



MAINTAINING CIVILITY AMID CONFLICTING IDEAS

Recently there has been a series of issues regarding the use of common areas. We as a board feel that it is a good time to discuss communal living and addressing discord.

One of the important foundations of peaceful communal living is respect for each other. We all live in a shared space and it's important to remember that it is shared - it does not belong to any one of us individually but collectively as a whole. It is easy to forget this, especially when we all feel passionately about this space, our Village Green.

When there are disagreements, this is the time to engage in civil discourse. This discourse can involve:

- Owners' comments during our monthly board meeting
- Writing a letter to the board
- Being involved in one of the 8 VG committees (i.e. Landscaping, Court Council, Communications, etc.)
- Letters to "Highlights"

These are but some of the ways that owners can let their voices be heard. While engaging in the above is not a guarantee of success, it is the best way to bring issues forward to share with the community and the board. Defacing VG property, name calling at board meetings, angry rants on social media – these are not what any of us would call civil discourse.

There are times when owners are upset about decisions the board makes, which is understandable. As board members, we are elected to represent the whole: do the best we can to consider owners desires while weighing any legal ramifications and what is best for the community. This is a delicate balance. When something does not go the way an individual or group wishes it to go, we ask that owners respect these decisions once they have been made.

Something you can do proactively is get involved! Join a committee, run for the board if you are unhappy or disagree with decisions being made. We all want the best for Village Green, our incredible shared space!