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NEWSLETTER (2/91) 4th April 1991

Editorial

After the AGM nearly a month ago, I thought it was about time we had another Newsletter to bring everyone up to date.

Firstly the AGM. As promised we opened with Councillor Hollobone expressing his views and giving us an insight on a whole range of subjects. Amongst the many subjects covered were:

Areas of Special Residential Character; he continues to support our case and thought that our submissions were probably the best the Council had ever received. (Unfortunately as you know we are stil fighting for ASRC status.)

He also made clear his position on other local issues such as the proposals for extra car parks near Tetty Way and at the top of Beckenham Lane.

Inevitably the Community Charge (Poll Tax) was raised and he gave a lot of information on comparisons between different Boroughs, their levels of Government support and their spending per capita.

Whilst talking about his view on the role of Councillors he spoke freely about his initial reactions after a year in office, about the way Local Government is run and the people that run it. From our limited experience as observers at various Council Committee meetings, his assessment was fair comment. Unfortunately, the Bromley Advertiser which had a reporter present (invited) latched onto a comment that Councillors ought to retire at 70 and ran a cheap headline "Scrap the Bathchair Burghers" plus a variety of quotes from Councillors who are over 70. If correctly reported some of the quotes confirmed Councillor Hollobones point.

Interestingly, much of what Councillor Hollobone said was paralleled later by remarks made by both the Prime Minister and Mr Heseltine, when they reported to Parliament on proposals for and the rationale of changing local taxation.

Councillor Hollobones session ended with a question and answer period which gave many members a chance to raise matters that they cared about. Not every question was answerable at the time but it was refreshing that he did not flannel and all unanswered questioners were promised a written reply.

Revised Constitution

After a short break there was a healthy discussion on the proposal to revise our constitution. The agreed version is included with this Newsletter as a "pull-out". Please keep it somewhere safe as there are a limited number of spare copies.

Subscriptions

It was again agreed that the annual subscription should remain at £5 per household. Our subscriptions have now been held constant for the 5th year running, in view of continuing inflation and the increased activity of the Society, this must represent extremely good value for money. The one change this year was that senior citizens now have the option of paying if they so wish.

Unfortunately not all of this years subscriptions have been paid yet. If you have not yet paid, don't be surprised when your Road Representive calls and then calls again around July for next years subscription.

Election of Officers

Paul Sharrock, Paul Bennett and Alan Marks were each re-elected as Chairman, Secrtary and Treasurer respectively.

Please Note that next year both the Chairman and Secretary will have served for 5 years and will have to stand down. It is not too early to start thinking about their successors.

In addition there were no volunteers at the AGM for either Auditor or Warren Avenue road representitive. Both are essential. Will someone with a conscience please volunteer and let Paul Bennett -the Secretary- know. His telephone number is 466 1091. Neither job is onerous. The Auditor checks and hopefully agrees the figures each year by Alan Marks the Treasurer. The Warren Ave representative has about 25 members to deliver Newsletters to and collect the subscriptions from.

Dates for the Diary

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Thursday 2 May 1991 at 8.0 pm in Christ Church Hall.

I am afraid that I cannot yet give any dates for further meetings as for reasons best known to themselves and despite regular reminders, the Church office is unable to confirm the list of preferred dates I gave them over 3 months ago.

To conclude, it is appropriate to express thanks to Derek Crussel and John Ealey, two Road Representatives who for business reasons can no longer continue.

As you will have read, we are still looking for a replacement for John Ealey (Warren Ave); but it is nice to welcome Arthur May who has volunteered to take on Derek Crussel's patch of Oaklands & Spencer Rds and Lullington Garth.

List of Officers

Chairman : Paul Sharrock, Shelterdale, Elstree Hill

Secretary: Paul Bennett, 12 Elstree Hill (081-466 1091)

Treasurer: Alan Marks 78 Madeira Avenue

Auditor :

Planning Officer (Bromley): Bill Jamieson, 7 Bromley Avenue

Planning Officer (Lewisham) & 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 Calmont Rd/Ashgrove Rd

Coniston Rd/Hawkshead Rd

Oaklands Rd/Spencer Rd Crab Hill/Downs Hill

Elstree Hill/Erin Close

Hilbrow

Farnaby Rd 1 - 109

Farnaby Rd 109 +

Madeira Ave

Ravensbourne Ave

Warren Ave

Leslie Tucker, 5 Bromley Ave Roger & Iris Legg, 39 Madeira Ave Marcus Oliver, 137 Coniston Rd Arthur May, 8 Windmere Court Barbara Brown, 34 Downs Hill Carol Davidson, 27 Elstree Hill

Roger & Iris Legg, 39 Madeira Ave

Jo Lightfoot, 136 Farnaby Rd Peter Pain, 74 Madeira Ave

Ann Rowswell, 164 Ravensbourne Ave Steve Westcott, 33 Ravensmead Rd

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