

BOWNHAM PARK RODBOROUGH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION LTD.
NEWSLETTER – 'SUMMER' 2008.

1 Annual General meeting at The Bear of Rodborough.

i) National Trust Deed re-Access

The Secretary stated that several other owners had signed their formal deed of access with the National Trust in the past year. Over 90% of households had now obtained this deed but as had been stated previously any further applications will incur a charge from the Associations solicitor. He reiterated that the deed would remove any difficulty a future purchaser's solicitor might have regarding access to the property from the public highway.

ii) Planning applications

The Committee have lodged objections to certain planning proposals only with the sole objective of retaining the ambience and character of Bownham Park and propose to continue with this approach in the future. This policy will be pursued in a reasonable manner and will not restrict owners wishing to extend their property.

iii) Road Safety

The Secretary reported that on several occasions during the year he receives calls regarding speeding traffic on the Park. He stressed that it is important that residents and their visitors adhere to the 20 mph speed limit and exercise great care in approaching corners particularly as there are now an increasing number of young children living on the Park. The 'T' junction at the top of the Park is a case in point. (Since the meeting I have seen a lady using a mobile phone whilst driving on the Park). As a result the Committee are to approach the owners of cars which have been noticed speeding on several occasions in order to draw their specific attention to our concern for road safety.

iv) Cash forecast

There was constructive discussion on the future cash position of the Association with particular reference to the future costs of re-surfacing the roadways. The Secretary had produced a simple cash forecast of the probable position in six years which had been attached to the AGM papers but this inevitably would be subject to inflation. The meeting then approved the proposal to increase the annual subscription to £155 (£150 if paid within 30 days of the invoice).

v) Election of the Council

Mr Whittaker and Mrs Hanks were re-elected to their positions of Secretary and Treasurer. Mrs Bennett, Mrs Britton, Messrs Greenwood, Eyles, Lloyd and Allen were re-elected to the Committee and Mrs Kelsey was appointed by the meeting as an additional Committee Member.

vi) Neighbourhood Watch

Issues with graffiti and other anti-social behaviour at the bottom entrance to the Park had been brought to the attention to the Police and there was an on-going consultation to resolve matters. "Bogus callers" had been present on the Park on occasion and residents were being made aware of this problem.

2. Council Meeting August 2008.

Mr Trevor Allen was re-appointed Chairman and Mr Jason Lloyd was appointed Vice Chairman of the Association. Issues arising from the AGM were discussed. Mr Lloyd reported on the consultation with the Police on the anti-social behaviour at the bottom gate. Mrs Kelsey reported on her research for the possible setting up of a Bownham Park website. The Council re-iterated its determination to bring pressure on drivers who exceeded the speed limits on the Park. A broad revue of the situation with the drains in the Park was also planned.

3. Hedges and Gardens

Owners are reminded of their obligation to ensure that all vegetation growing over the Association's roadways must be trimmed back to behind the haunching or the edge of the tarmac and also to keep their gardens reasonably tidy. This latter is obviously subject to any building work that may be proceeding.

4. General

It would be of assistance if residents could ensure that the number of their property is clearly visible from the roadway. This is for the benefit of tradesman and occasional visitors and in view of recent events, the emergency services.

It has been drawn to the attention of the Committee that building contractors are having building supplies delivered to the owner's property on occasion in excessively large vehicles which are completely unsuitable for the Association's roadways. It is the responsibility of owners who plan to develop their property to make these concerns known to their contractors before work commences. There are other Associations who we have consulted where they state payment is required when large vehicles appear on their private roads but our Association would prefer to proceed through persuasion and consultation at this time. Our roadways are not built to handle vehicles of excessive size and therefore if damage of some kind is caused the cost of the repair or excessive wear and tear falls on the general community.

David Whittaker
Secretary.