
SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

The Meriden View

Meriden Residents Association, 149 York Way, Watford, WD25 9UF
Tel: 01923 680352 (answerphone – messages picked up on Tuesdays)
Website: www.meridenra.org

Chairman: Steve Moss - stephen.moss@meridenra.org
Secretary: Marion Strawhorne - marion.strawhorne@meridenra.org
Treasurer: Kon Hanson – kon.hanson@meridenra.org

MERIDEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION OPEN MEETING

Please do join us on **Friday 14th September** at the **Meriden Community Centre**. The doors open at **7pm** for refreshments. You will be able to have a glass of fruit juice and a cup of tea or coffee as well as a small tasty chocolate bite and biscuits. The meeting will run from 7.30pm to 9pm.

Topics include:

- Chairman and Treasurer's reports.
- Update on the Meriden Development and the opportunity to meet Mary Robinson who is the new Senior Project Manager for the Development.
- Q & A time with Watford Community Housing (WCH) regarding the lifts & water in the flats. Questions can be emailed in advance to community@wcht.org.uk.
- A chance to hear from Tasha, the Community Centre Manager, about what activities are on offer at the Community Centre.

If you want to raise anything under Any Other Business, please email Marion with your item in advance of the meeting. You can also call 01923 468992.

At the end of the evening, there will be a free raffle into which all Meriden Residents who attend the meeting will be entered. You do have to be present for the whole meeting to be included. The prize being given is a £25 Intu Voucher which can be used in many of the Intu shops.

YOUR RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

We are pleased to say that our committee has grown and you can find out about us on our website www.meridenra.org. Our website is now being kept up-to-date so you can see our latest updates as well as local events. Please also join our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/meridenra>

By living on the Meriden, you are automatically a member of our association. However, if you are interested in joining our committee or would just like to help out from time to time, please contact Marion or Steve (email as above).

MACMILLAN WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

We hold our own coffee mornings at the Meriden Hub every Friday, but on 28th September we will hold it to raise funds for Macmillan. Please come along between 9:30am and 12:30pm to support this, we look forward to seeing you. Have a cuppa, a cake, play a game, donate. You can donate £5 anytime by texting JAM RMG1 to 70550 or just put something in the donation box on the day. If you would like to make cakes for the occasion, please email Marion or give her a call on 01923 468992, you can also advise Brenda on Fridays at Meriden Hub.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 14

MRA Open Meeting
7pm to 9pm
Meriden Community Centre

SEPTEMBER 28

Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning
9.30am to 12.30pm
Meriden Hub

OCTOBER

We will try to arrange an event on one day during half term week – to be confirmed

DECEMBER 8

Children's Christmas Event
2pm to 4pm
Meriden Community Centre

EVERY FRIDAY

Coffee Mornings held each week
9.30am to 12noon
Meriden Hub

FUTURE OPEN MEETINGS

Friday 14th September 2018
Tuesday 8th January 2019

BUS SERVICE ON THE MERIDEN

We have been given the following information by our local Councillor Amanda Grimston: "Due to the 324 bus service ceasing at the end of September, the County Council, along with Watford Borough Council, are looking to provide an emergency six-month bus service from October whilst the route goes out to tender to find a permanent long-term alternative provider".

WATFORD COMMUNITY HOUSING AGM, MEMBERSHIP & FUNDING FOR MRA

Watford Community Housing are holding their AGM on **Monday 10th September** at **6pm** at **Beecham Grove Baptist Church**. There will be issues that need to be voted on (all members should have received a pack by now). In order to have full voting rights, you need to be a member. We have forms at the Meriden Hub or you can go to <https://www.wcht.org.uk/becoming-a-member> Some of the funding that the MRA receives from WCH is based on membership of tenants, leaseholders and homeowners. Please become a member!

MERIDEN DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Watford Community Housing are issuing a Meriden Development Newsletter with the latest news on the development. You should receive a copy or you can view it online; it will be available on our website at www.meridenra.org/development

MERIDEN POLICING – A QUICK UPDATE FROM PC MO HUZAIR

I have been asked to also take up the Tudor Estate as part of my duties, so now my time is currently spent divided between the following:

1. Crime Investigation (Tudor, Meriden and Watford wide).
2. Responding to 999 calls.
3. Project work and crime reduction programmes.
4. Patrol the Meriden.
5. Patrol the Tudor.

Drug Use: We have had an increase in reports of drug use in the park by the Community Centre – however these are the use of small silver nitrous oxide canisters which have no criminal offence attached. Operations are ongoing.

Anti-Social Behaviour: ASB notices were issued to a number of people who had been involved in previous offending and some have been dealt with in conjunction with housing associations with some severity. We have had no more than usual reports from the shops but the co-op has repeatedly reported shoplifting, which has resulted in 12 extra prosecutions and significant intelligence being gathered.

We have had some reports of ASB since the previous meeting but about the same as other estates, so justified no extra resourcing.

Domestic Incidents: The majority of violent crimes on the estate remain domestic incidents. Work is ongoing through the courts and offender services to reduce these. We are working to advise victims of their rights.

Read PC Mo Huzair's full report at www.meridenra.org There will also be paper copies available at our Open Meeting.

SOUTHEND TRIP 2018

This year there was more than enough interest for us to fill three whole coaches for our trip to Southend. We had a great time with glorious sunshine throughout the day. However, we know that even more people would have loved to attend. If you would like to be placed on a list to be alerted to any future events and trips please contact Marion.

