



# NEWSLETTER

## 4/95

Sept. 1995

### EDITORIAL

My apologies for this Newsletter being a few weeks later than usual, but the recent long hot spell somehow was not conducive to writing. But, now it is cooler —

Many thanks to all those members who took the trouble to return the questionnaire on Beckenham Place Park. Nearly 20% responded and encouragingly about half of them were prepared to become actively involved in specific improvement projects. A brief analysis of the answers showed that :

- 55% visited at least weekly.
- 90% visited for up to 2 hours
- 62% visited because of the openness and naturalness.
- 91% liked most the openness and naturalness.
- 76% liked least the lack of maintenance, litter and vandalism.

<b>The areas most visited were:</b>	Woodlands	29%
	Crab Hill	19%
	Riverside	18%
	Formal gardens	16%
	Golf course	11%

Subscriptions - many members have already been visited by their Road Reps and paid this year's subscription or donation. Those that have not yet been visited can expect a call anytime. Don't forget if you cannot get to our bimonthly meetings, this is a chance to let your Road Rep know whether the Society is following up the sort of things you want it to. All feedback is welcome.

Finally following the death of Bill Jamieson, we are without a Planning officer for Bromley. Is anyone willing to take on this job? At present the gap is being temporarily covered by Leslie Tucker our Secretary, but clearly that cannot continue. If you want to know about what is involved etc. please contact Leslie on 0181-464 4734.

<b><u>Dates for the Diary</u></b>	Thursday 9th Nov. 1995 8 pm,	Members Meeting at the Bromley Court Hotel
	Thursday 4th Jan. 1996 8 pm,	Members Meeting at the Bromley Court Hotel

## **PLANNING**

### **Bromley Unitary Development Plan**

The new plan has been in existence now since March 1994. One of our criticisms of the earlier Borough Plan was that once adopted it became set in concrete. We are pleased to learn that the new Plan is undergoing its first review. Something we hope will be a regular process.

### **Lewisham Unitary Development Plan**

Following the Local Inquiry into the Plan, the DoE Inspector's report became available earlier this year. We are pleased that practically all of the Inspector's recommendations have been accepted. We have written to Lewisham commenting favourably on the Plan as a whole and positively supporting those changes which make the Plan clearer or could have a beneficial effect on our neighbourhood. One in particular is the creation of a Riverwalk Way along the Ravensbourne in Beckenham Place Park.

### **Applications**

We recently wrote to Bromley Planning Committee supporting objections by the Park Langley RA against a proposal to build a 4 court indoor tennis centre on Metropolitan Open Land (MOL). The proposal was completely contrary to all planning "Advice" and "Guidance" for MOL and although smaller was similar to Beckenham Place Park. Fortunately Bromley refused the application.

### **18 Warren Avenue**

Planning approval had been given for a loft conversion with a rear dormer window. Another application was subsequently made for retrospective approval for 2 front dormers and a gable end wall instead of a partially hipped roof. The application was refused. The unauthorised work has now been removed.

### **The Synagogue, Highland Rd**

An application has been made for a flank extension at the northern end. On the face of it the development will largely be below road level and there does not appear to be any material planning objection. However the plans are still being studied and neighbours will be consulted before we respond.

## **BECKENHAM PLACE PARK**

The main Working Party and the Management Plan subcommittee continue to meet and the results of the questionnaire last June have been useful in reinforcing our contribution to those meetings. In fact as far as we know, we are the only group which has specifically sounded out its membership for views and opinions after the Inquiry. The last Newsletter referred to the vandalised (now demolished) pavilion and plans to replace it. However it is recognised that there is little point in replacing the pavilion unless there is a strong likelihood that it will be used regularly. But, if it is not replaced the insurance company will not pay up. Consequently potential users have been approached by Lewisham. As a result 3 amateur football teams have got together and produced a business plan on how they would manage and run the pavilion and Summerhouse field for football and cricket. A further sub-committee is considering the proposals. The current position is that some weaknesses and omissions were found in the business plan and it has been referred back to the clubs for a rewrite. If the clubs get there act together then it is possible that additional money could be obtained from the Sports Council (via the Lottery) for the pavilion to be enhanced and in view of its history, made vandal proof - or at least vandal resistant. Apart from supporting in principle the re-introduction of open sporting activities we are insistent that any proposals do not prejudice the 18 metre boundary of the new Riverwalk Way.

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## **TRANSPORT**

**Road** Our representations about the lack of pedestrian facilities at Shortlands junction appear to have fallen on barren soil. We are left with the impression that the question is not top of anyone's priority list. Being simplistic it seems strange that a pedestrian phase can be incorporated at Beckenham Junction but not at Shortlands station. Clearly the question must be revisited. To start with we are seeking allies with the intention of becoming pro-active.

**Rail** Work has started on sound barriers, the section in Ravensbourne Avenue and Downs Hill will be at the end of the program as it was the last to be agreed.

Parliament look set to approve legislation about noise levels for new railway lines but, despite lobbying by many Councils and MPs it is unlikely to include the intensification of use of existing lines. Three Kent MPs have tabled a blocking motion to try to force a debate in the Chamber on this issue. Members affected by train noise are invited to write to their MP (John Hunt) C/o House of Commons, Westminster, SW1, asking them to support and sign Motion EDM 1408.

## R.V.P.S. Officers

↙ (February 1996)

Chairman	Peter Pain, 74 Madeira Avenue
Secretary	Leslie Tucker, 5 Bromley Avenue
Treasurer	Brian Sanders, 41 Farnaby Road
Auditor	Wally Carlross, 28a Parkhill Road
Planning Officer - Bromley	
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 Rep.	George Hodson, 20 Ravensbourne Avenue
LBBRF Delegate	Elizabeth Davies, 12 Ravensmead Road
Police Consultative Cmmte. Rep.	Elizabeth Davies, 12 Ravensmead Road
<i>BPP Working Party Rep</i>	<i>Peter Pain 74 Madeira Ave</i>

## Road Representatives:

Bromley Ave / Karen Ct.  
Grasmere / Highlands Rds

Leslie Tucker, 5 Bromley Avenue

Coniston Road/Ullswater  
& Hawkshead Closes

*Barbara Price 85 Coniston Rd*

Downs Hill / Crab Hill

Barbara Brown, 34 Downs Hill

Elstree Hill / Hillbrow

Daphne Robeson, 2 Lynton Court, London Rd

Farnaby Rd (1-108)

Audrey Burford, 90 Farnaby Road

Farnaby Rd (109 +)

Maureen Johnson, 69 Farnaby Road

Madeira Avenue

Ray Terrett, 70 Madeira Avenue

Oaklands / Spencer Rds

Ravensbourne Ave (evens)

Ann Rowswell, 164 Ravensbourne Avenue

Ravensbourne Ave (odds)

Ann Huntley, 155 Ravensbourne Avenue

Ravensmead Rd

Kay Lincoln, 12 Ravensmead Road

Warren Ave / Calmont Rd

Alan Weatherley, 50 Warren Avenue

*drop  
Farnaby R (1-108)  
to house a space  
between  
Oaklands / Spencer Rds*