

## Welcome

It's been another very busy year in Kings Hill with much of our time spent ensuring our plans for the new neighbourhood and park are absolutely right for the whole community. To this end we held a public consultation to hear your views on what you would like to see in the new park and you made some excellent suggestions. I am very pleased to say that we have used that feedback to refine the detailed planning application that has now been submitted. There is an update on the new residential neighbourhood in this newsletter. There's also news of more companies joining us in the business park and I am delighted to see how community-minded the people of Kings Hill are, as shown in the brief roundup of some recent events.

Merry Christmas to you all and let us look forward to a healthy and successful new year!

### Andrew Blevins

Managing Director, Liberty Property Trust UK



# Christmas at Kings Hill

The Kings Hill Carol Concert got the festive season off to a rousing start with people congregating around the 22-foot Christmas tree to sing carols and watch performances by pupils from the three schools in our community.

Children brought along homemade lanterns and the community helped decorate the tree.

People were very generous in donating bedding for the Pilsdon Community, a charity offering a refuge to people in crisis, and toys for the Salvation Army Christmas Present Appeal.



Singers enjoying the carol concert

The Christingle Service was very well attended and still to come is the Scratch Nativity and Christmas Crafts event, which will take place at the Discovery School on Christmas Eve at 4pm.

On Christmas Day, All-Age Communion will be held at the Discovery School at 10am and the Christian Fellowship is holding All-Age Worship in the Community Centre at 10.30am.



The Running Airman sculpture

## Kings Hill remembers

More than 400 people attended the Remembrance Sunday service and commemorations began with the Cubs, Scouts and the Girls' Brigade leading a parade through Liberty Square to the Running Airman sculpture where the service took place.

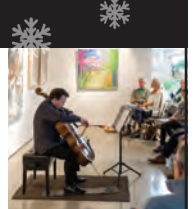
As a mark of remembrance the Control Tower was adorned with a six-foot poppy which Liberty purchased from the Royal British Legion.

The refurbishment of the memorial stones around the Running Airman, which Liberty has been undertaking for the past few months, received the seal of approval from War Memorials Trust representative Terry Giles. He said he was impressed with the way the work had been carried out and that "the polished granite looks as new and the gilding has brought the memorial slabs back to life."

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# Kings Hill the continuing story



Many of you will have been wondering about the new residential neighbourhood at Kings Hill...

As a 'landscape first' developer, central to our plans is the new public park and earlier this year we held a public consultation to find out your views and thoughts on this.

There were some great suggestions, for which we are extremely grateful. Many have been incorporated into the final plans. A brief snapshot of our proposals, which have now been submitted to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council (TMBC) can be seen below. We hope to receive final consent in February with a view to starting work soon afterwards. For full details, see the TMBC planning portal, ref 16/03235/RM, or visit [www.kings-hill.com/future-plans/new-public-park-plans](http://www.kings-hill.com/future-plans/new-public-park-plans).

As Kings Hill is one of the highest points in Kent, the new park is intended to be 'a celebration of the big skies of Kent' but as yet it has no name, so if you would like to suggest one please email your ideas to [wsmitherman@libertyproperty.com](mailto:wsmitherman@libertyproperty.com).



Possible 'sky mirror' - inspired sculpture

## The park

Stretching west to east from Tower View to Beacon Avenue, the park is orientated to take advantage of the sun at all times of the day. It will have distinct areas – Sunrise and Sunset gateways, play areas, a central water feature and mound and formal and informal areas linked by footpaths and cycleways.

## Sunset Gateway:

- entrance gates from Tower View
- formal avenue of trees providing a link to the village centre
- piazza with feature sculpture
- adjacent informal car park

## Central water feature and mound:

- large sculpted mound
- possible sky mirror sculpture at top to reflect sky
- west facing grass-sculpted amphitheatre overlooking water feature

- possibility of a floating stage for occasional small concerts or plays
- shallow water feature with filtering reed beds and planting to encourage wildlife
- access to the Pickett-Hamilton fort with heritage interpretation board
- slopes planted with wild flowers

## Play areas:

- designed to form part of the landscape
- two areas – one for younger and one for older children
- surrounded by native hedge planting
- natural play equipment encouraging a range of play experiences



Grass-sculpted amphitheatre

## Illustrative plan of the new park







Illustrative plan of the new residential neighbourhood

### Sunrise Gateway:

- entrance gates to the park from Beacon Avenue
- informal area of open space for casual play and leisure
- roundabout with radiating stones in the shape of a propeller; public artwork at its centre

### Landscaping:

- water feature with aquatic plants to provide ecological habitat to attract wildlife
- grass mound and roundabout at Sunrise Gateway planted with wild flowers
- Acers and flowering Cherries planted on grass mound
- Silver Birch and Sorbus around play areas
- Alder and River Birch around the lake
- Tilia and Redwood in the parkland

- Tilia and Oak in the formal area by the Sunset Gateway
- shrubs and feature plants throughout

### Roads

The park will be set within the new residential neighbourhood and accessed by two new roads – one to the north and one to the south – linking the roundabout on Tower View and the roundabout on Beacon Avenue, forming an elliptical shape.



Natural play equipment

Illustrative plan of play area





## New companies

It's always a pleasure to welcome new businesses to Kings Hill and this year we have been joined by six. They include automotive industry data provider Carweb – part of US giant Solera – which has moved to carry out its plans to double in size; A-One+, a consortium of Costain, Colas and Halcrow, which is administering a government funded road contract; household names AXA and The Salvation Army; specialist insurer InEvexco and Mortgages for Business.

"These are all well established companies and organisations bringing jobs into Kings Hill and we are delighted they have decided to join us," said Andrew Blevins.



## New homes

Work is progressing well on Aquinna House on the corner of Alexander Grove, a development of 14 high-specification apartments. They will be ready for occupation from autumn 2017 and are available to reserve now.

Details on [www.aquinnahomes.com/developments/id\\_48/page\\_4/](http://www.aquinnahomes.com/developments/id_48/page_4/).

### Office/Retail enquiries:

Caroline Binns  
Associate Director, Marketing & Leasing

t: 01732 870375  
e: [cbinns@libertyproperty.com](mailto:cbinns@libertyproperty.com)

Liberty Property Trust UK  
The Control Tower  
29 Liberty Square  
Kings Hill, West Malling  
Kent ME19 4RG

### Commercial Property Management Helpdesk:

t: 01732 223420

### Homes for sale:

Aquinna Homes: 01494 739400

[www.kings-hill.com](http://www.kings-hill.com)

# Control Tower concert

For the first time the Control Tower was the venue for live music when virtuoso cellist Richard Harwood gave a solo recital of works by leading film composers as part of Music@Malling.

"We were delighted to sponsor the Control Tower's first live musical event for which there was standing room only," said Caroline Binns. "We are currently working with members of the community and art experts to explore other ways in which this shared community space might be used and are hoping to appoint a gallery co-ordinator in due course."



Richard Harwood performing in the Control Tower

• A new exhibition has just gone on show in the gallery space at the Control Tower which includes sculpture by acclaimed New York based Richard Baronio, digital and mixed media work by

Antonios Georgikias, photos by well-regarded German photographer Klaudia Dietewich and paintings by up and coming artists Gemma Blain, Denise Harrison and Ellen Balcomb.

## Gold for landscape

The 38,000 hours spent by the landscaping team and community volunteers paid off in spades this year when Kings Hill was awarded gold and silver gilt medals in the South & South East in Bloom competition.

Gold was given in the 'Business Landscape of the Year' category and silver gilt in 'Village/Town/City Centre'. The judges, who included TV gardener Jim Buttriss, commented on the variety of planting and the emphasis on conservation.



Judges admiring the winning landscape

This year 11,000 shrubs, 6,550 spring bulbs and 135 trees were planted as well as swathes of wild flowers.

...In February look out for the carpet of purple crocuses, which has been planted around the silver

ball sculpture as part of the Rotary Club's 'Purple4Polio' campaign, which aims to totally eradicate the terrible disease. Purple has been chosen as it is the colour of the dye put on children's hands when they are vaccinated.

The maintenance and quality of Kings Hill's residential neighbourhoods is the responsibility of the Kings Hill Residential Estate Management Company (KHREMC) which is a not-for-profit company.

It is run by Liberty but has two residents as directors, John West ([john@westjj.net](mailto:john@westjj.net)) and newly-appointed Deborah Petty ([deb@khremc.com](mailto:deb@khremc.com)).

Kings Hill Residential Estate Management Company Ltd can be contacted on 01732 870375 or [kingshillresidential@libertyproperty.com](mailto:kingshillresidential@libertyproperty.com).

Kings Hill Estate Management Company Ltd, which is also a not-for-profit entity, looks after the commercial business park within Kings Hill.

## Log on for latest news

Our website [www.kings-hill.com](http://www.kings-hill.com) has information on all aspects of the development – maps; the masterplan showing the scale of the development; latest news; links to the Kings Hill amenities such as shops, restaurants, surgery etc; public transport timetables and information on matters that affect those living and working at Kings Hill.

### Road Closure 25 December 2016

Kings Hill Estate Management Company is required to close Kings Hill Avenue and Tower View for a 24 hour period from midnight on Christmas Eve to midnight Christmas Day to maintain the private status of the roads. Access to the residential development will be fully available via Gibson Drive. Visit [www.kings-hill.com](http://www.kings-hill.com) for more information.

