership of these areas once Countryside no longer has a presence at Kingsmere.)
2. DS to locate email exchange with Economic Development Officer regarding Rail Freight Interchange and forward to KRA.
3. Resident (Eleanor) to email Dan regarding not having received food waste collection bins for the housing association flats where she lives.

No updates on actions above were received from Cllr Dan Sames by 19/09/2022. Updates will be shared once available.

Thames Valley Police and Cherwell Community Safety Update

Update from PC Kate Ford (Neighbourhood Specialist Officer - Bicester Neighbourhood):

1) Spate of criminal damage to vehicles that has impacted on a large amount of residents. An arrest has been made and the suspect remains under Police Bail restrictions whilst evidence is continued to be gathered and the case progressed to the stage of a Crown Prosecution Charging decision, this sadly is a lengthy process.

2) Isolated incident on Fakenham Street. Three arrests have been made, with current bail conditions. Two House Closures have been granted by Oxford Magistrates Court, one full and the other partial thus assisting in safeguarding of local residents with reassurance visits and patrols by myself and the NHPT Team.

3) We continue to patrol Kingsmere targeting specific areas where ASB (anti-social behaviour)/drug dealing is an issue. When grounds exist, we make use of our search powers, and take action accordingly. **We continue to encourage the community to call Police directly or e-mail the NHPT inbox to talk with a member of the team regarding any concerns raised. (bicestertownnhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)**

Update from Tim Davies (Community Warden, Cherwell District Council):

To add to Kate's update we (Community Safety Team) have also carried out (and continue to carry out) proactive patrols to help identify ASB around misuse of motor vehicles, both cars etc in the park & ride area and the illegal use of motorbikes on Vendee Drive/ Burnehyll woods area.

As always, we have spoken to lots of residents and **advice is always to call Police at the time** should they witness this.

St Edburg's Primary School Update

Following the retirement of Mrs Kunzer in the summer, we welcome Mr Terrey as the new Head Teacher at St Edburg's.

Expansion of school onto second site. The plans for the new early years building (Ludlow Road) are now out for consultation. **Comments need to be submitted by 4th October 2022.** The planning application documents can be accessed online at

<https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/planning/Display/22/02717/REM?cuuid=0271B6C3-076E-4143-9F3C-1B0E3539C020>

There have been some delays to the process (we had expected building to have started over the summer) but following the planning consultations (assuming plans are approved) then works are expected to start in early 2023 and the school now aim to open the new site in January 2024. However, the school will still be expanding to 3-form entry (admitting 90 pupils) into Reception in September 2023 on the current site. Nursery expansion will be from January 2024. **Members of the school leadership team are planning to attend the KRA AGM in October, so will be able to provide further details and answer questions.**

There is an Early Years Open Evening (for families of children due to join nursery or reception in September 2023) at 17:45-18:45 on Tuesday 4th October. This will provide an opportunity to look around the early years setting and to meet the early years team. There is no need to book, just go along.

Whitelands Academy Updates

Whitelands Academy also welcomed a new Principal, Ms Bryson, at the start of the new school year. The school now has three year groups (years 7, 8 and 9) and continues to grow in both student and staff numbers.

Countryside Updates

Phase 1: Now over 1,650/1,700 houses built, with over 95% of those occupied.

Bellway – built all houses and due to complete the roads and landscaping on their parcel adjacent to phase 2 by the end of this year.

Persimmon – completed all houses in their parcel and are now finishing their roads for Oxfordshire County Council adoption and also their landscaping in this year's planting season for adoption by Cherwell District Council.

Vistry Homes (Bovis and Linden Homes) – expect to finish in early 2023.

Phase 2: 350/~700 homes now occupied

Cala – have ~110 occupations. Due to complete spring 2024.

Bellway – all houses occupied

Ashberry – have forward sold all houses and have ~80 occupations. Due to complete early 2023.

David Wilson – have 25 occupations with completion due late 2023.

Barratts – have 30 occupations so far with completion summer 2023.

Roads:

The spine roads to phase 1 (Whitelands Way and Pioneer Way) have been jointly inspected with Oxfordshire Country Council (OCC). These will start to be repaired by Countryside and will then go into a 12-month maintenance period prior to adoption. A contractor has been appointed to start works.

- i) Northern Section (Whitelands Way from Middleton Stony Road roundabout to ~Fontwell Road): remedial works have been agreed and marked on the ground – work to start late 2022.

- ii) Southern Section (Whitelands Way from Pioneer Way Junction to Vendee Drive): has been inspected and remedial works will start after Northern section complete.
- iii) Middle Section (Pioneer Way and Whitelands Way from ~Fontwell Road to Pioneer Way): will be the last to have 80% house completion and will be the last section to be adopted.

OCC have confirmed that all roads in Kingsmere will be 20mph soon after they are adopted.

The road to the side of Co-Op is the responsibility of Bovis/Vistry. It is now open and will be completed soon after all the houses in that section are occupied. The recycling area that is currently behind the Co-Op will be relocated to the side of Co-Op.

Health Village: Area between Linden parcel and Esso fuel station includes 2.5 acres safeguarded for 5 years for the delivery of a Health Care Facility. Planning decision is influenced by the Graven Hill 'Super hub GP facility' decision. Countryside has no fixed programme for delivery or what will be constructed at the Health Village site.

There is also land provided in phase 2 for possible Assisted Care housing, but this is still being confirmed.

KRA Updates

The KRA Annual General Meeting (**AGM**) will be held on **Wednesday 12th October, 19:30** start at Kingsmere Community Centre (youth wing). We are planning to hold as a hybrid meeting, so it will also be possible to join virtually via Zoom (login details to be provided during the days proceeding the meeting via our Facebook page or email on request (please email info@kingsmerecommunity.com to request the login details are emailed to you directly). The AGM is the most important KRA meeting of the year and possibly even more important this year than ever as if the KRA is to continue then **additional committee members** will be required, as well as a **new chair-person** and **secretary**! If you would like any further information about what is involved, or to express an interest then please get in touch via our Facebook page or email info@kingsmerecommunity.com. Alternatively, one can indicate that they would like to stand at the AGM itself.

Additional volunteers are also welcomed for the community speed watch program – three trained volunteers are required for each session, so the more volunteers there are the more sessions that can be undertaken.