

Summer 2026

Edition 2

LATEST NEWS

Wilder About Highams Park

You will be aware that we were successful in getting Lottery Funding to be used within the allotments and community in partnership with The Highams Park Planning Group and The Ching Action Group. The collaboration will be known as "Wilder About Highams Park". A lot of hard work went into the successful bid, thank you to those involved. Work has already started with five toadstools carved and set in Brookfield Meadow. Before our bat boxes are installed, we will be doing sunset bat surveys to get a baseline for bat activity on our site.

We have recently had five half plots available. These have now been allocated to new plot holders and we welcome them to our allotment community.

With summer upon us and planting well under way, we all hope for a good growing season. While tending your plot, please can you keep all pathways neat and tidy for all to enjoy easy access, and try to keep weeds and their seeds to a minimum.

On May 2nd we opened our gates to welcome visitors to the Higham's Park Art Trail. 7 makers including Linda, Vanessa, Orla, Kaamilah, Gill, Sue and Nicole showed work including drawings, paintings, prints, ceramics and basket ware. We received over 60 visitors including Waltham Forest Mayor Tony Bell and Cllr Rosalind Dore. It was wonderful to see so many people and families out enjoying nature and art and having a go at cyanotype printing. Thanks are due to everyone who help to make the event happen, and particularly to Orla and Margaret for their good energy and organisational skills."



Left to right: Adrian Harrison (Chair), Cllr Rosalind Dore, Mayor Cllr Tony Bell, Margaret Almond, Alastair Thomas (Secretary).



Committee Meeting 20.04.2026

The Committee met on 20 April and discussed many topics.

With several plot holders giving up their plots, the waiting list had been reduced and still remains open for those that wish to join the list.

Plot inspections were discussed and agreed that these would be published in advance so any member can take part.

The SMT report stated that ten plot holders joined the first work party clearing the communal and memorial gardens. Excessive growth around some of the trees at the top of the site had been cut back. Over hanging trees bushes had also been trimmed.

Manure is still available from the stables next to West Essex Golf Club, although the deliveries have been less frequent. This arrangement is expected to continue, and some plotholders have been driving to the stables to collect for themselves.

Christine Ludlow

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If anyone has anything to contribute to the Newsletter, please contact Christine above.

Site Maintenance Team (SMT)

The SMT has been active in clearing parts of the site. The plots on the other side of the Ching have seen overgrown brambles etc. cut back. The small patch of Japanese Knotweed has been treated and will continue to be monitored. The areas around the pond, memorial and communal gardens have all been cut back and tidied up

To help keep the site in good shape can you all ensure pathways are kept trimmed and all weed growth cut back before they seed and spread onto adjacent plots!

Thank you.

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PLEASE NOTE

The Trading Hut is now open from April through to the end of July. Sundays from 11am until midday. All profits go into allotment funds. Thank you for your support!

Price list can be found here [Trading Hut Price List](#) Payment is by cash

