

BOWNHAM PARK RODBOROUGH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION LTD.

Newsletter Summer - 2009

1. Annual General Meeting at The Bear of Rodborough – 15th July
 - a) The meeting was attended by fewer owners than in the past three years. In the event only 24 owners attended which meant that the Association only just had the quorum necessary to proceed with the meeting and the necessary business relating thereto. It should be noted that in the future if a quorum for this meeting is not attained the Association and all the owners would be involved in extra costs relating to the re-scheduling of place and date of the re-constituted AGM.

- b) Road Re-surfacing – Cash Planning.

In respect of the issues regarding the eventual road re-surfacing the Secretary stated that after a review of our cash forecast position in 5 years time it appeared that we were still on course to accumulate 66% of the anticipated requirement for funds needed at that time. This funding target will be kept continually under review taking specific account of inflation and the cost of oil.

- c) Refurbishment of drains.

The costs relating to our drainage system have always been one of the main concerns of the Council in assessing the level of maintenance needed. We have recently had a full camera survey undertaken by 3 Counties Drain Services which confirmed that certain areas have pitch fibre pipes which will need replacing over a 5 – 10 year period. However in 2008 DEFRA announced that from April 2011 the Water Companies (Severn Trent in this area) would be compelled to take over private sewers. This proposed course of action, of course, is not yet finalised.

- d) Replacement of cattle grid.

Constant use by all vehicles inevitably causes wear and tear but heavy vehicles are a concern to the Council particularly where they can cause excessive wear not only to the cattle grids but also to the road surfaces. As a result the Council re-emphasises to owners that where building works are carried out they should wherever possible ensure that deliveries of materials are made with appropriate vehicles for the nature of our roadways. They should continue to ensure that contractors are insured to cover any damage they may cause in these areas.

e) Speeding

The result of a detailed survey circulated to residents relating to this matter was that the majority felt that no further action be taken.

The Secretary re-iterated that he would contact any resident observed and reported speeding regularly on the Park, informally in the first instance, to express the concerns of other residents on the Park particularly those with young children.

e) Subscription.

It was agreed that the annual subscription remain at £155 (£150 if paid within one month of the invoice).

f) Mrs J Kelsey

Mrs Judy Kelsey prior to her election as a Director of the Association as the AGM on 15th July had been a co-opted director for the previous 12 months and has attended each Council meeting. She has been instrumental in setting up the Associations website and creating and formalising the Bownham Park Google Group.

g) Mrs Gaby Lloyd.

Mrs Gaby Lloyd has been elected Director/Treasurer of the Association as the AGM on 15th July. The function of Treasurer is essential in any organisation and we appreciate the time and effort that she will put into her role.

GENERAL

Hedges and Gardens

Owners are reminded of their obligation to ensure that all vegetation growing over the Associations roadways must be trimmed back behind the haunching or to the edge of the tarmac where there is no haunching and to keep their gardens reasonably tidy. This latter point is obviously subject to any building work which may be progressing.

Garden Fires

Members of the Council have received complaints from residents relating to smoke etc. from fires especially when they are burning on the few pleasant sunny days or evening we have had this summer. An outdoor social event in any garden could be completely ruined and its planning and costs wasted by smoke from a garden fire. In addition fires continuing to smoulder particularly in the evening and through the night have caused health concerns for residents, particularly young children, with breathing difficulties. Your Council request residents to choose appropriate times before lighting fires and be aware of their possible nuisance factor.

Mrs Shirley Bennett & Mrs Sue Hanks – Retirement from Council

The Council would like to express its thanks and gratitude for the work and commitment made by both Mrs Shirley Bennett who was Chairman of the Association for many years in addition to being a Committee Member both prior and subsequent to that time and Mrs Sue Hanks who controlled the finances of the Association as Treasurer also for many years. We will continue to call on their experience and advice in the future.