



NEWS SHEET - December 14th 1987

As 1987 draws to a close, it is time to reflect on what the Society has achieved in its first year and wish everyone a Happy Christmas.

Membership

Since our last newssheet on August 1st, the remaining roads within the Society's boundary have been canvassed for members. This has been by far the biggest task undertaken by the Society - thanks to Dolly and Alan Brown. The membership now stands at 254 including 48 senior citizens. All members should now have their membership card. If there has been any discrepancy or if anyone wishes to become a member please contact the Secretary.

Meetings

There has been a regular monthly meeting of road representatives and others. These have been held at several members houses to save expenses and provide a more informal atmosphere. Instead of having a small committee, it is felt that these meetings of some 20 people have been a successful formula to allow more ideas to develop and allow a variety of opinion. Such meetings cannot be publicly announced because of the obvious limitation of numbers, but if anyone has a specific item to discuss they should contact their road representative or the Secretary and they would be welcome to attend the next meeting.

Planning

A number of planned developments have either been applied for or have been suggested in the area -

1. Block of flats at Cedarhurst, Elstree Hill. This still awaits the DOE Inspector's decision. Since the storm of October 16th the DOE feels it worth another site inspection, which will delay a decision until next year.
2. Midland Bank Sports Field. The initial approaches by Asda to develop this site to Lewisham Councillors were rejected. Thankfully, it was confirmed that this land form part of the Green Chain within S.E. London and is protected as metropolitan open space. The Midland Bank have stated that currently there are no other plans for this sports ground.
3. 29a & 31 Oaklands Road. A petition of 75 names was collected to oppose the building of a block of flats. This has been recommended for approval by Bromley Planning Department even though last year a similar development planned for this site was rejected by both Bromley and the DOE on appeal. The developer had also presented a plan for 6 town houses on this site, though this has been recently withdrawn no doubt because of the recommendation to approve the block of flats scheme.
4. Chestnuts, Oaklands Road. Another 4 storey block was planned for this road on the skyline of the valley. A petition of 115 names was collected from Oaklands and Madeira Avenue. Again this was recommended for approval by Bromley Planning Department, but the Committee meeting of 3rd December deferred making a decision on the understanding that negotiations would continue with the developer to reduce the size of the block.

Letters have been written to the Bromley Councillors Walker and Wilkinson who represent the Martins Hill and Town Ward expressing the strongly felt views of members of the encroachment of block developments on this area. A copy of this letter was also sent to Mr. John Hunt, the M.P. for Bromley Ravensbourne.

Speed and Volume of Traffic on Calmont, Warren and Farnaby Roads

A survey of traffic on Calmont Road was conducted and the results reported to the Catford Police and the Borough Engineer of Lewisham with the aim of arranging a meeting to discuss what can be done. To date a reply has only been received from the Police.

The Storm of October 15th/16th

We were fortunately not embarrassed by the response to the circular sent out by the Society. Instead of having many trees to help clear and few helpers the reverse was true. The loss of trees in people's gardens was relatively few compared to the trees in the roads especially Elstree Hill and along the footpath around Warren Avenue Playing Fields. Three pensioners have benefitted from having logs delivered. The Society feels that with so few private trees lost that it was not worth pursuing a bulk purchase scheme of saplings. As far as the public trees lost it has been noted that Bromley has started replacing trees for example on Bromley Avenue.

A.G.M.

It is hoped that an announcement will be made to members early in the New Year about the location and date of this meeting.

Future Activities

The concern of traffic as mentioned above will be further pursued. With the reopening of Ravensbourne Station ticket office it was felt that the Society should take an interest in it regarding a flower bed and hanging baskets - suggestions and volunteers welcome!

Officers of the Society

Chairman	- Paul Sharrock, Shelterdale, Elstree Hill
Secretary	- Paul Bennett, 12 Elstree Hill (466-1091)
Treasurer	- Arnold Cranford, 25 Elstree Hill
Publicity Officers	- John Ealey and Bob Deller

Road Representatives -

Downs Hill/Crab Hill	- Barbara Brown, 34 Downs Hill
Ravensbourne Avenue (Farnaby Road end)	- Pam Brook, 111 Ravensbourne Avenue
Ravensbourne Avenue (Beckenham Lane end)	- position vacant
Ravensmead Road	- Stephen Westcott, 33 Ravensmead Road
Warren Avenue	- John Ealey, 24 Warren Avenue
Calmont Road	- Trevor Lowe, 87 Calmont Avenue
Elstree Hill/Hillbrow	- George Davidson, 27 Elstree Hill
Oaklands Road	- Marcus Oliver, 135 Coniston Road
Madeira Avenue	- Alan Butterworth, 62/126 Madeira Avenue
Bromley Avenue	- Leslie Tucker, 5 Bromley Avenue
Farnaby Road (Beckenham Lane end)	- Major Dotchin, 63 Farnaby Road
Farnaby Road (Ravensbourne end)	- position vacant
Coniston Road	- position vacant

Any comments or suggestions regarding the newssheet will be welcomed by the Secretary.

Ravensbourne Valley Preservation Society Financial Statement as at 12th December 1987

Total subscription collected to date	£1085.50
Total expenditure	£ 136.86
Net funds held	£ 948.64
 Balance on NSB Investment acc	 £ 903.44
Petty Cash	£ 45.20
	£ 948.64

Expenditure

Printing, stationery & postage	£ 113.99
London Borough of Bromley (for notices of planning applications)	£ 12.55
Chainsaw sharpening and oil	£ 10.32
	£ 136.86

RAVENSBOURNE VALLEY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Constitution and Rules

A I M S

1. To Preserve the environment of the Ravensbourne Valley.
2. To co-ordinate the organisation of community activities, such as Neighbourhood Watch schemes and to press Local Councils into action on local issues, in a non-political way.
3. To consider all major planning applications on their merits and to recommend and organise any action that should be taken by members.
4. To support and lend assistance to other similar local societies.

S T R U C T U R E

Each major Road within the boundary has at least one Road Representative who acts as the focal point for the dissemination and collection of information from members. Actions are co-ordinated at Committee Meetings which they attend. Any member who wishes to raise any specific matter is welcome to contact their Road Representative and attend the next Committee Meeting.

The Offices of Chairman, Treasurer, Press Officer and Secretary are elected at the AGM.

B O U N D A R Y O F S O C I E T Y

North - from the Garden Gate Public House, along Ashgrove Road, across the sports fields to Ravensbourne Station and Crab Hill.
East - Highland, Oaklands and Coniston Roads to the Garden Gate.
South - Beckenham Lane, Shortlands.
West - Downs Hill and Ravensbourne Avenue.

Members beyond these boundaries are welcome, but the Society could not, at present, serve the needs of their roads.

M E M B E R S H I P

Membership is organised on a household basis. An initial fee of £5 is charged for the first years membership. Thereafter the annual rate will be set at the AGM. Subscriptions are waived for Senior Citizens.

M E E T I N G S

Regular Committee Meetings are held in members houses. An Annual General Meeting, open to all members, will elect Officers and seek verification of the Accounts of the Society.

A P P R O V A L O F E X P E N D I T U R E

The Secretary and Treasurer may approve expenditure upto a £50 limit, to cover photocopying costs etc. Expenditure in excess of this limit is subject to Committee approval.