

# Bownham Park Rodborough Residents' Association Ltd

## Newsletter March 2022

Dear Residents,

In comparison to the lashing storms that caused heavy snow falls, flooding and power loss this winter in many parts of the country we have been quite fortunate here in Bownham Park and the recent delightfully sunny and warm spring weather has been a real joy. As proposed at the AGM we arranged for additional road sweeping this year to clear the leaves so, a big "Thank You" to those volunteers who raked the leaves off the verges prior to the sweep. We also employed the contractor for an extra day to have all of the road gully drains cleared of silt and debris. The 'salt store' near the main entrance has also been completely rebuilt and will now last well into the future. Thanks to Warren Richards, our Treasurer, the Accounts are in good order. He will soon be sending out the invoices for the annual Maintenance Fee, which, despite inflation, remains the same as previous years and covers all regular expenditure as well as building a reserve fund for future road resurfacing costs.

Graham Hopkins – Chairman BPRRAL

### **1. Upgrade of all Bownham Park gas pipes from metal to plastic**

Residents of Bownham Park previously received letters from Wales & West Utilities indicating that the "second phase" had been postponed due to unforeseen engineering difficulties. During meetings they indicated there would be a four year delay; obviously that was unacceptable and we made that clear to them. As a result they have rescheduled to return in May this year to complete the works. Confirmation letters were sent out to residents and some site visits have taken place. Their Customer Service Team can be contacted on 0800 912 2999 or by emailing [enquiries@wwutilities.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@wwutilities.co.uk). We will forward any general information as it becomes available and will be co-ordinating with the Contractor on any work that affects the actual roads. However, residents are reminded that they must ensure that they are satisfied with any work done by the Contractor on their own land and property.

### **2. Any Other Business – (from the recent Council Meeting)**

There were no Neighbourhood Watch issues reported but notices were sent out where necessary. Our new volunteer for this role is Claire Moine at No 75.

An estimate to install fibre broadband for all of Bownham Park equated approximately to £3,300 per property which seems unlikely to proceed. The alternative of individual "satellite" connection may be an option and will be discussed again.

As always, road safety was discussed particularly because of the increase in traffic from supermarket and on-line delivery vehicles. The options of temporary hire or long term purchase of suitable vehicle actuated speed signs is being seriously investigated as the most acceptable course of action.

All residents are reminded that hedges need to be cut back and not overhang the road. Please remember that the concrete edging, called the "haunch", is in fact part of the road and therefore hedges must be within the boundary of the property and not overhanging the "haunch".

The Annual General Meeting, which was traditionally held at the end of June, was delayed until mid-October during covid lockdown. As the attendance was very good last year it has been decided to hold the AGM at a similar time this year.

The next Council Meeting is on 12<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm and any comments, thoughts and ideas are most welcome, as always.

Dave Kilmister – Secretary BPRRAL