



# **NEWSLETTER**

## **2/94**

**April. 1994**

---

### EDITORIAL

After the AGM a month ago, it is timely to bring everyone up to date.

Firstly the AGM which was held in the Wellington Room at the Bromley Court Hotel. As advertised the guest speaker was Peter Price MEP, who arrived straight from his previous engagement with the businessmen of Bexley. He gave us a very lucid account of the role of an MEP and the European Parliament, with particular emphasis on how their work has influenced events in the South East. One illustration of this influence was how the European Parliament now requires all countries to undertake an "Environmental Assessment" before approving major schemes. That requirement led to the overturning of a proposal to drive a major road through Oxleas Wood. Much was made of the lack of a proper Environmental Assessment at the Beckenham Place Park Inquiry and the London Wildlife Trust witness spoke on this with some authority. Depending on the outcome, we may have to raise the point again via our MPs

We were also pleased to welcome both of our Ward Councillors, Tony Wilkinson and Philip Hollobone, who made themselves available for discussion during the break for refreshments.

Subscriptions Once more it was agreed that subscriptions should be held at £5 per household, with senior citizens having the option to make a contribution (up to £5) if they wish to.

In case anyone has missed the point, our subscriptions have now remained constant for the 8th year running. In view of the greatly increased activities of the Society and the general increase in costs, this represents good value for money. It must be said however that our costs for last year's two most expensive activities (Beckenham Place Park and Christ Church Inquiries) were largely

covered by spontaneous donations. Not only from members but also from people outside of our area of representation, who supported what we were doing.

Election of Officers Peter Pain, Leslie Tucker and Wally Carloss were re-elected as Chairman, Secretary and Auditor respectively. Arthur Barwell our Treasurer stood down and we were fortunate to obtain the services of Brian Sanders who was duly elected as our new Treasurer. The Society's appreciation of the work done by the outgoing Treasurer was formally recorded. As was the work done by Leslie Tucker and Bill Jamieson at the two Inquiries. In addition appreciation was recorded for the work done by Paul Sharrock our founding Chairman who has now moved with his wife and family to East Anglia.

Road Representatives Only one change this year, Ray Territt volunteered to take over as Road Rep for Madeira Avenue from Peter Pain. All volunteers are gratefully welcomed and the more people involved in running our affairs the better. So Ray will now be distributing Newsletters and collecting subs in Madeira Avenue, look out for his cheerful presence.

Tree Wardens Over the past year we have lost both of our Tree Wardens. The last being Arthur Barwell who stood down when he gave up the Treasurers job. If anyone cares about trees, and in particular trees in our area, please contact either Leslie Tucker or Peter Pain.

Changes to the Constitution The appropriate clauses were approved to enable the Society to change from commercial accounting to cash accounting. However the outgoing Treasurer had also submitted additional changes to Section 5 and the meeting felt that these were best studied in depth by a Working Party, seeking specialist advice as appropriate. The Working Party to report back to a Members Meeting at which it will be decided whether to call a Special General Meeting to approve or reject their findings.

Conclusion Overall it was a worthwhile AGM with an interesting speaker. However it was a great pity that attendance was lower than in previous years. Why this was is not clear, so if any members have any views, please let your Road Rep know. Or, if you prefer contact the Secretary or Chairman direct.

Dates for the Diary

The next 2 Members Meetings will be held at 8.0 pm in the Farnborough Room, Bromley Court Hotel on :

Thursday 5th May

Thursday 7th July

Please make a note of these dates and don't forget to come along.

=====

PLANNING ISSUES

Beckenham Place Park The grapevine has it that a decision has been made. However we have been unable to get confirmation so at the time of writing neither we nor Bromley yet know the outcome.

Christ Church Following the Inquiry, the Inspector rejected the larger of the 2 proposals, but approved the smaller. We understand that the Church are now going forward to seek "faculty" from the Diocesan Consistory Court. This is necessary because before undertaking construction work to a church building, Parish Councils have to obtain approval from both the relevant Local Authority and the appropriate ecclesiastical body. The Society will not be objecting beyond the lay planning procedures and we have written to the Diocese saying so. We have also written, in a spirit of goodwill, offering the Court and its Advisers the loan of the model we made for the Inquiry which was accepted by all of the parties as an accurate representation of the Appeal plans. That offer has been accepted.

=====

## ROAD ISSUES

### Pedestrian Facilities at Ravensbourne/Beckenhan Lane Junction

We have received a not very encouraging response to our last letter to Bromley. However persistence is the name of the game so we will press on.

### Commuter Parking and Rat Runs    Park End/Highland/Brackenhill/ Blythe Rd/Madeira

Councillors Wilkinson and Hollobone have been holding a series of sessions with affected residents in these roads. These meetings could result in changes being proposed to ameliorate the car problem in these roads. I am sure that we will be informed of any firm proposals, for our comment, in advance of any irrevocable action. However two things are certain, one is that whatever is done to ease car related problems in one area, only creates or exacerbates problems elsewhere. The other is that nothing is more guaranteed to bring out the NIMBY in all of us than car traffic or parking in "our" road.

=====

## BROMLEY HEALTH SERVICE

The Federation of Bromley Residents Associations - to which we belong - have arranged a question and answer meeting with the Chief Executive of the Bromley Health Authority in May, at Keston Village Hall. We understand that each Association will be able to send up to 4 representatives. The Health Authority has asked that questions be submitted in writing well before the meeting so that full answers can be given. Supplementaries will also be allowed on the night.

If anyone has any questions they would like us to put, please let either Leslie Tucker or Peter Pain have them by mid April. Preferably in writing so they do not have to be interpreted on behalf of the questioner with the danger that the emphasis or even the sense is lost.

=====

A list of Officers and Road Representatives will be included in the next issue.