

Highams Park Community Plan – Ideas List

Street Scene & Crime Prevention (SSC)

Description	Comments
STREET SCENE	
Style, Signage & Notice Boards	
Create a village feel	A high street people are proud to shop in. Debate what aspects contribute to a village feel. Perhaps agree a “style guide” for all aspects of Highams Park’s streets and street furniture
Welcome to Highams Park sign(s)	To identify the area as visitors arrive. Competition for schools to get involved in the area. Character Village Sign?
Signposts in and around Highams Park directing to features	E.g. to lake, parks, green area, signal box, library, and “Millennium Walk” etc. [Clarification needed: What is Millennium Walk ?] Consider measures like tailored signposts (To Lake etc..) to build on image. Consistency in style of signage and street furniture to reflect the leafy nature.
Better signage TO Highams Park	Positioned outside the area
Repaint the metal street name signs	Perhaps council would approve volunteers to do this (with council supplied materials)
A new notice board	Suggest positioned on Signal Box base for people waiting at level crossing.
Character lamp posts	Like Loughton and South Woodford. But need to be conscious of adequate illumination for crime prevention.
More hanging baskets	Both winter and summer
Acquire and collate statistics on funding allocated to street scene for each LBWF ward.	Consider using Freedom of Information Request
Ensure big clock is accurate	The Millennium clock recently showed the wrong time for many days. How can we ensure this doesn’t happen again?
Town square outside station	
Structural Maintenance	

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Fix existing problems with uneven pavements (often caused by tree roots)	Need to catalogue problem areas and initiate repairs. Notable Falmouth Ave, Castle Ave, Falmouth Ave. “Handsworth is dangerous”. Larkshall Road section uneven beside forest and no lights and no crossing
Ensure future problems with pavements are quickly identified and corrected	Clarify the process for ongoing monitoring and prompt rectification.
Remove moss, grass & chewing gum from pavement	
Roadside railings adjacent to the tanning shop should be addressed	
Repainting of station railings (in The Avenue)	
Problem with blocked street drains	Specifically lower part Castle Ave & The Avenue. Failure to sweeps gutters of leaves clogs the drains leading to flooding in the shops.
Make bottom of The Avenue more pedestrian & child friendly	
Green Patches	
Green space next to the station on the north side of the platform very neglected	Need to identify the owner of the land.
Tidy up the beds outside the doctors’ surgery	Ascham Homes is going to re-model the gardens
Tidy up the beds outside Hale End Library	Volunteers
Replace dead & dying street trees	Lobby Council
Obstructions on Pavements	
Stop cars parking illegally on pavements	Parking enforcement/controls need to be improved This occurs in Winchester Rd and elsewhere.
Prevent cars driving (illegally) across pavements to park (legally) on shop premises	At station end of Winchester Road some shops have forecourts on which cars regularly park. Although it is legal to park on the forecourt, it is not legal to cross the pavement to get to them unless there’s a drop curb.

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	Bollards will be placed by the council aware. It was suggested the voucher parking scheme had contributed to this.
Problems with large commercial wheely bins (dumpsters) on pavements	There should be an allocated time to put out rubbish in the Borough so it is collected at that time
Problems with bin bags in street (from retail & flats above)	There should be an allocated time to put out rubbish in the Borough so it is collected at that time
Improve street cleanliness	
Shopkeepers must be more accountable, cleaning outside their premises, removing graffiti etc	And should be heavily fined. Use the principle of “Polluter Pays” to find solutions
Better street cleaning with brooms not just litter picking as done by the Council, and include sweeping tree bases. Some areas worse than others,	Areas particularly highlighted by respondents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas outside of the station and shops. • Selwyn Avenue, Winchester Road and junction between them • Handsworth Avenue • Front of station area
Less litter	How can we reduce the amount that is dropped and if it is dropped then how to ensure it is picked up quickly?
Examine possible cost <u>saving</u> effect associated with better street cleaning	Can possibly show that extra attention to cleaning saves money overall by less litter dropped, less graffiti, less ASB. Self perpetuating. “Cleaner streets lead to a reduction in crime and a lower perception of crime”
More bins for litter and dog poo	
Problem with litter bins full and overflowing	Monitor and empty as necessary. Usage could be irregular.
Annual deep clean and maintenance involving council and volunteers on multiple fronts	Synchronized work creates a bigger impact. Involve the schools. Use Capital Clean Up Funding grant to fund volunteer litter teams in hotspots. Take before and after

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	pictures to show residents what has been achieved.
Resident input into street cleaning specifications agreed with contractors	Get a good understanding of the existing contract. Are there deficiencies in the specification or in contractors adherence to it? Eg. Litter picking schedule, sweeping schedule, deep clean schedule.
Get an input from the new company who is cleaning	Is it Balfour Beatty? What practical problems do they experience? What can be done to assist?
Control dog mess (& Dangerous dogs) – worse in certain areas	Encourage reporting of offenders on LBWF website. Dog owners should be made more accountable for their dogs if they mess, children could design a poster and get involved to shock their parents into not allowing dogs to foul, perhaps we could start a certificate scheme, speak to dog squad at Council and ask them to get more involved. Organize a blitz. Make it socially unacceptable not to pick up after your dog and we want to investigate using the stencil's more across Higham's Park. We want dog owner's to get a certificate saying that they clean up after their dogs and we want to name and shame people that don't. Leaflets on trees.
CRIME PREVENTION	
Policing	
Work closer with Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs)	Work on ways for people to prevent crime and make life safer. Follow up calls for victims.
Police input on perceived problems to determine if perception matches reality (e.g. drug dealing)	
Police input on how to deal with real issues and also how to deal with perceptions	Need tactical (now) and strategic (18 months) approach
More officers (NOT PCSOs)	

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More on foot patrols	1 comment: IMO they are far too friendly with the youngsters so how can they express their authority on “their friends” – We need to feel safe when out and about and not having to look over our shoulders
Single patrolling in daylight hours	
More police at the time they are needed to patrol i.e. school entry and leaving, pubs closing and times of trouble rather than patrolling at any time	
HP School staff on patrol at school exit time	To monitor behaviour of some of the pupils/students (Old people feel intimidated)
Improve response times	
Local police office (e.g. in empty shop)	
More charges, less cautions	
Police, if involved in burglary, could issue new locks.	
Problem locations	
Tackle the abuse of Larkwood – people lighting campfires and setting off fireworks, riding motorbikes and churning up the playing fields	
Y12 students at Highams Park School have said that they feel there should be a bigger police presence in the park area to make it safe for the teenagers at night	
Lots of tramps/drunks/care in the community around the new Tesco’s at night – not nice and scary when alone	
Drugs	
Clamp down on drugs, before it gets out of hand	Is there actually evidence that there is a problem? One respondent quotes: “Constant drug dealers in Beech Hall (near cinema) and

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	Handsworth Ave (mainly due to the County)"
Help for people with drug & alcohol problems	Especially help for young people
Specific initiatives	
Better CCTV	
Neighbourhood watch scheme or similar	
Shop watch scheme	
Create Community Safety Team	Not the same as SNT. Partnership between LWBF and police.
Check street lighting levels	Good lighting makes people feel safe. One respondent highlights area in Larkshall Road near Larkswood.
Graffiti & Fly posting : Introduce a system where we could report envirocrime and be given a special reference	Perhaps this could go online so progress could be monitored? We could have a town co-ordinator to follow this?