

Bownham Park Rodborough Residents' Association Ltd

Newsletter May 2020

Dear Residents,

Firstly a big “thank you” to Sally Davies (No 23) and Franceska Waggett (No 63) for seizing the initiative in mid-March to co-ordinate volunteers to act as a point of contact and provide help and support to the 3-4 households allocated to them. Also, on behalf of the residents, many thanks to those volunteers whose help is very much appreciated. Please see notes below from Sally and Franceska.

Graham Hopkins Chairman BPRRAL Council

1. Coronavirus Volunteer Support Group

The Support Group has been set up to make sure that everyone has someone to talk to, no-one is left out and everyone has someone to turn to if they had a problem or needs help, or even if they just want to have a chat and socialise on the phone. Lending out battery chargers, tools, sharing food items has so far been typical. Very importantly, the volunteers provide help with shopping for people in the vulnerable/shielding categories. Also, as far as prescriptions, Franceska has been collecting prescriptions for several houses around the estate particularly repeat prescriptions from Boots in Minch and she has often been able to collect several together. She is happy for anyone to contact her directly by phone on 873304 or by email waggett@gmail.com. If you need information both Franceska and Sally (tel 872729) have the volunteer list for The Park and Dave Kilmister (tel 872118) is now kindly providing liaison with other local groups.

2. Financial Year End

The Financial Year ended on 31st March 2020 and our Treasurer, Warren Richards, has been busy preparing the year end accounts. Preliminary results reflect the expense of the drain and soakaway repairs plus general estate maintenance but despite that our financial reserves increased by over £3k to just under £40k. Warren reports that invoices for this year's Maintenance Fee of £220 have been sent out and so far 42 out of the 72 properties have paid. We trust that this reminder will encourage the rest to make their payment.

3. Annual General Meeting

Arrangements had been made to hold the AGM at The Bear Hotel in June as usual but this has now been postponed until September. This will be reviewed early August and if restrictions are still in force regarding meetings we will consider alternative methods whereby residents can voice their opinions and vote on the various issues that arise at the AGM. For example, we are delighted to report that Barbara Harkiss (No 22) and Andy Lever (No 18) have volunteered as Council Members and Dave Kilmister (No 46) as Secretary.

4. Coronavirus

Regrettably, it seems likely that annual barbeque, organised by Sally and her team in July, will not be able to take place but perhaps later in the year some kind of event may be possible. In the meantime we do request that all residents continue to provide assistance where required and to be extra considerate during these difficult times. Remember our speed limit of 20 mph, follow Stroud District Council's request not to light bonfires, and please do not hesitate with coming forward with any constructive suggestions.

Martin Clements
Secretary BPRRAL
May 2020