



# Royale Dunton Court Residents Association

Web: [www.facebook.com/groups/royaleduntoncourt](http://www.facebook.com/groups/royaleduntoncourt)  
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Issue 1

1 April 2022

## Welcome

We're delighted to announce that following a packed meeting in the club on 12 March we were able to form a *qualifying residents association*. Thank you to everyone for making this happen. Becoming a committee member was open to everyone and we weren't short of volunteers. A public vote was held and the committee was elected as below..

By law, landlords must 'recognise' and consult with residents associations. We wrote to Royale on 16 March to ask for their formal recognition and they have exercised their right to come and inspect our records to make sure we've done things properly. As this newsletter went to print we are still waiting for them to book an appointment to examine the records and see the committee. We very much look forward to meeting Royale and establishing a friendly and constructive relationship that benefits us, them and future residents.

James Hailes - Editor



**Chair** - Gary Peckham

**Secretary/Vice Chair** - Pat Stapleton

**Treasurer** - Sheila Hobman

**Entertainment coordinator** - Julie Raby

**Helping Hands coordinator** - Lynda Gould

**Council members** - Mick Hilton, Jayne Finch,

Terry Rose, Pat Smith, Pat Moore and Denise Rayner.

**Co-opted** - Laurie Gould (minutes secretary)

**Co-opted** - James Hailes (communications)

*(Co-opted members are invited by the committee to help with specialist roles but have no voting rights).*

**URGENT**

The association has formally objected to Royale's proposal for 85 new homes on the old caravan storage area. Whilst residents aren't necessarily against new homes in principle, they have serious concerns about this application. There doesn't seem to be any consideration or improvements for existing residents. In fact, this new development would use the already creaking infrastructure including narrow roads and limited footpaths. This already presents difficulties for many people living on site - especially those with extra accessibility needs. This will be made a lot worse with a huge increase in new vehicle movements around the existing site. Furthermore, Royale hasn't even consulted with us over this proposal despite pre-application advice from the council to do exactly that. **Residents only have a few days to formally object - 5 April deadline (it's important we all do individual objections).** Visit [www.basildon.gov.uk/eplanning](http://www.basildon.gov.uk/eplanning) and look up 22/00197/FULL to see the plans and make your comments. You can see more on this on our Facebook page - [www.facebook.com/groups/royaleduntoncourt](http://www.facebook.com/groups/royaleduntoncourt)

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**Helping Hands** We're pleased to announce, we're setting up a Helping Hands service on site for anyone who might simply need an extra pair of hands. Can't get out to collect a prescription? Under the weather and need a few bits from the shops? Need some help getting to a medical appointment? Etc etc. Lynda Gould will be coordinating Helping Hands and you can see more about Lynda in our first 'Meet the Committee' feature below. If you need help please contact Lynda. Similarly if you'd like to be a volunteer-helper get in touch. Lynda - 07951 660115 or email the association at [rdprc2022@gmail.com](mailto:rdprc2022@gmail.com)

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**Meet the committee** Every newsletter will highlight one of the committee members so you put a face to a name. First, it's the turn of our Helping Hands coordinator Lynda Goud. Previously from the East End, Lynda moved to Royal Dunton Court in June 2022 and her approachability and love of people makes her ideal as Helping Hands coordinator. Lynda is a family girl who enjoys music, shows and socialising in general. Much of her time is spent with the family (3 kids, 5 grandchildren and even a great-grandchild although you wouldn't believe it looking at her photo). Lynda and hubby Laurie live at 3 Meadow View.

# National Association of Park Home Residents

One of our residents has drawn our attention to the National Association of Park Home Residents. NAPHR is a voluntary organisation giving advice to residential park home owners and representing their views to Government and other official bodies. They also try to help members with individual issues. Annual membership is only £6 and you can read all about NAPHR on their website here <https://www.naphr.co.uk/> or call Beryl on 01746 768287.

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## Warm Home Discount

The Park Homes Warm Home Discount scheme is funded by contributions from various energy suppliers

and offers support to those who live permanently in a Park Home and pay their electricity bills directly to their site owner. The scheme provides

grants to those struggling to pay their gas and electricity bills because of skyrocketing costs. Unfortunately the scheme became oversubscribed so they are no longer able to take new applications. However, they hope to increase capacity for the scheme all ready for Autumn (likely to be September) and you can register an interest to apply right here <https://www.parkhomeswhd.com/>

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## Entertainment

When some of us newbies came to Dunton, sensing our keenness to be involved in park life, one thing the then park manager flagged up was how Kim would appreciate help with organising entertainment. So, we've reached out to Royale to ask if the residents association can have more of a role in entertainment in the club. We've also assembled some entertainment coordinators on the committee - Julie Raby, Jayne Finch and Mick Hilton. Ideally, the association would like to organise events in the club to take the strain off Kim. However, we're waiting to meet with Royale to discuss this. In the meantime Royale kindly allowed us to run a one-off event to raise some funds for running the new association. The 70s night was a huge success (pics and video evidence on our Facebook page). 80 people (full capacity) danced the night away to James and Gary's disco and because the lads didn't charge for DJing - there were very few costs so we raised a whopping £572.80 for **your** association. Cont ...

Thank you to all committee members for putting this event together and running things on the night. Also thanks to resident Pat Smith for creating a beautiful fruit bowl as a prize and to Kim for being our box office. And finally a big thank you to everyone who came along. Hopefully Royale will let the residents association help with entertainment. However, we're 'on hold' until they come to see us and discuss the idea. In the meantime we thought it would be a good idea to ask residents the kind of things they would like to see in the club. Even if Royale don't want us to have further involvement, we can pass these on to Kim. Take a look at the enclosed survey and tick all the things you'd enjoy. You can pop this back to Julie Raby at 10 Manstead Close.

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## Become a member

If you haven't already joined the residents association please get in touch. It's free to join. We decided to use fund-raising events to pay for running costs rather than a subscription fee.

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## Equalities

The association will value diversity and promote good relations with all members of the community. Denise Rayner has kindly taken on this role and is keen to learn how the association can help with people's individual needs. Please contact Denise via the association's email address if you have any comments.

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## Communication

Pat Moore and James Hailes (communication team) have been discussing how best to keep in touch with members. Paper newsletters aren't environmentally friendly. They're also time consuming and costly in terms of production and delivery so going digital makes more sense. We already have an active Facebook group with 67 members [www.facebook.com/groups/royaleduntoncourt](http://www.facebook.com/groups/royaleduntoncourt) - and we're in the process of setting up a website. However, all these things take time so in the meantime we're posting this paper newsletter through everyone's door. Once our website is up and running you'll be able to see all the news there. However, we can maintain a paper newsletter for those unable to use the web.

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