

## Winter news from the Shepherds Cot Trust January 2017

### Welcome!

We would like to thank everyone who continues to care for these very special fields which bring a great deal of sporting pleasure to local people and enhance our lives through being protected Metropolitan Open Land. May this continue for all generations to come.

### Here's what trustees have been working on lately.

#### 1. Security and Safety

Over the last two years we have worked hard with the Police, Highgate Wood School, Haringey, CREOS, Trustee clubs and other clubs on site to improve matters which were not good in terms of security and antisocial behaviour.

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

- The Hanley Road gate has drastically reduced anti social behaviour and littering to date which only tends to occur when the gate is left open.
- CCTV now present at all clubs and the bungalow has enabled us to remove dumped cars and identify some who are fly tipping elsewhere on site or acting suspiciously.
- Creation of a Neighbourhood Watch and a closer relationship with our local Police force has created a greater awareness and greater police presence on site.

#### Montenotte Road vehicular gate - January 2017

There are however ongoing problems and to combat fly tippers, car dumping and those acting suspiciously in North London Cricket Club Car Park and the immediate area, we have reintroduced the gate at Montenotte Road entrance. In partnership with Highgate Wood School and Haringey we are keen to improve safety and security as it affects all clubs, school children and staff, and the general public who use our sites.

- This gate is of a similar low level steel design to other gates on site. Pedestrians will not be affected as there will be 24 7 access beside the gate. We are liaising with Highgate Wood School and SCT Member clubs over gate locking and unlocking so that those using NLCC car park legitimately will not be inconvenienced.

#### 2. Water management, conservation and ecology

Trustees maintain the fields on a voluntary basis. Drainage, trees, planting and road upkeep are all ongoing maintenance matters. Trustees are in the process of preparing strategy documents relating to these matters and water conservation which we'll report on in 2017.

#### Drainage problems

We are currently working on drain and foul sewer problems on site. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused, but please be assured that we are treating these matters with the greatest of urgency.

#### Litter

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

We have installed two more litter bins on site - Look out for our logo and please spread the message!

#### 3. Dog Policy - Not on courts and playing fields - On leads on roads, car parks and paths!

For the benefit of newcomers to our website and our fields please note that dogs and dog walkers are welcome to our and 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. Trustees agreed that for safety reasons dogs should be on leads on paths, car parks and roadways.

**Dogs may be off lead on the Haringey owned meadows and wooded areas.**

#### **4. Signage**

We realise that better signage would help support the grounds people and everyone using our fields to ensure they stay safe for all. We are in the process of finalising details and raising funds for new signs.

#### **5 MPH - Children - 5MPH!**

We are concerned that drivers obey the speed limit and take care of children and dogs on site. We have one sign of 5MPH, but we will be introducing more.

#### **5. Map of our fields and our neighbours**

We have created a simple map which shows the limits of our land and the location of clubs etc. This map will continue to be updated as appropriate.