

# **GREENHILL MANOR RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

## **AGM – Spring 2019**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**The Annual General Meeting of the Greenhill Manor Residents Association will be held on:**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019,  
Harrow High School,  
Gayton Road  
Time: 8pm.**

**The entrance is via the playground at the Kenton Road end of Gayton Road. If you drive, there is plenty of parking in the playground.**

**The meeting will be followed by refreshments and then a talk by Healthwatch Harrow. They will tell us who they are and what they do. They will listen to our views and experiences of local Health and Social Care Services, and then send feedback to providers and regulators of the services.**

**There will also be the opportunity to ask questions. We look forward to seeing you on the night.**

## **NEWSLETTER Spring 2019**

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### **Chairperson's Report for 2018-2019**

This is my second year of holding this post. It was a busy one which included a public exhibition for Harrow on the Hill Station Area Redevelopment, Lyon Square Exhibition and a Public Meeting on Policing with the Borough Commander at the Civic Centre.

As usual Peter Hamill had produced another researched article on The Flora and Fauna of Bonnersfield Land which was a good read. I take this opportunity to thank him for his keenness and effort for contributing to the summer newsletter. Our thanks also go to Noor Mohamed for his role in producing the newsletters for the residents.

My review of the year shows again that there were no crises. You are reminded that the Association is run voluntarily and relies on community-spirited volunteers. This takes me to the end of last year and this year when on both occasions, I had to contact Harrow Council and log complaints with fly tipping of a fridge-freezer outside Manor Court and a sofa which was lying outside Northwick Park Road. It is the council tax payers at the end of the day who pay for its removal, so I would urge and remind residents of Greenhill to take responsibility for the safe disposal of goods and equipment. There is also a group of men who gather at the exits of Golds Gym at Bonnersfield Lane and start consuming alcohol which passersby find intimidating. If you see any anti-social behaviour, please contact the relevant body and log your

complaint. We all need to be vigilant and take a pride in our area [even if you are a temporary resident] with an eye to ensuring that we recapture being the safest borough in London after slipping to number 3.

As the association is non-political and voluntarily run, we need more volunteers from the younger generation and from the ethnic minorities, in particular a road representative for Bonnersfield Lane and Close and Croft Villas.

Hemuna Pather Carr

## **SAFER NEIGHBOUR BOARD**

The Harrow Safer Neighbourhood Board was been set up by the Mayor of London to help make the Police as responsive as possible to local needs and concerns. It was established in order to ensure local people are involved in addressing crime. It wants to ensure that your views and opinions are represented, and that you have a say in helping to set policing and community safety priorities. It wants to hear about your experiences of crime, and what you think can help make for a safer Harrow.

The SNB held an Interactive Public Meeting on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018 advising us that the merger between the police in Harrow, Wembley and Barnet will formally take place on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

After the formalities and reports there was a Question and Answer session of previously submitted questions, amongst the many queries raised was 'Where are the police on the streets' The reply was 'Police are working under cover and there are plain clothed police patrolling. The police work closely with the council, for example, for CCTV to be installed in troublesome areas. There will be 86 police in 23 cars for the 3 boroughs, currently 15-18 officers in 7 cars for Harrow, but more will come in when there is trouble but they also be needed elsewhere, for example, at football events'.

Also raised was the question of anti-social behaviour in the Town centre. Reply: 'We have invested in detectives towards pro-active policing. There is a lot of involvement with gangs, we have plain clothed police and there is more under cover going on. We are staging long term operations. Some of it you will see some of it you won't.' This is only a small sample of questions received. There were many more on subjects such as Fly Tipping and Drug Dealing etc.

**The next public meeting is on Thursday 25th April 2019** – an Interactive Public Meeting with MPS Assistant Commissioner for Counter Terrorism, Neil Basu at the Council Chamber at Harrow Civic Centre. Time: 6.30 pm registration of attendees for a 7.00 pm sharp start to finish by 9.00 pm

## **Harrow Baptist Tennis Club Open Day**

Please join us for free tennis at your **Very Local tennis club** situated between 44/46 Bonnersfield Lane HA12LE  
Date 11th of May Time 11 am to 3 pm



You can just walk in anytime between 11am-3pm Saturday 11th May, to play on the courts. You can also, if you wish, pre-book a free coaching (group) session through our website.

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HarrowBaptistTennisClubHarrow/Admin/Events>

There are sessions to suit everyone. Club members will be there to help and support on and off the courts. Whether you are a player, returning to tennis, a beginner, a junior or adult, bring the family. Racquets will be available to borrow; all we ask is that you wear non-marking shoes suitable for tennis. Discounts and free goodies for people who join on the day. We look forward to seeing you.

## HOLD THE FRONT PAGE

Four members of your committee were invited for a tour of The Times headquarters at London Bridge by San Thaker, representative for Hill Road and Crescent.

The News building where The Times, The Sunday Times and The Sun newspapers are published plus Harper Collins the book publishers nestles in the shadow of The Shard. San came out to meet us and told us a little bit about the building then whisked us up to the 17<sup>th</sup> floor where the conferences and events are held. The views over London were awe inspiring despite it being a dull grey day. Then we went down a floor to where Harper Collins the Publishers have their premises. It was nice to see so many books still being published.

Next floor down was the Sun Newspaper.

We then descended to the floor where The Times is produced; all was quiet with rows of staff sitting at their desks, staring at banks of computer screens. Not quite what I expected, but, I was assured that later in the day as the publishing deadline approached, the offices would become a frenzy of activity. There was no sign of reporters, everything is transmitted digitally.

The Sunday Times was taking shape on the next floor down, with more rows and rows of computer screens.

We stopped for lunch at this point, we needed a break.

There followed a brief stop at San's desk where the technical hub of the Newspaper is controlled with his team of engineers.

It was now time to take our leave, we had taken enough time out of San's day.

We all agreed it was a fascinating tour and we had thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and are grateful to San for giving up his time during the working day to take us round.

Thank you San.

Margaret Bristow

## Impressions of Harrow fifty years ago

Last year was 40 years since I left South Africa and this spurred me on to chat and ask immigrants from Kenya and India about their first impressions and experiences in settling in Harrow. I enjoyed their accounts and I thought it would be good to share it with the residents of Greenhill.

Here are their accounts and for confidentiality and privacy. I have not disclosed each name.

Mrs G and her family came to the UK in 1967 from Kenya which was then a British colony, and she and her family held British passports. On arriving at Heathrow, they were taken by coach to Victoria and then a taxi was hired to an Asian Bed and Breakfast where they stayed for 6 weeks. There the family heard Hindu music and prayer recitals and they felt at home, apart from the 9 inches of snow on the ground. She and her family have lived in Harrow for 46 years. The changes over the years for Mrs G have not been for the better. She feels that it is overcrowded and parts of the area dirty. On a positive note, she finds it more diverse. Her family had no choice but to leave Kenya since the country had become independent and the new government regarded them as Britain's responsibility.

Mrs E had arrived in the UK in 1975 from Nairobi, Kenya. Her first thoughts were that it was so different from Kenya and she wondered if she would like living in London. Her family moved into Harrow 36 years ago. She has seen many changes over the years, with people moving into the area, a cinema in Bonnersfield Lane closing down. There are lots of coffee shops and a variety of eating places opening up. She also observed that there are many high rise flats in and around the town centre. She also remembers when the Harrow Mosque was built. She has no regrets in coming to United Kingdom as it was much safer than where she came from.

I would like to thank the families who shared their experiences in Harrow.

Hemuna Pather Carr

## GREENHILL

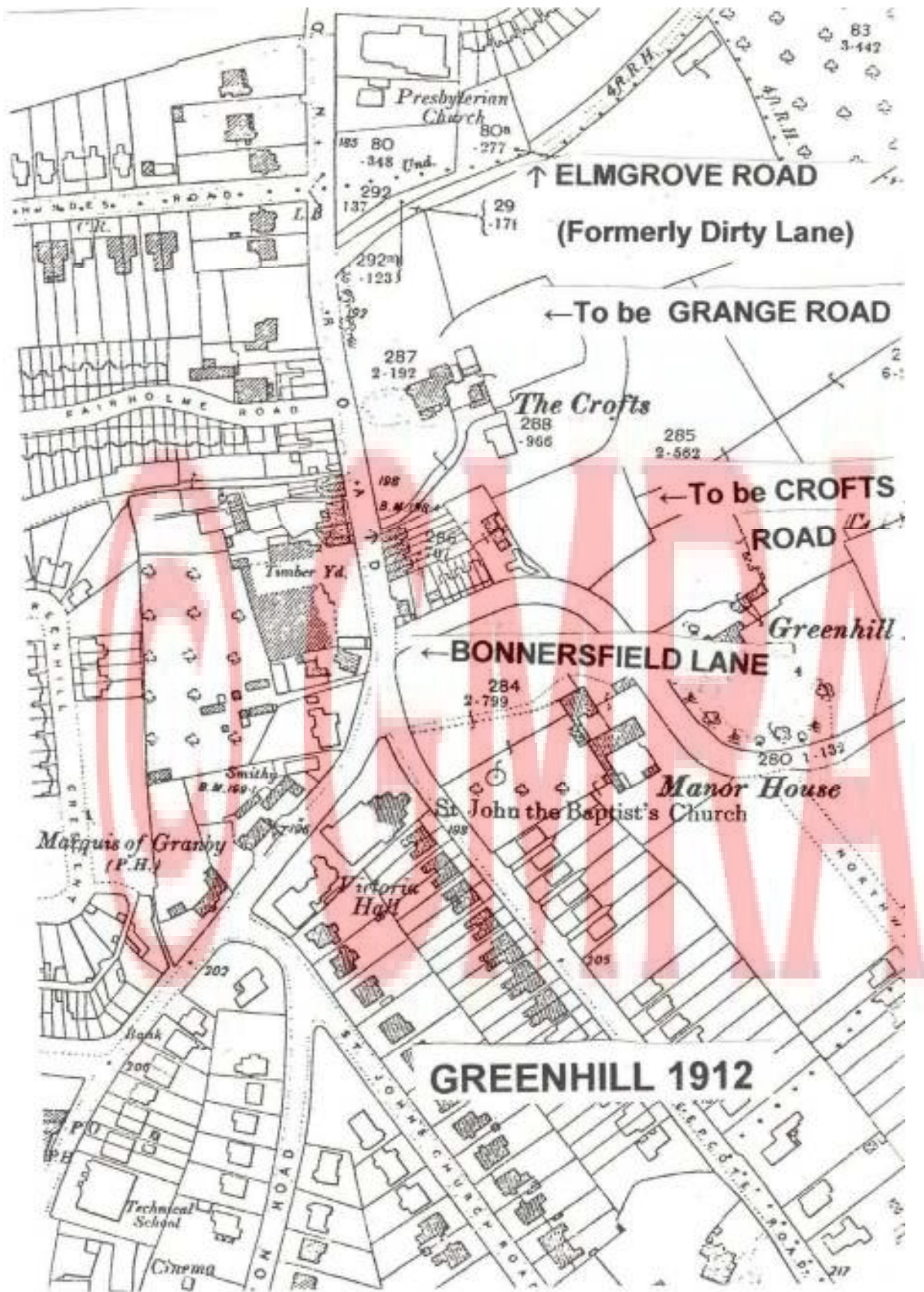
As members of Greenhill Manor Residents' Association it would probably be interesting if we sought the origins of 'Greenhill'. What is clear is that the place name belongs to a greater area than that of the Association. Although the few residents of early Greenhill enjoyed a connection with the Harrow-on-the-Hill community their fortunes were also linked with those of other neighbours - Kenton and Roxeth and, later, Wealdstone.

What is definite is that the name 'Greenhill' appears in Harrow's early records. There is an alternative suggestion: that the higher ground where Sheepcote Road and Gayton Road meet may have inspired the title. Greenhill has been an established place-name since 1330, when it appears in the Victoria County History. The record suggests that the original hamlet may have been known as 'Norbury' – a title which still exists in the name of the local school.

However, for many years there were families of 'Greenhills' farming in the area, which was sometimes called Grenehill or Grenehule before it settled down as 'Greenhill'. The first record of the family occurs in 1274 and over the centuries the Greenhills farmed the area and were landowners with land being farmed around one of the most ancient trackways in Harrow – Bonnersfield Lane.

The whole area between Greenhill Lane (now Station Road) and Kenton is shown in 1547 to be farmed mostly by the Greenhills. It must be remembered that the population was very small at that time. Until 1885, there were only 151 villagers living in Greenhill. Cottages were scattered along the western flank of Greenhill Lane to the south of the Sheepcote Road junction, while on the other side was the Manor House and farm surrounded by several labourers' dwellings.

The main changes to the area were determined by the Inclosure Laws of 1817. Bonners Field was then owned by Lord Northwick. The Greenhill's descendants were farming there when Robert Stephenson drove his London to Birmingham railway clean through Bonners Field, Greenhill Great Field and Greenhill Middle Field. The coming of the railway brought many changes to the area. The church of St. John's was built on one farm in 1866 and Greenhill Farm became Wealdstone Football Ground (now Tesco's) and the Dominion Cinema. The farming nature of Greenhill was eliminated.



Peter Hamill



## How many people are coming to Harrow?

Harrow town centre is now a place of high rise buildings replacing many cranes. More homes are needed in this country, in London and specifically in Harrow but both new and existing residents will need health care, education and transport plus more intangible things like space and entertainment.

The council announced in 2015 an action plan for the area from Harrow town centre to Wealdstone – the Heart of Harrow Opportunity Area. The Plan with a £1.75 billion investment was intended to deliver 5,500 new homes, 2 new schools and around 3000 new jobs. These 5,500 new homes will house at least double this number of people, that is, many will be occupied by more than one person. It is difficult to establish the number of homes built and planned both by the council and private developers. The council aims for 900 new homes on the site of the present Civic Centre when it moves to Wealdstone, 820 where the Leisure Centre is and a further development on the site of the Greenhill Way car park.

The site of the old library in Gayton Road was sold to a developer and 383 homes are being built. The Kodak site will have 1,800 homes with 580 more on the opposite side of Harrow View. They may have less effect on our area as they are further away and school & health centre is planned there. Closer to our area at 51 College Road 318 new homes are being built and there will be a new library. By Harrow on the Hill Station 600 homes are planned – and an improved station and bus station. 204 homes are being built in place of the Cumberland Hotel. The old office blocks in Lyon Road were converted to at least 300 homes. Earlier developments were the flats over Morrisons supermarket, 170 or so flats in place of Bradstowe house plus the 2 McCarthy and Stone blocks. All of these developments are closer to our area.

Your committee attend most of the consultations put on by the developers or the council. We continue to ask on behalf of all of us who live locally exactly what arrangements are being made for improved infrastructure – education, health, social care and so on. Do contact your local councillors, listed in this newsletter, if you feel similar concerns.

Helen Shorter

## Photos of Changing Station Road



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## Old Cumberland Hotel Site



This table is put together from the local press and publicity and is not authoritative

### New Flats in Borough of Harrow 2019

Homes	Location	Name	Developer	Notes	Comments
600	HOTH Station		Redrow	35% affordable	
1,800	Kodak	Eastman Village	3 Barratt etc	Persimmon and Hyde	School, medical centre+
580	Zoom Leisure	Harrow View West	Persimmon	2015->	
204	Cumberland Hotel		Origin House Assoc	40% affordable	2019-21 build
900	Civic Centre	Poets' Corner			
29	Greenhill Way	Rosens House	McCarthy&Stone	Next to Tesco Harrow	
820		Leisure Centre			Byron Quarter
589	Grange Farm	South Harrow			
383	Gayton Road		Lexicon/Fairview	On sale 5.18	
318	51 College Road	Harrow Square	Hyde Gp& Barratt		
14	Winsor&Newton				
33	Vaughan Road	old car park	Council	Spring 18-Aut.19	
490	College Gardens		Dandi		
300	Lyon Road				
64	Harrow Hotel		Notting Hill HA		
116	Northolt Road		Origen & Hill	Old office blocks	
140	Bradstowe House				
146	Neptune Point	Morrisons			
49	Northwick PK Road	Randolph House	McCarthy&Stone	Gayton Hotel Site	
<b>7575</b>	<b>Total Flats</b>				

## **Burglary-free holiday season – 6 tips on securing your home this summer**

When you've worked hard all year and the weather is finally warming up, you want to go on holiday with friends or on a family vacation without stress. Vacation periods, such as school holiday time, are prime opportunities for burglars to strike. We've collected our 6 top tips for keeping your home secure this summer:

### **Burglars are also social media friends**

It's not just you and your friends on Instagram and Facebook – it's also a place where would-be thieves go to read information about you and your family on holiday. If you're posting information or photos on a public social media profile, it's easy for a burglar to assume you aren't home. It's an open invitation to take a look in your side window or through your balcony door. Update your social media profile settings to 'Private', and if you do post photos from your holidays, just don't include captions with details about when, where and for how long you're away.

### **House sitter security strategy**

To avoid burglaries, a great way is to make it look like somebody is at home – actually having somebody at home is even better! Maybe a trusted friend is looking for a city break just as you're going to the countryside, or vice versa. Some people pay their house sitters, some leave them some nice food in the fridge, and some take it that the house sitter gets a free accommodation. If nobody springs to mind as a suitable house sitter, there are many online house sitter match-up sites for you to choose from.

### **Some mail a day keeps the burglar away**

It's a classic, but still relevant: ask a neighbour to collect your mail for you. Newspapers scattered over the lawn or a post slot jammed with letters and junk mail is a clear sign nobody has picked it up in a while. If you're often away, consider a post office box as your main form of receiving mail so that then there isn't such a build-up of letters in the mailbox – a clear signal to burglars that you are away. Some crafty burglars will leave a junk mail slip in your doorframe, as a strategy to see if you've been coming and going during the summer holidays.

### **Keep an eye on your home**

A security camera is a great way to ensure that your home is safe while you're away. With a camera like the Smartfrog Cam, you can see into your own four walls from anywhere in the world, at any time, via your smartphone, tablet or laptop. Home surveillance solutions can be quick to install and easy to use, and – if you're blissfully offline on a vacation somewhere, you can also share the link to your camera's live feed with a trusted friend or neighbour, so that they can check in on your behalf.

### **Save your electronic devices**

Back up your devices and leave external hard drives and important documents with a trusted friend or family member. If you're leaving a computer or smartphone at home, set it up to be geo-tracked, to require a fingerprint or code login and to be remotely wiped by you from a desktop, should you wish.

### **Secure your windows**

If you're having a 'staycation' – staying at home for your holiday time – be aware that your home could still be a target for thieves. Many burglaries happen during the evening, so be conscious of open windows on warm nights and don't go to bed until they're secured – closed or open. You can install metal screens in your windows to help with airflow and still keep your

family secure, or a tilt and turn window. If you are at home with some time off work, the summer holidays are a time to make the necessary security home improvements, like replacing the rusty old lock on the garage, or buying a second bar lock for the back door and ground floor windows.

## **Your Greenhill councillors to deal with local matters**

Susan Anderson - EMAIL [sue.anderson@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:sue.anderson@harrow.gov.uk)  
Mobile number: 07875094900

Keith Ferry - EMAIL [keith.ferry@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:keith.ferry@harrow.gov.uk)  
Mobile number: 07922227147

Ghazanfar Ali – EMAIL [Ghazanfar.Ali@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:Ghazanfar.Ali@harrow.gov.uk)  
[Mobile Number: 07840 514852](tel:07840514852)

## **Your Member of Parliament**

Gareth Thomas was re-elected MP for Harrow West at the last election.

Gareth Thomas lives locally, went to school in Harrow and has been Harrow West MP since 1997.

The constituency office is:  
132 Blenheim Road,  
West Harrow,  
HA2 7AA  
Tel: 020 8861 6300.

Surgeries are usually held on Fridays on a weekly basis.

[gareth.thomas@harrowlabour.org](mailto:gareth.thomas@harrowlabour.org)

His Parliamentary address is  
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA  
Tel: 020 7219 4243  
Fax: 020 7219 1154  
[thomasgr@parliament.uk](mailto:thomasgr@parliament.uk)

## Your current committee

Chairman	Hemuna Pather-Carr, 41 Northwick Park Road
Vice Chairman	Margaret Bristow
Secretary	Helen Shorter, 55 Grange Road
Treasurer	Eddie Griffiths, 11 Northwick Park Road
<b>Road Representatives</b>	
Bonnorsfield Lane, Close & Croft Villas	<b><i>Position Vacant</i></b>
Crofts Road	Margaret Bristow, 118 Crofts Road
Francis Road	Bijal Vekaria, 35 Francis Road
Grange Road	Helen Shorter, 55 Grange Road
Hill Crescent and Road	San Thaker, 35 Francis Road
Manor Road	Mike Moran, 43 Manor Road
Northwick Park Road	Sylvia Farooqi, Northwick Park Road

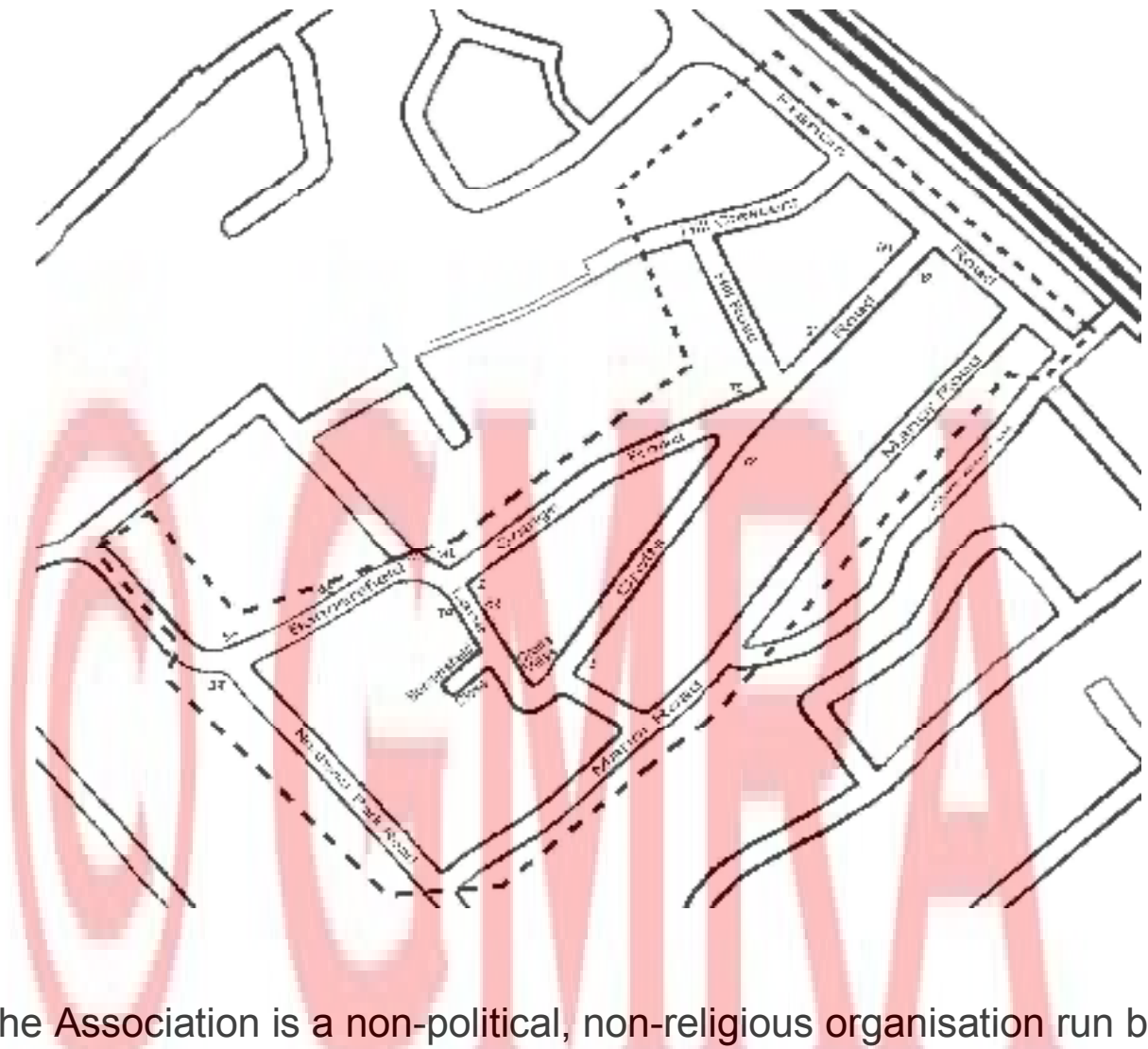
***A Road Representative is needed for Bonnorsfield Lane and Close and Croft Villas. There are six committee meetings a year, which usually only last from 7.30pm to 8.30 or so. Members' subs are collected once a year, after the AGM.***

Newsletter Producer	Noor Mohamed, 71 Bonnorsfield Lane
Newsletter Editor	Peter Hamill, 19 Crofts Road

## Useful Telephone Numbers

All <b>MAJOR</b> emergencies: Fire, Police or Ambulance	999
Harrow Council	
Civic Centre	(020) 8901 2600
<b>Metropolitan Police – Urgent</b>	<b>999</b>
Metropolitan Police - Harrow Police Station and request Harrow Police Station Anti-Terrorist Hot Line	(020) 8423 1212  0800 789 321
Crime Stoppers (confidential)	0800 555 111
Greenhill Safer Neighbourhood Unit Or MOBILE	(020) 8721 2780  0782 565 7975
To report an electricity power cut	0800 783 8838
National Gas Emergency Service	0800 111 999
Water leak (Affinity Water)	0800 376 5325
Telephone Preference Service - to stop unwanted calls	0845 070 0707
Mail Preference Service	(020) 7291 3310
Harrow Energy Efficiency Advice helpline and Energy Saving Guidance	0800 838 650
Brent and Harrow Trading Standards Service Shoppers rights	(020) 8937 5555

## About the Association



The Association is a non-political, non-religious organisation run by your neighbours for the benefit of all residents in Greenhill Manor [see map], whether they are home-owners or tenants.