

Editorial

Traditionally this is the quiet season and many members have had, are having, or shortly will be taking their summer holidays. But, rather like parliament, events do not stop happening just because no one is there. If one were a conspiracy theorist it would be tempting to claim that some events are deliberately timed to coincide with school holidays. Personally I tend to subscribe to the opposite view, events happen when they do, for the same reason that toast always falls butter side down.

In the last Newsletter we had a puzzle corner about the gantry and generator in Warren Avenue playing fields. Those using this open space will have noticed that all is back to normal, so it looks as though there was insufficient flow to bring the bore hole back into use. Does anyone have a sneaking regret that Shortlands will not be the Sullom Voe of the south east ?

Finally a reminder that if you have not yet been visited by your Road Rep. for 1992/3 subscriptions - expect them soon. It is still only £5 pa per household, with senior citizens giving what they feel they can afford. Early collection really helps the Society's finances as Alan Marks our Treasurer can get the money invested that much earlier and even with the currently reduced rates of interest, it still makes a positive contribution to our balance sheet.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 3rd September	}	Members Meeting, at 8.0 pm in the Farnborough room, Bromley Court Hotel
Thursday 5th November		

Please note the change of room from the Shakespeare 1. The new room is larger and ideally suited for our bi-monthly meetings. If you have an issue which you feel strongly about please come along and make your point. You are most unlikely to be alone.

Officers and Road Representatives

In the last Newsletter it was reported that Arthur May (Oaklands and Spencer Roads) had to give up for health reasons, but would continue as Auditor. Happily we have a volunteer to take over. She is Joyce Varney who also lives in Oaklands Road. We are very grateful to Joyce for stepping into the breach as she is already a very busy lady.

We also have a couple of volunteers to act as Publicity/Press Officer. They are Noreen Baker and Grace Sheen who live in Highland Road and they will be tackling the job jointly.

It really is heartening to find that people are still prepared to get involved and give time to help on local issues. Without that preparedness a Society like ours would be much less active and effective.

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Environmental Issues

Tree Wardens

Following the report in the last Newsletter, there have been several requests for a map showing the roads covered by Tree Preservation Orders. In response to those requests a map has been included on the centre two pages of this Newsletter. A description of the legislation and its application in Bromley will be covered in a later Newsletter.

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Planning Issues

Oaklands Court, Oaklands Rd (92.0824)

The latest application for this site was for a 4 storey block of 20 flats with 37 car parking spaces. The Society lodged a formal objection to the increase. The Planning Sub-Committee also thought that the increase was too much and rejected the application. An earlier planning approval for 16 flats and 24 garages still stands.

In the last Newsletter it was reported that the full implications of this second application for a flank extension were still being looked at. Since then the Society formed the view that in the light of both the wording and the spirit of the Bromley Plan and the Unitary Development Plan, the proposed extension still constituted an over development of the site. That plus supporting evidence formed the basis of our formal objection. Local residents in neighbouring roads were so incensed by the proposal that they wrote their own letters and sent a petition as well as lobbying Ward Councillors. An article also appeared in the News Shopper.

At the first meeting of the Plans Sub-Committee it was decided to defer a decision pending a site visit. The visit took place on a Saturday morning and the Sub-Committee were met by a goodly turnout of local residents bearing banners opposing the scheme. Subsequently, after a lengthy, serious and balanced debate, the Plans Sub-Committee refused permission for the development. Albeit on the Chairmans casting vote.

We later learnt that following advice from their architect, the Church has decided to appeal to the DoE, against the refusal. It remains to be seen whether the appeal will be dealt with as a "desk job" at Bristol or whether it will be a Local Inquiry. The Society would prefer the latter as a Local Inquiry allows verbal as well written evidence and also provides for cross-questioning.

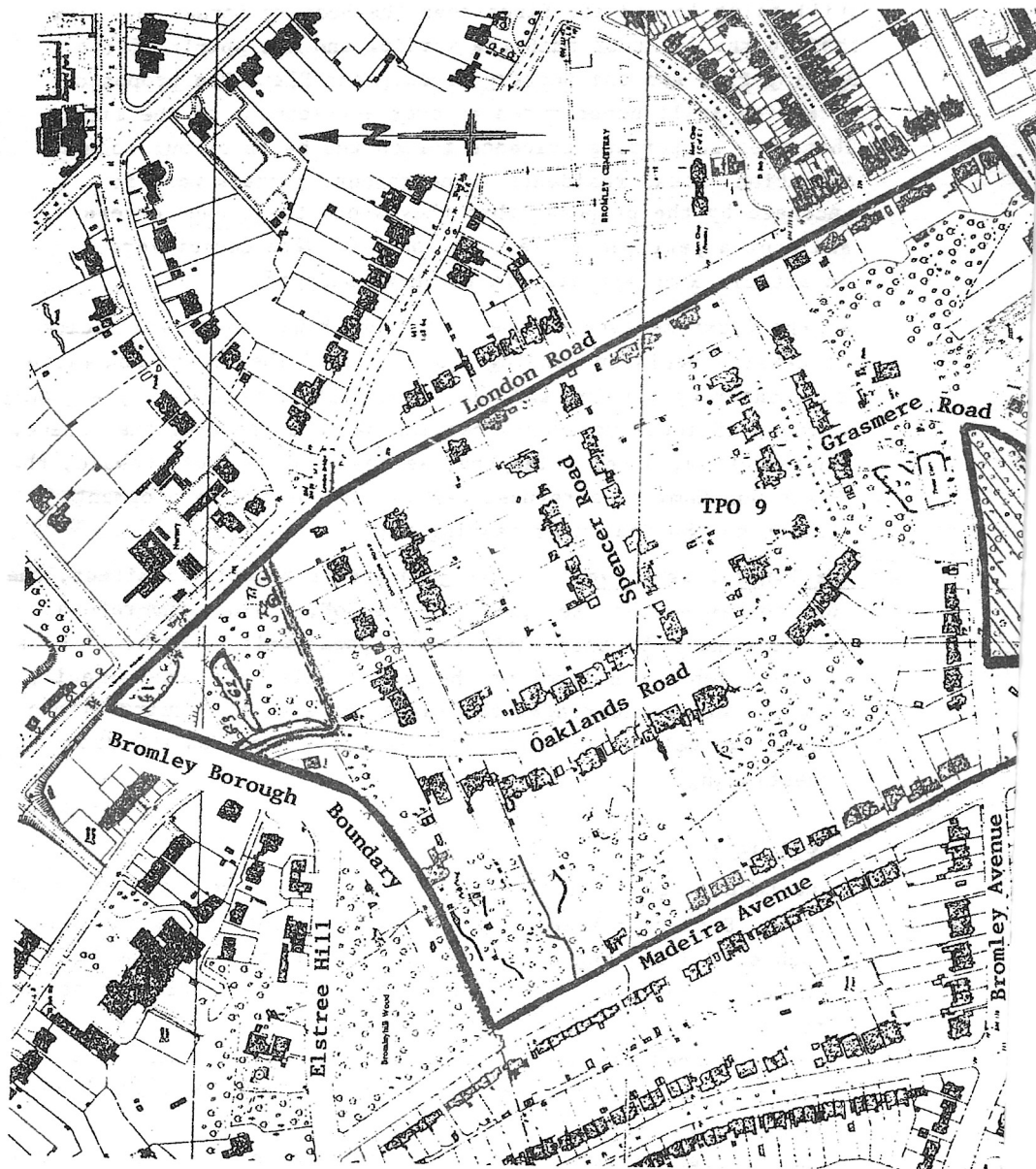
Cedarhurst

The Local Inquiry at Lewisham over the proposed development of 16 or 18 starter homes took 2½ days with both sides employing counsel and calling expert witnesses. In the event the DoE Inspector supported Lewisham and Bromley and upheld the decision to refuse planning permission.

The developer has now submitted a fresh application for 14 starter homes, so the process of opposition starts again and enters its 6th year.

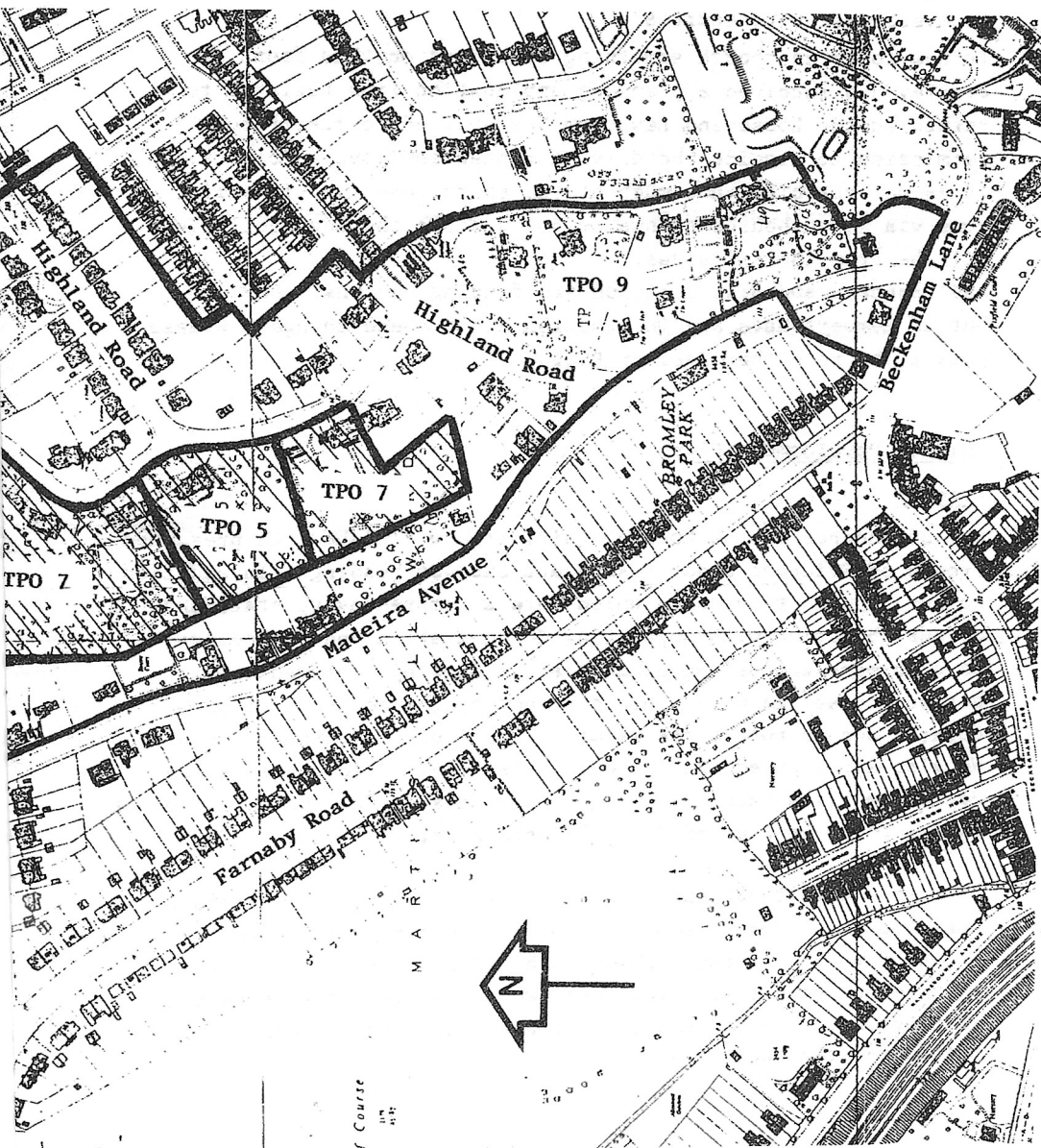
In this particular case the developing architects do not seem to have much of a financial stake in the matter. Apparently they obtained a lien on the land for a few thousand pounds and have a deal with a housing association, who will purchase if the architects get planning permission

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY



TPO AREA BOUNDARIES

TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS. AREAS 5, 7 & 9



- Note :
- 1) TPO 5 is flanked to the north & south by TPO 7.
 - 2) TPO 9 encompasses both TPO 5 & TPO 7.

Beckenham Place Park

A year ago we reported that Lewisham were planning to privatise the golf course and in addition create new driving ranges plus a covered racquets court(s).

It now looks as though something is moving on this front as Bromley has received a planning application from Lewisham to refurbish the House and Lewisham has applied to itself for permission to provide the driving ranges and covered courts. It is not yet clear how much of the extra road traffic will come via Ravensbourne Avenue or how visible the new facilities will be from the hillsides.

Paul Bennett and Bill Jamieson are finding out what they can, but if members have any information about these changes, please pass it on to either Paul or Bill

Unitary Development Plan

Bromley

Our attendance at the Local Inquiry is now finished. We presented Proofs of Evidence under 6 separate subject headings. In addition to our proofs of evidence which were a comprehensive statement of our objection with supporting documentation and appendices, we also made an Opening Summary and a Closing Statement. In between those, we were cross examined by the counsel for the Council and in turn cross examined the Council's expert witnesses. We also accompanied the Inspector when he visited our area and Beckenham Place Park following our submission for the Ravensbourne Valley to be an Area of Special Residential Character.

We must now wait patiently for the Inspectors report and trust that Bromley formally adopt any of his recommendations that are in our favour. Looking back through old Newsletters we have been working on these issues for over two years. If there is anything we have learned over that time it has been that we have to be both persistent and consistant.

Lewisham

No news on this front, having commented on the Consultation draft we are now waiting publication of the Deposit draft, to see whether our earlier comments and objections have been incorporated.

Transport Issues

British Rail Channel Tunnel Rail Link

There is very little news at the moment except that Kent County Council have been pressing central government for some time to instruct BR to include freight in their planning for the new Channel Tunnel Rail Link. It seems that at last they have made some progress, and the Secretary of State for Transport John MacGregor has said that BR have now been asked to allow for the new line to take freight as well as passenger traffic.

The government recognise that a dedicated freight track could not be justified but want BR to define a route which will allow the construction of a two track railway with freight capability and built to continental loading guage standards. BR should also consider the potential for the addition of passing loops and other facilities.

If all of that gets translated into action then in the long term we should benefit. But, nothing has changed in the short term. Plans to route over 100 extra train movements a day through Bromley South and Shortlands until such time as the new route is operational, are still on the table and will almost certainly be implemented.

Hence the need for continuing pressure on government and BR to adopt environmental safeguards, especially those which will reduce the impact of noise on adjoining property. However none of that has yet been conceded.

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R.V.P.S. Officers (August 1992)

Chairman	Peter Pain, 74 Madeira Avenue
Secretary	Leslie Tucker, 5 Bromley Avenue
Treasurer	Alan Marks, 78 Madeira Avenue
Auditor	Arthur May, 8 Windermere Ct. Oaklands
Planning Officer - Bromley	Bill Jamieson, 7 Bromley Avenue
Planning Officer - Lewisham	Paul Bennett, 12 Elstree Hill
Membership Secretary	Paul Bennett, 12 Elstree Hill
Newsletter Editor	Peter Pain, 74 Madeira Avenue
BR Link/Bromley Committee Reps.	George Hodson, 20 Ravensbourne Ave Tim McCarthy, 79 Ravensbourne Ave
Tree Wardens	Arthur Barwell, 14 Grasmere Road Tim McCarthy, 79 Ravensbourne Ave
Press/Publicity Officers	Noreen Baker, 39 Highland Road Grace Sheen, 39 Highland Road

Road Representatives

Bromley Ave/Karen Ct	Leslie Tucker, 5 Bromley Avenue
Grasmere/Highland Rds	
Coniston Rd/Ullswater	Brenda Neave, 119 Coniston Road
Hawkshead Closes	
Downs Hill/Crab Hill	Barbara Brown, 34 Downs Hill
Elstree Hill/Hillbrow	Carol Davidson, 27 Elstree Hill
Farnaby Rd (1-109)	Roger & Iris Legg, 39 Madeira Ave
Farnaby Rd (109 +)	Jo Lightfoot, 136 Farnaby Road
Madeira Ave	Peter Pain, 74 Madeira Avenue
Oaklands/Spencer Rds	Joyce Varney, 1 Lavinia Ct Oaklands
Ravensbourne Ave (evens)	Ann Rowswell, 164 Ravensbourne Ave
Ravensbourne Ave (odds)	Tim McCarthy, 79 Ravensbourne Ave
Ravensmead Rd	Kay Lincoln, 12 Ravensmead Road
Warren Ave/Calmont Rd	Dennis Dyer, 7 Warren Avenue