

## Windmill Estate Maintenance Company

The demographic of **Windmill Estate** is made up of varying ages and family dynamics and yet has proved to be a very cohesive and supportive community, particularly in recent times. We are pleased that within our estate are residents who moved in during the late 60s and early 70s and also their offspring who have returned to bring up their own families here. Occasionally residents move to other properties within the estate and others encourage a family member to purchase a home here – what better reference could there be?

During covid, the spirit that prevailed proved heartwarming .. starting with the Thursday 8 o'clock clap/shout/sing/dance for the NHS in the early days, the One Can Trust collections and the Widmer End Neighbours Support Group who organised all the volunteers kindly offering their time to help. In May our homes were brilliantly decorated for VE Day celebrations and street parties took place in the sun, followed during the summer by the Scarecrow Festival. Many thanks to all involved for making this possible.

The arrangements for the Christmas light-up had us all making more of an effort and many spent that early evening checking out the competition around our Estate. Arrangements for "Carols on the Doorstep" and the wonderful imaginative snowmen helped enormously to uplift our spirits. Trails were laid for the children in Widmer Fields, also the Monster Zoo and improvements to our park were a bonus for the youngsters. Perhaps we've made new friends, helped or been helped by our neighbours and felt more appreciative of our environment and if so, at least there are some positives to be had during these trying times.

As for your Maintenance Committee, we had to cancel the AGM in October 2020 and our monthly “meetings” were via email, but our annual July 2020 walkabout was able to go ahead and works/tree surgery have been carried out alongside the grass cutting, weed-killing etc. in order to maintain the high standard of our Estate. Hopefully the AGM in October can go ahead and any resident interested in joining us on the Committee would be very welcome.

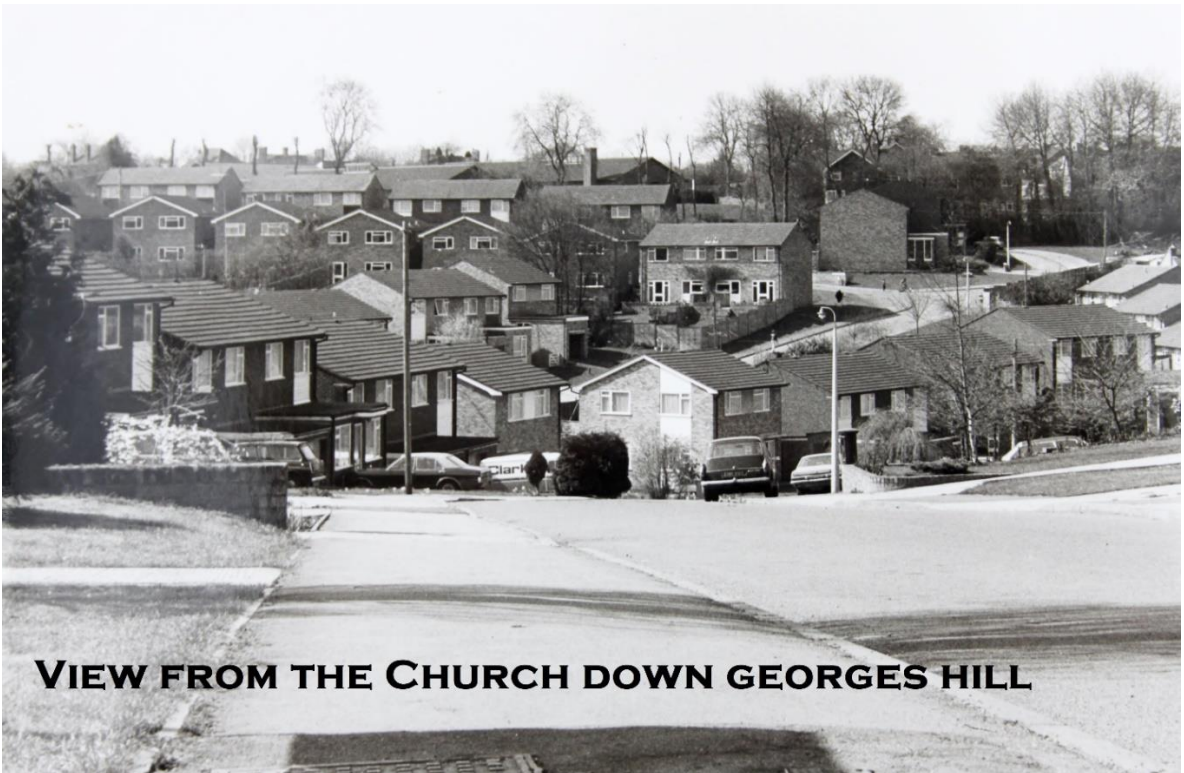
We were lucky enough to be entrusted some early photos and info of our estate in the 70's from Arthur Eldridge, one of our original residents always involved in WEMC and the council, and we shall put these on our Facebook page. Those of us who've watched the Estate evolve may remember the telephone box and the parking area to the side of the shops which was lost when 4 houses were built, around 2000 we believe. So here's a trip down memory lane from the mid 70s and some photographs you might like ...

### **Widmer End Shops circa 1977**

**Telephone Box in front of (l to r) Aerial shop, hairdressers, Spar groceries and newsagent**



## **View into Campion Road during the 70s**



## **VIEW FROM THE CHURCH DOWN GEORGES HILL**

Every picture tells a story and whilst our Estate was built with adequate parking for car ownership at the time, nowadays with multiple car households and vehicles too large to fit the garages, we share the same annoying problem as estates all around the country – even new builds – so **please park considerably** to minimise this current headache and avoid disputes.

Thank you - Your Committee