

THE BOOKHAM BROADSHEET

The Journal of the Bookhams Residents' Association

November 2000

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Chairman's News

After all the fun of Village Day last June we seem to be entering a quieter time at the moment. Of course we are ever vigilant about any planning applications in Bookham and keep in regular contact with the Police service, but our next real challenge will be to try to bring about a brand new Medical Centre on the Dawnay School site. We can do little about preventing building on this site but we can bring pressure to bear on what is finally built there. We always bear in mind what will be most beneficial to the residents of Bookham and we feel most strongly that a new Medical Centre is of the utmost importance.

We are delighted to see that our new Notice Board by the Post Office in Church Road is so well used. The late Ben Cannon kindly made it for us and Mr Patel agreed to put it up on his wall. We are very grateful to them both.

It has occurred to me that if and when the Medical Centre at Lower Road moves to a new site, it would be a great advantage to all residents if we could have a Public Toilet built in the Lower Road car park. The High Street is always busy with shoppers and children so that a nearby Public Toilet would be an advantage. Visitors who come from afar to weddings and funeral would also

The Bookhams Residents' Association

(Founded 1926)

NOTICE OF HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETING

*Friday 17th November 2000 at 8.00pm
The Harrison Room, The Barn Hall,
Church Road, Great Bookham.*

SPEAKER

**MR ROBERTSON, Operations Director
of Surrey Waste Management**

"SURREY WASTE – ENERGY FROM WASTE OR LANDFILL"

1. Chairman's Welcome
2. Guest Speaker
3. Questions from the floor for the
BRA
4. Coffee and Biscuits

The BRA exists to maintain and improve the facilities for the community in Bookham. What are the issues you feel strongly about? Please come to the meeting and give us your support. New members are always welcome

appreciate this convenience. We have put forward our proposals and await results.

The County Council have a programme of works for road repairs subject to weather and finances. A start has been made in the Lower Road and repairs will shortly begin in other residential roads in Bookham. Our County Councillor is promoting the needs of the state of Bookham's roads as much as he can.

We are keeping informed on any developments concerning the Freight Train routing but as yet it is still only on paper and will not be put to Parliament until next Spring.

Brenda de Bruin

PLANNING SUB COMMITTEE

The pressure to build new houses on every scrap of land in the Bookhams continues to keep the Planning Sub Committee busy. Hardly a month passes by without a new application to build a house or a bungalow in a back garden or other unsuitable place. The biggest project of this kind so far has been the proposal to build 16 houses along the Leatherhead Road demolishing five existing houses. This was turned down by the Council and has gone to appeal. Now another application has come in to build 10 houses and 17 apartments on the same land! The Association will be opposing this but it is just another example of the shape of things to come.

Bob Foster

NORBURY PARK

The 526 hectares of Norbury Park represents one eighth of all Surrey County Countryside Estates, totalling 4047 hectares. Half of the area comprises three tenanted farms including Bocketts. The County Council has agreed in principle to lease Countryside Estates in its ownership (including Norbury Park) to Surrey Wildlife Trust and to establish a partnership arrangement with the Trust to manage the Estates. The aim is to combine expertise on woodland and wildlife maintenance

with wider opportunity for resource control. It is proposed that these new arrangements commence from April 2001. Under this arrangement, management would continue within the framework of the Norbury Park Strategy on which the Consultative Committee can make comment. Bookham Residents have a place on this Consultative Committee. We will continue to ensure that the facility of the Park, which, with the continued Bookham housing in-fill, provides an important recreational area for our residents. The main purpose of the Consultative Committee is to address the longer-term protection and development of the Park, but the facilities for walkers, riders, fishermen etc of today are also important to residents of Bookham.

The fencing saga continues. The impression had been given in various newspaper reports that fencing proposals related to the perimeter of Norbury Park. This is not the case. There is a budget relating to only 1000 metres of fencing which will provide for much of the approach road to Norbury Park House from Mickleham. The estate fencing here is about eighty years old and not stock-proof. There is still debate about the design of the fence, which may be arts funded.

QUIET LANES

Quiet Lanes is a national Countryside Agency initiative which is now being promoted by Surrey County Council. It is being applied to the Mole Gap area which is the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The idea is to give greater protection to the quiet character of our country lanes. The project is looking at how the character of country lanes can be preserved and if they can be made more attractive for cyclists, horse riders and walkers whilst maintaining essential access by motor vehicles for local residents, essential services and farmers. A local workshop session is to take place at South Bookham School on 24 October, which might be prior to you receiving this journal. However if you would like more background information, please call Peter Hitchings, SCC Quiet Lanes Project Manager on 020 8541 8992.

Gordon Elsey

POLICE AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GROUP

Our community is still enduring attacks of graffiti which confront us at every turn. The definition of criminal damage, which includes serious graffiti, is damage which requires refurbishment or repair to put it right. This is always regarded as a crime, and should be reported to the police.

If you see any criminal damage being committed, or any other crime, or have any information concerning such an offence, please report it the Police, using 999 if the crime is in progress, or otherwise 01306 882264, or to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Gillian Davis

IF WE LET VANDALS WRECK OUR COMMUNITY

WHO SUFFERS?

YOU CAN DO SOMETHING TO HELP!

WE NEED TO KNOW THEIR NAMES

WE DON'T NEED TO KNOW YOURS

If you have information about people responsible for criminal damage, or for any other crime, phone



CRIMESTOPPERS

0800 555 111

- Your call is free
- You do not have to give your name
- You may receive a reward

Uniting against crime

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