**SHEPHERDS COT TRUST NEWSLETTER APRIL 2018**

Welcome to all readers. This is an update report that tells you what has been happening on the Shepherds Cot Trust.

**Shepherds Cot Security and Safety**

We continue to work well with the Police, Highgate Wood School, Haringey, CREOS, Trustee clubs and other clubs on site to improve safety and security and help cut down antisocial behaviour.

**Our initiatives so far have brought about improvements:**

* Introducing Montenotte Road Gate and Hanley Road gate has helped cut fly tipping and drastically reduced antisocial behaviour. Littering in Hanley car park only tends to occur when the gate is left open. Littering in North London car park still needs attention but has been helped by introducing a litter bin here
* CCTV is now present at Park Road entrance adding to CCTV at all clubs and the bungalow. This has enabled us to remove dumped cars and identify some who are fly tipping elsewhere on site or acting illegally in other ways
* Our Shepherds Cot Neighbourhood Watch (Coordinator Tim Reynolds) continues to create a close relationship with our local Neighbourhood Police Teams at Crouch End and Muswell Hill. Please note that most of Shepherds Cot is covered by the Muswell Hill Team. We value the support both team give to helping to make our site safe

**Signage**

This May we complete Phase Two of our signage project. We extend our thanks to the many people who have provided us with feedback and support on this. Last year we completed Phase One: road painting and temporary signs. Next month we complete all main signs. This will enhance the site and aid safety and security, making clear site rules and supporting all those who enjoy our fields.

***Two days during the week of May 21st workers will be fitting signs.***

**Dog Policy**

Dogs and dog walkers are welcome to our and CREOS Woodland Walks (Haringey areas) but owners should ensure that dogs do not go on playing fields and tennis courts.  Clubs reserve the right to uphold this rule in their own way. The Trust agreed that dogs should be on leads on paths, car parks and roadways. Dogs may be off lead on the Haringey owned meadows and wooded areas.  These rules will be clearly marked on our new signage referenced above.

**General maintenance and ecology**

Trustees maintain Shepherds Cot Trust on a voluntary basis. Drainage, trees, planting and road upkeep are all ongoing maintenance matters. In addition, Trustees are exploring strategic plans for conservation and site ecology.

**Litter**

**Despite regular upkeep there is always a need to KEEP OUR COT TIDY!**

We are planning to install some more litter bins along the road from Park Road. However, we would once ask everyone using the site to make an effort to pick up litter.

Thanks to you all for caring for our fields - protected Metropolitan Open Land for generations to come.

**John Newton – Chairman, Shepherds Cot Trust**