



MALDEN & COOMBE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022

MCRA
Malden & Coombe
Residents' Association Limited

Estate News

MCRA looks forward to a busy January and February, working with Royal Borough of Kingston (RBK) council on traffic and parking issues and our local police team to address security concerns on the Estate.

Dear Member,

We hope that you enjoyed the festivities over the Christmas period and wish you and your families all the very best for the New Year. While we enjoyed a short pause in December, we are this month continuing our work to address traffic and parking concerns, increasing gatekeeper presence at the barriers and working with the local police team to help keep our community secure. We will also be issuing reminders to those residents and organisations still yet to pay the Annual Contribution – we thank you for your continued support.

AGM Update

It was wonderful to see, what we understand to be, a record number of you in October for our AGM! The meeting took place at Warren House where members discussed items such as: parking and traffic concerns (particularly problematic around school drop-off and collection hours) and possible solutions; the ongoing conversation with planning officers at RBK around the increase of pupils at Holy Cross School; the Warren House Starbucks franchise; additional yellow lines on the Estate, RBK's consultation process and the introduction of further speed restrictions on Warren Road; MCRA and individual roads' WhatsApp groups; CCTV and security. We were also very pleased to welcome our local councillors, Rowena Bass, Ed Fram and Ian George who updated the membership on the work they have been carrying out in the community.

The AGM Minutes and further information can be found on the website: www.mcraltd.com/about-1

MCRA Annual Contribution 2021/22

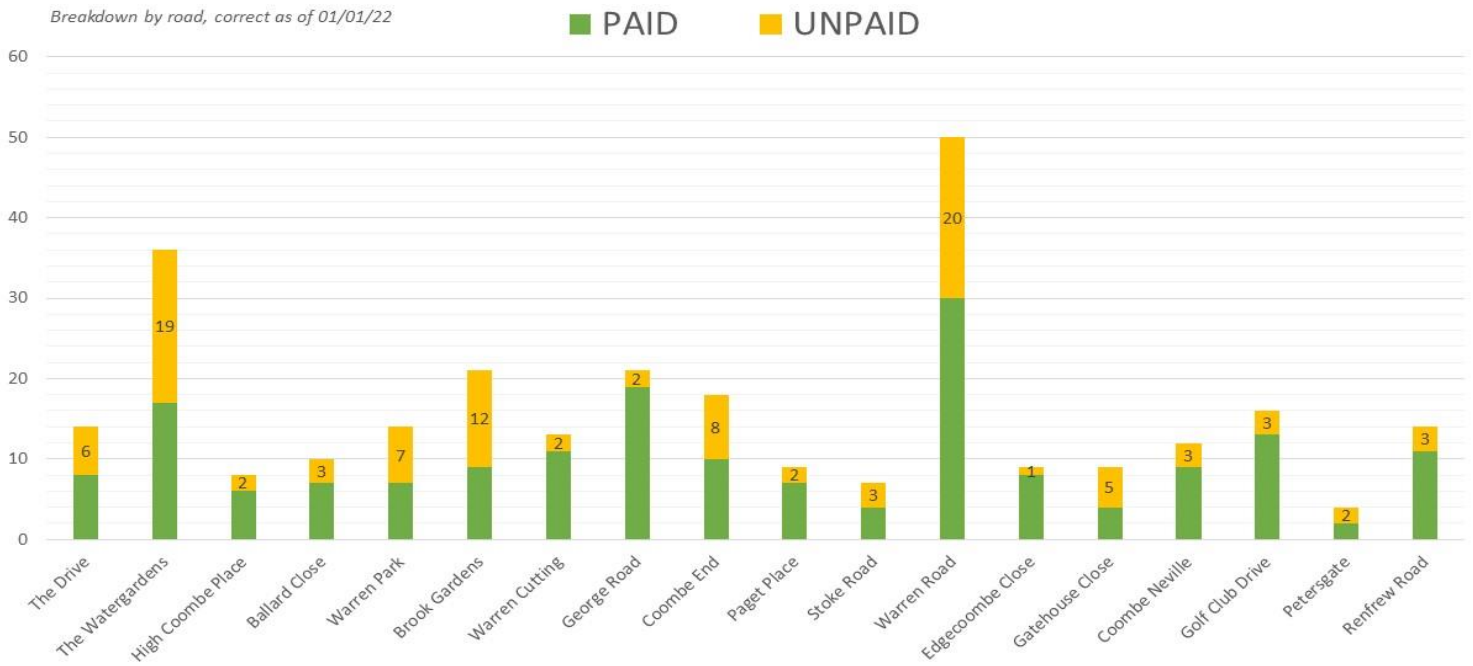
We extend our sincere thanks to those residents who have already paid the Annual Contribution for September 2021-August 2022. Over half of the households and 70% of the schools and businesses had contributed within the first month of invoicing and we are immensely grateful for your continued support.

As we have made members aware over the past 12 months, we rely entirely on residents making this relatively small payment to fund our work. While the Committee members give their considerable time voluntarily, we need to employ a secretary, who is paid on an hourly basis. The secretary is responsible for answering numerous queries and complaints, chasing RBK to get matters attended to, arranging the printing and distribution of your annual permits, developing, and maintaining the website, social media and database, dealing with the barrier and managing gatekeeper matters and many other tasks. If residents do not contribute, MCRA will ultimately fold and the quality of life on our Estate will inevitably decline.

Here are the latest contribution figures, paid and unpaid, listed by road.

MCRA Annual Contributions for 2021-22:

Breakdown by road, correct as of 01/01/22



To pay your £40 Annual Contribution for 2021-22, please use the following payment methods:

- By bank transfer (or to set up a Standing Order):
Barclays Bank, Sort Code: 20-46-73, Account No: 80617032, Account Name: Malden & Coombe Residents' Association. Please use your property name/number and road name as the reference.
- By cheque:
 Made payable to MCRA LTD and post to: Secretary, 31 Beechcroft Avenue, New Malden, KT3 3EG. Please write your surname, property name/number and road name on the back of the cheque.

Barriers & Gatekeepers

The Gatekeepers have asked us to communicate their gratitude to members for all the wonderful Christmas gifts they received. They were overwhelmed by your generosity and kindness – thank you!

Our contract with Gate-A-Mation continues with the successful maintenance of the barriers. The company recently carried out a checkup following the recent bad weather to ensure the barriers are running smoothly.

While we bid a sad farewell to Barry Rouse in October, we have since welcomed two new Gatekeepers to the team. Ali Islam joined in November to operate the barriers on weekends and distributes his time between both Kingston Hill and Coombe Lane West to deter unauthorised parking. Just before the New Year, we welcomed Martin Thomas to the late afternoon team (replacing Douglas Burns who stood down in November) so that both barriers on Warren Road are manned during the busy commuter hours.

Please remember to always display your windscreen permit at the barrier to assist our Gatekeepers and ensure traffic runs smoothly.

Maintenance Update

Whilst chasing RBK and iVerde to clear the overgrown shrubs, trees and leaves, we discovered that the council has recently awarded Glendale with the new contract for this work across the Estate. Committee member, Mike Ashby, has since met with the company and the council to discuss the maintenance schedule and now has a direct contact for future issues.

We have also been made aware of several problems with reduced or broken lighting in Brook Gardens, Edgecombe Close, Warren Road and Warren Cutting. We made several requests to RBK and eventually were told these matters were to be dealt with before the Christmas break, which they were not. We are continuing to chase the council to get this urgent matter dealt with. Please do contact the secretary if you spot an issue (office.mcra@gmail.com) and help us to keep up the pressure on the council by using the online I-Need reporting system: www.kingston.gov.uk/i-need

Parking & Richmond Park Charges

We await an update from Royal Parks and RBK regarding when car parking charges will begin in Richmond Park, but we understand this to be imminent. We therefore continue with our long-running quest to add double yellow lines to the north end of Warren Road to deter unauthorised and dangerous parking in that area. We have also increased the presence of our Gatekeepers at the Kingston Hill barrier and hope those residents frequently affected by unlawful parked cars have noticed an improvement.

ITV Filming

We would also like to thank members once again for their patience during the week-long filming on Stoke Road for the ITV production, The Riches. As before, MCRA requested the production company contribute towards the maintenance and upkeep of those roads where trucks and lorries were parked for the filming period.

Security & Vandalism Update and New Coombe Hill Police Survey

We have been notified by residents on Warren Park of some unusual and suspicious activity on New Year's Eve. A man approached a resident's gates and, speaking through the intercom, asked if guard dogs were present at the residence. He then waved goodbye to the camera and left. Photographs of the individual can be found on the website.

A resident has notified us of an act of local vandalism. The small pine tree by the fence of Coombe Wood Golf Club on Warren Road (close to the junction of Warren Cutting), had been chopped down and taken away a short time before Christmas. Photographs of the damage can be found on the website. If anyone witnessed this, please let the Secretary know.

Our local policing team have also invited us to contribute to the latest Coombe Hill safety survey: www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Coombe/

Here is a reminder of the contact details for Coombe Hill Police:

Telephone: 07810 815660

Team email: CoombeHill@Met.Police.uk

Coombe Hill Councillor Advice Surgery

A reminder that the local Councillor Advice Surgery has restarted. The Advice Surgery takes place on the first Saturday of every month at Warren House, between 10am and 11am.

We thank you again for your continued support.

Best wishes,



Dr. Judy Kane & Rupert Cox, Co-Chairs, MCRA

Want to get involved? Please don't hesitate to get in touch:

office.mcra@gmail.com or on Twitter @mcraoffice