



Editorial

As I write this, it is still snowing and by my measurements we have had at least 12" in the Ravensbourne Valley. I very much hope that the weather forecasters are right and it will clear in a week or so, because this Newsletter announces the Annual General Meeting and after it has been printed, the Road Representatives will have the task of delivering them.

This year the AGM will be held on Thursday 7th March 1991. The time is 8pm and the venue as usual will be the main hall Christ Church Hall, Highland Road.

Many will remember that last year, we invited prospective candidates in the coming local Council elections. One of those prospective candidates was Philip Hollobone who was subsequently elected and is now a Councillor for Martins Hill and Town. Since his election Philip has been very supportive of our Society and we feel that a mutually constructive relationship is developing. He has kindly agreed to come along again this year, but this time he will be our opening speaker. He will cover our application for Area of Special Residential Character status plus other issues in the Ward (or nearby). There will then be a question and answer session, to give members an opportunity to make their points direct to one of their Councillors and of course it gives him an opportunity to learn at first hand about your concerns on local issues.

One of the major items on the AGM Agenda this year, is a revised constitution. The original constitution, which was prepared some 4 years ago, has served the Society admirably. But with the passage of time it has become desirable to enlarge some parts of it and make others more specific. To facilitate discussion and decision, and to help members form a view before the AGM, copies of the present constitution and the proposed revision are included with this Newsletter.

Please bring this Newsletter with you to the AGM as there will be a limited number of spare copies of the revised constitution available at the meeting.

We also need more volunteers to be Road Representatives. Although it can be helpful if they live in the road that they represent, it is by no means essential. So if anyone is prepared to deliver some 30 Newsletters about 6 times a year and collect subscriptions once a year, please contact either Paul Bennett the Secretary (466 1091) or Paul Sharrock the Chairman (464 7870) as soon as possible.

In addition John Ealey our Press Officer and the Road Rep. for Warren Avenue has had to withdraw this year due to pressures of work. If anyone is prepared to take on the job of Press Officer please contact either the Secretary or Chairman (see the previous paragraph for telephone numbers). A willingness to get involved is more important than previous experience.

Finally we need someone to volunteer to be Auditor for next year. You do not need to be a financial wizard but an ability to add would be an asset.

The Agenda for the Annual General Meeting is :

- 1 Chairman's Opening Remarks
- 2 Councillor Hollobone - A view of local issues - followed  
by question and answer  
----- break for refreshments -----
- 3 Proposed Revision of the Constitution
- 4 Minutes of the last AGM
- 5 Chairman's Report
- 6 Secretary's Report
- 7 Treasurer's Report
- 8 Planning Officer's Report
- 9 British Rail Channel Tunnel Link Officer's Report
- 10 Election of Officers
- 11 Any Other Business

When you depart, please remember to leave by the lower exit. The top one passes the vicarage and the Vicar's young children will be in bed and asleep, or they should be.

Peter Pain (Editor)

### List of Officers

Chairman : Paul Sharrock, Shelterdale, Elstree Hill  
Secretary : Paul Bennett, 12 Elstree Hill (081-466 1091)  
Treasurer : Alan Marks, 78 Madeira Avenue  
Planning Officer (Bromley) : Bill Jamieson, 7 Bromley Avenue  
Planning Officer (Lewisham) and Membership Secretary: Paul Bennett  
Press Officer :  
Newsletter Editor/Meetings Organisor : Peter Pain 74 Madeira Ave  
BR Link/Bromley Committee Rep. George Hodson, 20 Ravensbourne Ave

### List of Road Representatives

Bromley Ave/Grasmere Rd	Leslie Tucker, 5 Bromley Ave
Calmont Rd/Ashgrove Rd	Roger & Iris Legg, 39 Madeira Ave
Coniston Rd/Hawkshead Rd	} Marcus Oliver, 137 Coniston Rd
Oaklands Rd/ Spencer Rd	
	} Arthur May, 8 Windermere Court
Crab Hill/Downs Hill	Barbara Brown, 34 Downs Hill
Elstree Hill/Erin Close/ Hillbrow	Carol Davidson, 27 Elstree Hill
Farnaby Rd 1 - 108	Roger & Iris Legg, 39 Madeira Ave
Farnaby Rd 109 +	Jo Lightfoot, 136 Farnaby Rd
Madeira Ave	Peter Pain, 74 Madeira Ave
Ravensbourne Ave	Ann Rowsell, 164 Ravensbourne Ave
Ravensmead Rd	Steve Westcott, 33 Ravensmead Rd
Warren Ave	

### Planning Sub-Committee

Paul Sharrock, Shelterdale, Elstree Hill  
Paul Bennett, 12 Elstree Hill  
Bill Jamieson, 7 Bromley Ave  
Peter Pain, 74 Madeira Ave  
Leslie Tucker, 5 Bromley Ave

## PRESENT CONSTITUTION

### RAVENSBOURNE VALLEY PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

#### Constitution and Rules.

##### 1. Boundary.

The boundary is the same as the former Ravensbourne Valley Property-Owners Association, which ceased to function in the 1960s, namely -

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

##### 2. Aims.

- i. To preserve the environment of the Ravensbourne Valley, particularly the open areas of the Shortlands Golf Course, the park, the sports clubs, the river and the un-made roads.
- ii. To consider organising community activities such as neighbourhood watch and pressing local councils to provide action or facilities for the community.
- iii. To consider all major planning applications on their merit and to recommend and organise any action that should be taken by members.
- iv. To represent the members in a fair, non-political way, but not to be involved with small disputes such as fencing, extensions etc..
- v. To support other preservation societies in their activities if we are called upon to lend assistance.
- vi. To produce a newsletter bi-annually and whenever a major issue arises.
- vii. To at all times seek to minimise expenditure by members providing services voluntarily or at a nominal cost.

##### 3. Membership.

1. Any adult resident within the boundary described above is entitled to become a member.
2. Payment of a subscription of £5 per calendar year per household to cover stationery costs. This will be waived for senior citizens.

#### 4. Election of Officers.

The initial officers will be appointed by the initiators of the society. An annual general meeting will in future decide on the officers. The intended date for the first A.G.M. will be mid-January, 1988.

Officers of the Society will be Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and up to ten Committee Members. Ideally, there should be an even spread of officers within the area described above with approximately one officer per major road.

A quorum should consist of a minimum of four officers and if financial decisions are being taken no less than seven officers should be present.

The Secretary, who handles the correspondence and will therefore tend to organise the meetings, should serve no more than two years in office.

#### 5. Meetings.

The A.G.M. as mentioned above.

Other meetings to be held as required, but at least bi-annually to review the publication of the newsletter.

#### 6. Benefits.

Advance notification of all planned developments will be given to the Secretary of the Society from Lewisham and Bromley Planning Departments. This will ensure that an adequate reaction can be made in order to halt further redevelopment of the area with the building of ever bigger blocks of flats.

The building of a community feeling to preserve and enhance the area and its facilities.

# PROPOSED CONSTITUTION

## RAVENSBOURNE VALLEY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Constitution (March 1991)

### 1. Objects of the Society

- a) Preserve the best and improve the rest of the environment in the Ravensbourne Valley.
- b) Monitor planning and other issues, coordinate and organise appropriate responses.
- c) Initiate such actions that the Society believes would improve the environment of the Valley.
- d) Where appropriate work in conjunction with similar groups.
- e) Act as a pressure group.

### 2. Membership of the Society

- a) Membership is open to all residents in the area bounded by:  
To the West - Downs Hill and Ravensbourne Avenue  
South - Beckenham Lane  
East - Highland, Oaklands and Coniston Roads  
North - Ashgrove Road to Ravensbourne BR Station and Crab Hill
- b) A Register of Members shall be maintained in a manner which shows the name and address of such members.
- c) Registered members shall cease to be members if they:  
Resign,  
or leave the area defined in 2a above,  
or cease paying subscriptions,  
or are expelled by a majority vote at a General Meeting.

### 3. Subscriptions

- a) One full membership subscription shall cover all residents at the same address.
- b) The amount of the subscription shall be determined by a majority at the Annual General Meeting.
- c) Senior Citizens are exempt from paying subscriptions.
- d) The subscription year shall commence on the 1st July each year.
- e) Subscriptions are payable annually in advance.
- f) Membership shall be deemed to have ceased if a member's due subscription has not been paid for two consecutive years.
- g) Subscriptions shall normally be collected by the Road Representatives and passed to the Treasurer. Road representatives will at the same time send an update of members to the Membership Secretary.

#### 4. Members Meetings

- a) The prime duty of the Members Meetings is to manage the Society's affairs between General Meetings.
- b) No person who is not a member of the Society shall be eligible to be an officer of the Society nor attend the Members Meetings other than as a co-opted member.
- c) The Members Meetings shall consist of no less than 4 members excluding co-opted members.
- d) The officers of the Society shall be Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. If an officer shall cease to hold office, the next Members Meeting shall have the power to elect a successor to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
- e) No officer should hold office for more than five years.
- f) The Members Meetings shall resolve any differences by a majority vote. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
- g) The Members Meeting shall normally meet bi-monthly, but not less than 4 times a year.
- h) All Members Meetings shall be open and paid up members are entitled to attend.
- i) The dates and venues of Members Meetings shall be published in the Newsletter or such other method as may be appropriate. Accidental omission to give notice or non-receipt of notice shall not invalidate the meeting.
- j) Members Meetings shall agree specific responsibilities for members as may be necessary from time to time.
- k) Members Meetings may create Working Parties to further the Objects of the Society. Any Working Party so created shall report back to the Members Meetings at its regular meetings. The Society's Chairman shall be an ex officio member of all Working Parties.
- l) Members Meetings may co-opt non-members to attend Members Meetings or act on Working Parties. Co-opted members shall not have any voting powers.
- m) No member shall derive financial benefit from membership of the Society.
- n) Authorised incidental expenses up to a limit of £100 incurred on behalf of the Society may be submitted to the Treasurer for repayment by the next Members Meeting. Expenses in excess of £100 shall require the prior approval at a Members Meeting. Wherever possible receipts must accompany the submission.
- o) Members Meetings shall cause minutes to be made of all decisions at their meetings. All such agreed minutes shall be accepted as a true record.
- p) Copies of the minutes of the last meeting should be available for the next meeting.

## 5. Accounts

- a) The Treasurer shall cause accounting records to be kept in accordance with the requirements of law.
- b) At the Annual General Meeting in every year the Treasurer shall lay before the Society a proper income and expenditure account for the period since the last preceding account together with a proper balance sheet made up as at the same date. The accounts shall have been properly audited by a person who does not normally attend Members Meetings.

## 6. Annual General Meetings

- a) The Society shall hold an Annual General Meeting in every calendar year at such time and place as may be determined at a Members Meeting provided that every AGM shall be held not more than fifteen months after the holding of the last preceding AGM.
- b) The following business shall be transacted at the AGM:  
Minutes of the previous AGM  
Consideration of the reports prepared by officers  
Consideration of the audited income & expenditure account, balance sheet and Auditor's report  
The fixing of the annual subscription payable by members  
The election of officers  
The appointment of the Auditor
- c) If in any year no AGM is called within 18 months of the last AGM, an AGM may be called by any two paid up members giving at least 28 days notice of the time, date and place of such meeting by public advertisement and by such other means as is reasonably practicable to bring it to the notice of all registered members. A meeting so called shall be a valid AGM for all purposes including the election of officers.
- d) If within half an hour from the time appointed for the holding of an AGM a quorum of ten members is not present, the meeting, if convened on the requisition of members, shall be dissolved. In any other case it shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place as may be decided.

## 7. Changing the Constitution

- a) The Constitution can only be altered at a General Meeting of the membership and any alteration shall require approval by a minimum of 75% of the members at the meeting. Notice of the meeting must specify what changes are proposed.

## 8. Termination of the Society

- a) The Society can only be terminated at a General Meeting of the membership and shall require approval by a minimum of 75% of the members present at the meeting. Notice of the meeting must specify the motion for determination.
- b) After meeting all liabilities any assets of the Society shall be disbursed as determined at that meeting.