



High Lane Residents' Association

Newsletter October 2026

A warm welcome to this year's High Lane Residents' Association (RA) Newsletter and a special welcome to those of you who have moved to our village this year.

The High Lane Residents' Association was founded 95 years ago in 1931. It was initially known as the High Lane RatePayers' Association. It is a wholly voluntary organisation. All High Lane Residents and ratepayers are automatically a member and we seek to represent all views within the community and aim to keep our village attractive and welcoming to live, work and play in.

All residents are welcome to come along to our regular meetings, which are on the **first Thursday** of the month (except the AGM) at 8pm **in High Lane library** meeting room. The meetings are usually attended by one or more of our Councillors, and a member of the local community police.

The **AGM** is to be held at the Village Hall on **Wednesday 28th October** at 8pm, everyone is invited.

Outdoor Gym



The RA took on the project for an Outdoor Gym in High Lane Park about two years ago although it was something Eryl Hughes had been keen to establish for several years. He has worked in the sports sector for many years and felt the community would benefit from an outdoor gym.

David, Janet & Eryl liaised with SMBC, Sunshine Gym and other suppliers and started fundraising by applying for grants and asking for contributions from local businesses and individuals. They knew that it wasn't going to be an easy task and was challenging at times. Applying for grants in today's economic climate is difficult. High Lane isn't a deprived area, we have a low crime rate and the RA isn't a charity so we were limited in where we could apply.

Thanks to the Marple Area Committee Flexibility Fund (part of a commuted sum), a grant from Manchester Airport, various local businesses, groups including High Lane Scouts and the Village Hall coffee morning, individuals and the RA itself, we were able to fund the project.

We must thank Poynton High School for their very kind donation of equipment, which, unfortunately for them, had never been able to be used. This meant we only needed to cover the cost of installation and the tarmac surface.

The litter pick in June resulted in 20 sacks of rubbish. This is a well-rehearsed team who always welcome new members.

We put an article in St Thomas' Church magazine each month.

Committee members have also reported many issues of overgrown hedges, broken trees, signs needing repair, potholes and other issues on behalf of villagers. If you wish to report your own issues the HLRA website has the contacts you need.

The team also do weekly checks on the defibrillator (provided and maintained by the HLRA) outside High Lane Medical Centre so it is always ready.

The paths around the cycle jumps in Brookside Park have been re-done by the council.

A variety of bulbs have again been planted around the village thanks to the gardening team and Notcutts. We need more volunteers — half an hour a week to look after a planter would be great.

FUN FACTS

The Library used to be the British Legion Clubhouse and stands on the site of Orford House. Coach House garage was the stables & coach house.

HRH Princess Anne opened the new Village Hall in 2001

One of the oldest properties in the village is the Lomber Hey House off Andrew Lane circa 17th century.

The 'Red Lion' first opened as a pub in 1762 to supplement the farmer's income.

Speed Watch Initiative

Speed Watch Initiative:

This initiative was originally set up by Aron Thornley and Alan James in 2019 in response to the number of cars that were speeding through Meadway and Andrew Lane.

Twenty-mile-an-hour signs were added later on these two roads and Hartington Road.

Due to work commitments Aron had to drop out and so Joyce James reluctantly took over as no one else volunteered.

Speedwatch was then recorded on Hartington and Meadway, with Carr Brow being added more recently.

On average there are 400 cars travelling on these roads during the two hours 7-9am, with approx. 60+ cars travelling 26 to 40mph.

Marple police have been actively involved with us over the last year stopping speeding cars and advising them of the speed limit. They do not issue speeding tickets.

All speeding cars, or those that we can catch, are written down and the list taken to Marple Police Station.

There are several Speed Watch Initiatives in Greater Manchester, but ours is the most successful.

The Speed Watch is carried out alternately on all three roads on a regular basis with police attendance.

A monthly Coffee morning has started at the Library on the 1st Friday of the month 10.15am -12. Donations to the upkeep of the defibrillator.

This is to help increase footfall for the library.

Do you have Open+ on your library card? This enables you to use the library for extended hours outside of staffed hours?

Use it or lose it!

Future ambitions of HLRA

Improve some footpaths around the village.

From Revd Lynn: Vicar St Thomas' High Lane

Where is God in all of this? It is a question so often asked. And the answer is far simpler than people realise, because God is in the presence of his people on earth – those who are filled with compassion and care for what is going on around them. Those who love and give of themselves unconditionally.

The recent blessing of our Covid Memorial Bench reminded us of so much hurt, but also so much beauty. As a Community we were blessed by those who have given their love, care and compassion, all who worked behind the scenes to procure the memorial bench and garden: members of the church and community alike. This has been followed by gifted green fingers which have created this beautiful space for us all to enjoy. It has been filled with flowers and plants with meaning and symbolism: love, remembrance, peace, resilience, friendship, happy memories and endurance. I am sure I speak on behalf of many people when I say we are truly grateful for everyone who has played their part in making the space a reality.

About 1000 bluebells were planted in Hartley Wood during the autumn and these made an appearance in the spring.



High Lane Village Neighbourhood Forum - Stockport Local Plan update

Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) is following a strict timetable directed by the UK government. The next major step is the Regulation 19 Consultation, which must begin by October 1, 2026. Following this, the plan must be officially submitted for government examination by **December 31, 2026**.

A timeline of the key stages includes:

- **November – December 2025:** The draft Local Plan was published and a major public consultation was held (**Regulation 18**)
- **October 1, 2026:** Deadline to start the **Regulation 19 Consultation** (the pre-submission publication of the plan).
- **December 31, 2026:** Final deadline for SMBC to submit the Local Plan to the government for formal examination (**Regulation 22**)
- **Spring 2027:** Expected public examination by a government-appointed planning inspector (**Regulation 24**)
- **Winter 2027/2028:** Anticipated final adoption of the Local Plan (**Regulation 26**)
- The Forum Committee continue to engage both the SMBC Planning leaders and our 3 local councillors for any updates we can share with our members and the RA. We understand that the High Lane site developers are drafting the vision and master plan documents they must submit to SMBC for site evaluation prior to the next round of consultation (Reg 19) this summer.
- Once we know what the two site proposals are for High Lane and Sandown Road, Hazel Grove, we will hold a public meeting to inform and engage the community and discuss our response and a plan of action.



There were many more spring bulbs around the village thanks to all the gardening team. The planters around the village have continued to look bright and cheerful, courtesy of the team who maintain them.

We do need more gardening volunteers. An hour a week would help maintain the boxes around the village.

Help keep the village tidy by trimming back your hedges and volunteer at gardening sessions run by the HLRA. If you do any jobs around the village let us know who you are. We need this information for our insurance.

We rely on donations and voluntary household subscriptions to fund our Village projects and maintenance.

If you are able to support us, please donate or become a subscribing member. We suggest £5 per household per year but any donation is appreciated. You can pay by:

Cheque [payable to High Lane Residents' Association]

Cash

Debit or credit card

Direct Bank transfer --

Name: High Lane Residents Association

Sort code: 30-96-26

Account no. 55885660

Reference: House number & postcode

Name.....

Address.....

Email.....

Pay in person at a meeting or drop your donation through the door at:

59 Windemere Road

18 Rostherne Avenue

10 Cromley Road

9 Hartington Road

3 Meadway

45 Russell Ave

15 Manifold Drive

Would you like to know about volunteering opportunities – litter picking, gardening etc YES/ NO

We would like everyone who wishes to receive invites to meetings to let us know their current email. We have had a lot of messages bounce back and assume people have forgotten to let us know.

Website: hlra.org.uk