

Welcome

I am delighted to report that Liberty and KCC, together with our cultural partners Turner Contemporary and the University of the Creative Arts, have appointed Yinka Ilori, MBE, as Artist in Residence for the new public park public art commission. Yinka will be looking to engage with the Kings Hill community soon to help him develop his concept. Turmeric Square has recently opened in Liberty Square and is already generating excellent feedback from those of you who have tried their takeaway service. Orbit Homes has chosen the business park for its new office hub and our property management team continues to maintain the offices ready for when more of us are able to return to work. The housing offer in Kings Hill is soon to become wider as Anchor Hanover begins registering interest in its supported living scheme, The Landings. Finally, some of our own Easter bunnies who took part in the treasure hunt on the Hill, as our community celebrated lockdown liberation at the start of the month.



Andrew Blevins

UK Managing Director, Liberty Property Trust

Yinka Ilori, MBE appointed Artist in Residence in Kings Hill

As reported in the last issue, Liberty Property Trust and Kent County Council (KCC) have formed a new cultural partnership with Turner Contemporary and the University for the Creative Arts (UCA), for Kings Hill.

Turner and UCA are working in partnership to deliver a public art commission for the new Kings Hill park, along with an exhibition. They have recently appointed London-based multidisciplinary artist Yinka Ilori, MBE, as Artist in Residence in Kings Hill.

Over the course of this year, Yinka will work with Turner’s programming team, students from UCA and the Kings Hill community to create a public artwork for the park.

This commission comes in the wake of the Covid-19 Pandemic which has highlighted the extraordinary opportunities provided by open green spaces. Traditionally, parks have been venues for social interactions, community meetings and



Dulwich Picture Gallery, Colour Palace by Yinka Ilori, 2019

moments of joy and play. Kings Hill will see Yinka use the park to design and realise a public art commission that reimagines open space use for the future.

Andrew Blevins, Managing Director, Liberty Property Trust said:

“We were drawn to Yinka’s energy and enthusiasm for the commission and the fact he is an emerging artist, brimming with ideas that will bring colour and fun to the park.”

Yinka specialises in storytelling by fusing his British and Nigerian heritage to communicate new narratives in contemporary design. He began his practice in 2011 up-cycling vintage furniture, inspired by the traditional Nigerian parables and West African fabrics that surrounded him as a child. For Kings Hill, Yinka’s initial proposal weaves the history of apples throughout the park.

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Yinka Ilori MBE, artist in residence in Kings Hill

Commenting on his appointment, Yinka Ilori said:

“Visiting the site in Kings Hill was a breath of fresh air; standing on top of the amphitheatre and looking out at the whole of Kent was magical. I was drawn to this project and the site in Kings Hill because it’s full of history. I want to explore how we remember and celebrate that history and bring a new story that’s relevant to now and the people that live and work there! This is my first experience as an artist in residence, and it’s super exciting to be able to connect with new people and new ideas. I am looking forward to learning new things, understanding new cultures and ways of thinking. With the commission as a focal point, I’m really excited for people from further afield to come to know Kent for the beautiful place that it is.”

For the full press release, progress updates on the Artist in Residence commission and for opportunities for the community to participate, please visit here www.kings-hill.com/uca-turner-contemporary-public-art/

Orbit takes post pandemic space in Kings Hill

One of the country’s largest housing associations has chosen the greater accessibility and improved environment that Kings Hill offers to launch its new office hub concept for agile working.

Orbit Group, which employs 1,200 people nationwide, has leased 2,740 sq ft of flexible working space in the prominent 11 Tower View building for its 80-strong team in the south east.

Andrew Berry, Orbit’s Acquisition and Disposal Manager, said: “We have a longstanding policy of promoting agile working which has proved both popular and effective. Kings Hill will be the first in a new network of regional hubs that will allow our employees to work remotely while also having access to high quality local offices when needed.

“We were attracted to Kings Hill by its excellent transport links, its many amenities, the care that has gone into its development and the standard of office accommodation available.

“The offices have been fitted out to our own specification to provide conference facilities, meeting rooms and flexible workspace. Moving here will benefit both our staff and our clients.”



11 Tower View – Orbit’s new hub

Founded in 1967 and headquartered in Coventry, Orbit provides affordable housing to around 45,000 households in England, mainly in the Midlands, East Anglia, London and the South East. It is ranked by the Sunday Times as one of the top 100 companies to work for in the UK. It is a commercial organisation with a strong social purpose that reinvests its profits to improve the quality of its homes and services.

Caroline Binns of Kings Hill developer Liberty Property Trust said: “2021 will no doubt see an adjustment to working life and workplace strategies due to the pandemic with more organisations moving permanently to the type of

flexible working embraced by Orbit. We are perfectly placed to provide solutions for businesses and offer the benefits of a low-rise office environment and generous parking ratios.

“In addition, 40% of the land in Kings Hill has been left undeveloped, providing open, green space – perfect for lunchtime exercise. Kings Hill is the place to build your business.”

Kings Hill has a range of office solutions for organisations of all sizes. Hanover Green, Altus Group and Knight Frank act for the landlord and can be contacted to arrange to view the options. For details www.kings-hill.com/office-space-to-let/

All in a day’s work for Kings Hill Property Management

The property management team is dedicated to maintaining the business park offices ready for employees keen to return after lockdown. The image (right) shows a crane lifting a new chiller unit into place, which is all in a day’s work for the team and its contractors. Drone footage is available to view at player.vimeo.com/video/526918273



30 Tower View - new chiller crane lift

The Landings supported living - Anchor Hanover ready to register interest

Opening in 2022 and comprising 75 luxury one and two-bedroom apartments, The Landings is housing for the over-55's redesigned.

The independent retirement living development by Anchor Hanover is progressing well and is now at the half-way stage. In the coming months, external works will be topping out before internal works begin.

The fully furnished, one and two bedroom show suites will be completed in Autumn 2021, where visitors can undertake a private tour. Technology within the show suite will also enable visitors to virtually view any apartment, which will help people select one early, to avoid missing out.

As England's largest not-for-



Anchor Hanover, The Landings, CGI

profit provider of housing and care for later life and the over 55's, Anchor brings a wealth of experience in this sector to Kings Hill.

From the luxurious apartments through to the first-class facilities, every feature has been designed to meet the

specific needs of older people.

For priority access to the show suite launch, the price list and to be eligible for the exclusive reservation windows before the general public - please register your details at www.the-landings.org.uk

AXA recommitments to Kings Hill

Global insurance provider AXA has completed a new office lease in Kings Hill.

The company, which has been a tenant since 2016, has recommitted to 1,581 sq ft in 35 Kings Hill Avenue, following a review of its property portfolio.

Jon Rea-Palmer of Lambert Smith Hampton, acting for AXA UK, said: "AXA undertook a review of its property requirements last year. A number of alternatives were considered but the business opted to remain in Kings Hill.

"The prime location, contemporary specification and the landlord's willingness to work with AXA to offer the flexibility we required to renew our lease, swung the deal."

The lease is the third to have been signed for commercial space in Kings Hill since the start of the year.



35 Kings Hill Avenue – AXA's offices

Caroline Binns of Kings Hill developer Liberty Property Trust said: "We are delighted that AXA has chosen to stay in Kings Hill and remain part of the established business community here.

"Good transport links and quality accommodation have always been important in attracting tenants to Kings Hill, while the pandemic has

really underlined the value of being based in low-rise offices set in an attractive environment with lots of open space and parking."

To view the wide range of office accommodation available in Kings Hill for organisations of all sizes, visit www.kings-hill.com/office-space-to-let/



Foodbank anniversary

St Gabriel's Church foodbank celebrated its one year anniversary in March and is still supporting Kings Hill residents. Founder of the St Gabriel's Foodbank, Rev Mark Montgomery, said: "Over the past year, with support of the public and some companies, we have provided nearly 5,500 meals, 60+ Christmas Hampers and 45+ Easter Boxes. We have met people in their most difficult time of need, supported them through lock down and beyond, heard stories of heartache and pain turn into ones of joy, helped people in one off emergencies, regularly for periods of time and offered ongoing support. It has been wonderful to see the community pulling together to deliver this life line service." For more information, please visit www.kingshillchurch.org.uk/food-parcels/

Easter Treasure Hunt on The Hill

Lindsay Buck, Treasure Hunt on The Hill organiser, provided these images of some of our own Easter bunnies who took part.



Sophie



Lola & Lily



Rosie-May, Summer & Poppy



Martha & Ellen

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International Make Music Day – 21st June 2021

One of our residents made us aware of this event, which happens to coincide with a scheduled Government update on the pandemic roadmap and a longed for confirmation that all limits will be lifted.

The image of the community emerging and making music in the park spontaneously, is a lovely one. It is understood that this 'Day' is a movement and there will not be any entity organising it for Kings Hill, no stewards, no facilities – just an unplugged, spontaneous making of music by anybody who turns up anywhere.

It is anticipated that the musicians in the Kings Hill community may choose to join in, which would be wonderful and that the new public park and its



Source: Gallery - Makemusicday.co.uk

amphitheatre are likely to form a natural epicentre for the informal event.

Kings Hill Residential Estate Management Company Ltd maintains the park and is funded by residents who are members of the company by way of an annual estate charge payment. It is out of those funds that any litter clearance, repair and maintenance to the park

required afterwards would be paid.

KCC, as land owner, has public liability insurance with regard to use of the park by the general public. Therefore, all participants are welcome to take part as they see fit but must have regard to prevailing Government guidelines for informal social gatherings outside and at their own risk.

Gold standard cuisine comes to Liberty Square

Award-winning Indian and Bangladeshi cuisine is now on the menu for people living and working in Kings Hill.

Turmeric Square is open for takeaways and when able to fully open will have seating for 140 diners.

The restaurant is the fourth outlet of a family business that already runs Turmeric Gold in Tudeley, Cinnamon Square in Hildenborough and Happy Cuisine in Tonbridge.

Kamrul Islam, who runs the restaurants with his six brothers, said:

“We have always thought Kings Hill would be the perfect place for our next venture as we have a large customer base travelling from West Malling and surrounding areas to our current restaurants.



The continued loyalty of our customers means we have experienced high demand during lockdown, and we felt now was the right time to invest in new premises. Liberty Square is an attractive location and we are looking forward to providing diners with our award-winning service and food. Our father was a chef and our restaurants are inspired by his drive and determination. It is very important to us to mark

his legacy by maintaining his high standards and growing a successful family business.”

The brothers have a policy of supporting local businesses and using Kent suppliers wherever possible, including for poultry and vegetables.

Turmeric Square will initially be open from 5pm to 10pm, with longer evening hours and lunchtimes once eat-in dining is allowed. The menu features a range of chef's specialities – including popular dishes such as Rajasthani lamb chops and Xa-Cuti, a fusion of Goan and Kashmiri cuisine – as well as a wide selection of vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options.

For further details, visit www.turmericsquare.com, www.kings-hill.com/eating-out/ or call 01732 521777.

The maintenance and quality of most 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 managed on a day-to-day basis by Liberty and has two residents as directors, John West (john@westjj.net) and Deborah Petty (deb@khremc.com).

Kings Hill Residential Estate Management Company Ltd can be contacted on 01732 870375 or kingshillresidential@prologis.com.

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