



## Kings Hill Residential Estate Management

The first newsletter of 2024 includes details on the fee for 2024 and articles about the new sculpture and works needed in Orchard Park (formerly known as the "Linear Park"). We have also included news on some landscaping projects which will be implemented in Kings Hill over the next few months. Finally, the resident Directors invite you all to complete a short survey about Kings Hill Residential Estate Management Company Ltd – details are below.



### 2024 Fee for Kings Hill Residential Estate Management Company increased by 2.86% to £360 (plus VAT)

The Directors of Kings Hill Residential Estate Management Company Ltd, including the resident Directors, met at the end of January to agree the annual fee alongside the proposed budget. The 2024 fee is to be increased by £10 from £350 to £360 plus VAT (Total of £432), which is an increase of 2.86%. The budget pack details how the costs have changed over the last 12 months and we are continuously seeking cost effective improvements to

the services and the team have worked hard to ensure costs have been managed whilst maintaining the quality of the services.

The preferred method of payment is by bank transfer quoting your resident ID (Account Number). The fee can be paid in instalments providing that the fee is paid in full by 31st December. Please let us know if you wish to pay in instalments so the details can be recorded on your account.

### 2024 Questionnaire



The resident Directors are keen to hear from all members of Kings Hill Residential Estate Management Company Ltd and have created a questionnaire that we would invite every household to complete. Please use the QR code or link below: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LHML9G3>

Copies of the questionnaire can be provided, upon request. Please call or email the office and a copy will be sent to you.

### Orchard Park - Public Art installation underway

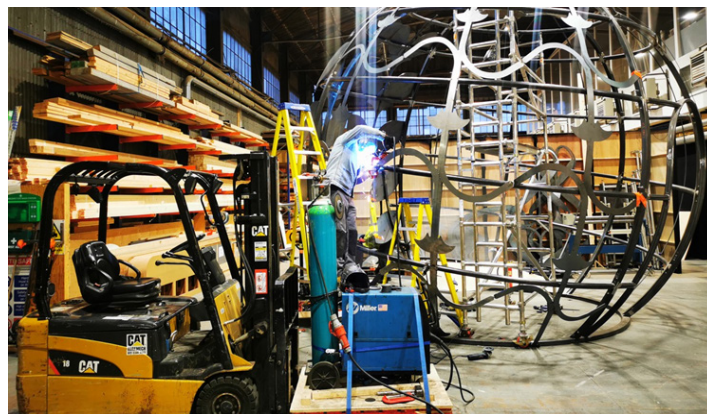
Work has started on the installation of a major new piece of public art for Kings Hill. The artwork named "Slices of Peace" by artist Yinka Ilori MBE is being located in Orchard Park (informally known locally as the linear park). There will be a giant multicoloured apple measuring more than 5 metres in diameter flanked by 2 smaller apples. When commissioning the work, Kings Hill development partners Liberty Property Trust and Kent County Council (KCC) formed a partnership with Turner Contemporary and the University for the Creative Arts (UCA). A soundscape by artist Peter Adjaye, which was the outcome of choral workshops attended by

the Kings Hill community, will be accessible inside the giant apple. The official unveiling of the sculpture will take place on Friday, 12 April accompanied by an exhibition in the Control Tower gallery produced by UCA students.

For more information on the

public art project, visit [www.kings-hill.com/uca-turner-contemporary-public-art](http://www.kings-hill.com/uca-turner-contemporary-public-art)

An image of the artwork under construction is shown below.





# Box Moth Caterpillar – Advice from Kings Hill Ecologist

The incidence of box moth infestation in box planting, mainly in private gardens at Kings Hill is increasing and resulting in death of plants. Early indications of infestation are sightings of the caterpillars (greenish yellow with black heads) eating the leaves of box plants, followed by the production of pupae in cocoons of white webbing spun amongst the box leaves and twigs. This is in contrast to box blight disease which is a fungal disease which causes leaves to turn brown and fall leading to patches of dieback.

If box plants in your garden have died or are failing it is recommended that, due to the increasing prevalence of box moth caterpillar in South East England, box is replaced with an alternative hedge or topiary plant. Suitable plants that are similar to box ie compact, evergreen shrubs with small leaves and which are suitable for trimming to shape include:

- *Elaeagnus submacrophylla* 'Compacta'
- *Euonymus fortunei*
- *Ilex crenata*
- *Osmanthus delavayi*
- *Pittosporum* 'Arundel Green'



## No Mow May

Areas of Kings Hill will be left untouched by the mowers in support of the "No Mow May" to provide habitat for pollinators and in some areas this meadow grassland will be allowed to flourish over the coming months. The areas have been selected where the wildflowers will flourish which is why the verges and some other areas dominated by grasses are still cut.

Areas of wildflower will be re-sown along Tower View, Limelight Walk and Discovery Drive, as well as areas by the Control Tower and within Orchard Park. There are a range of mainly annual species which grow in these areas with different types of flora making an appearance between May and as late as December. We hope you will have the chance to walk past and enjoy them.



## Orchard Park – lighting

The bollard lights in Orchard Park are currently turned off as there are safety issues with the electrical installation. Replacement components are required and Kings Hill Management are obtaining comparative costs for the repairs and aim to have all the lights working as soon as possible.

We are also pleased to advise that all electricity used to power the lights in the area managed by KHREMC are now supplied from green energy.

## Coppicing

Kings Hill has several sections of sweet chestnut woodland which have previously and historically, been coppiced. The management of this woodland to optimise it's wildlife value is to coppice on rotation approximately every 15-20 years. The trees are cut down to just above ground level and the multi-stem tree that regenerates can reach over 2 metres within 6 months of being coppiced. The sections of woodland that are coppiced are selected to ensure that wildlife corridors are retained for the benefit of the local wildlife.





## Community Orchard

The developer of Kings Hill will be creating an Amenity Green space close to the sports pitches on Kings Hill. Part of the plans for this area is to create a new community orchard where community groups and residents can plant a fruit or nut tree in memory of a loved one.

The planning application for this area will be submitted soon and we hope to be able to plant the first trees in the autumn.

## New Bridlepath coming soon....

A new bridlepath is almost complete along the northern boundary of Kings Hill. The link from the top of Glenton Avenue meanders through the woodland and the side of Coalpit Wood connecting to Public Right Of Way (PROW) footpath MR144, that leads to the A228. The final works are expected to be completed soon which will allow this link to be open in Spring 2024.



## Kings Hill 'Biography'

In December 2018, Liberty Property Trust published a book "Kings Hill – a different ballgame" which is a brief biography of the birth of a new place, the story of its first three decades, and a glimpse into its future. It is dedicated to all the people who have had a part in the creation of Kings Hill. Copies are still

available. If you would like one, the cost is a donation of £5 to the Royal British Legion Industries. If you go to their website: <https://rbli.co.uk/> donate and make a donation, copy the receipt and send it to us at [enquiries@kingshillmanagement.com](mailto:enquiries@kingshillmanagement.com) with your address details we will get a copy to you.



## Resident Directors

Laura and James are the elected resident Directors for Kings Hill Residential Estate Management and can be contacted with questions about the company at the following email addresses:



Laura Harvey:  
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### Estate Queries:

Emma Cottee: 01732 792356 or Susan Davies: 01732 792340

### Resident Directors:

Laura Harvey: [laura@khremc.co.uk](mailto:laura@khremc.co.uk) or James Mackay: [james@khremc.co.uk](mailto:james@khremc.co.uk)