

Newsletter



February 2014

Website: rvpsbromley.org

2/2014

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EDITORIAL

It is with enthusiasm tinged with trepidation that I produce my first newsletter. Leslie Tucker has been deeply involved in the society since its inception and is a hard act to follow in this role, to which he has devoted much time and energy over recent years. Our thanks go to Leslie for performing this office so diligently and for his continuing support of the society.

The main purpose of this edition, as regular readers know, is to announce the date and details of the Annual General Meeting, which I hope you will attend.

This year we have persuaded Gavin Plaskitt to give a presentation on Lewisham's bid for multi-million pound grants from English Heritage and Parks for People to establish the future of Beckenham Place Park. It is also intended that the Environment Agency will work with Lewisham to co-ordinate a flood prevention scheme along the Ravensbourne as it passes through the park. This would result in interesting landscaping changes to that part of the park. It is possible that an Officer from the Environment Agency will join in the discussion.

Gavin is Lewisham's officer leading the preparation of these bids, the first stage of which is due to be submitted by the end of February. If successful a second, more detailed, stage will follow. If that is accepted work might begin early in 2016. The success of these bids is very important to our area and to have the opportunity to hear the details of the preferred proposals will be of great interest to all who live in this area and beyond.

I would encourage all of you to visit the website if you have not done so recently. Our new webmaster, David England, has been busy loading past copies of the newsletter and making other improvements. I will be working with David to co-ordinate the information we publish.

Note also the new Logo in the header. Its adoption will be discussed during the AGM.

The latest list of Officers and Road Reps is shown on page 4. Volunteers for unfilled positions will be gratefully received. Thanks to all who already provide their time and energy to our benefit.

Euan McMaster (Editor)

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 6th March - Annual General Meeting 8.00pm, Bromley Court Hotel

Thursday 1st May - Members' Meeting 8.00pm, Bromley Court Hotel

PLANNING

10 Crab Hill: Bromley's Development Control Committee met on the 7th of January to consider yet again the application to remove the TPO on the oak tree at No. 10 Crab Hill, stated by the insurer of No 8 Crab Hill to be causing subsidence. The committee declined to remove the TPO for a number of reasons: an independent report commissioned by the Council indicated the installation of a root barrier would solve the problem; the insurer's agents had agreed to proceed with a root barrier; the committee accepted that the subsidence is primarily occurring because insufficient foundations were laid when No 8 was built. This result is a very important endorsement of the duty of the Council to protect valuable trees and will shape future Council Policy on the protection of trees across the Borough. Many thanks to councillors Tickner and Mellor for their tremendous support and to Clive Lees.

Sainsburys: We have successfully argued for the installation of dedicated bicycle parking in Sainsburys' car park and when this is installed the Planning Officer will have somewhere to put his bike!

Bromley Avenue: The single yellow line at the top of the avenue has been extended which should make turning into Bromley Avenue safer as cars will now no longer be on the wrong side of Bromley Avenue as they ascend the hill.

Warren Avenue Playing Fields: There is now a new contractor and we hope to get the various issues, principally littering, sorted out. We also understand that a tree survey is to be carried out which we hope will result in replacement trees being provided.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

We have long been looking for ideas for our next Community Project and in particular for something which would make greater impact than finding an excuse for another bench seat somewhere. With this in mind we have recently begun negotiations with Bromley to establish if it would be feasible for us to contribute towards the replacement of the missing street trees in Farnaby Road. We have produced a preliminary diagram which suggests that about 24 new trees would be required and Bromley are now considering this. It is too early to say if this will work out but we hope to be able to report more at the AGM.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday 6th March 2014

Venue: Bromley Court Hotel Time: 8.00pm

AGENDA

- 1 Chairman's welcome and opening remarks
- 2 Guest Speaker – Gavin Plaskitt – “Beckenham Place Park development plans”

Break for refreshments

- 3 Approval of Minutes of previous AGM
- 4 Chairman's Report
- 5 Treasurer's Report
- 6 Planning Officers' Reports a) East b) West c) Roads & Traffic
- 7 Community Projects
- 8 Beckenham Place Park Representative's Report
- 9 Membership Secretary's Report
- 10 Discussion of new logo for the Society
- 11 Determination of subscriptions for 2014-15
- 12 Appointment of an Auditor
- 13 Election of Officers
- 14 Chairman's closing remarks
- 15 Next members' meeting – Thursday 1st May 2014 at Bromley Court Hotel

Posts for re-election

Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

Post for re-appointment

Auditor

Present holders

Leslie Watmore

Beatrice Osborn

Brian Sanders

Pura Atkinson

The treasurer and secretary are willing to stand for re-election but the Chairman, Leslie Watmore, is retiring after five years, the maximum period allowed under the constitution of the Society.

A few copies of the Agenda may be available at the AGM but please bring this copy with you to make sure you know what is happening.

R.V.P.S. OFFICERS (February 2014)

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|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Chairman | Leslie Watmore |
| Vice Chairman | Clive Lees |
| Secretary | Beatrice Osborn |
| Treasurer | Brian Sanders |
| Auditor | Pura Atkinson |
| Planning Officer-East | Clive Lees |
| Planning Officer- West | Mike Mielniczek |
| Membership Secretary | Linda Muller |
| Newsletter Editor | Euan McMaster |
| Roads & Traffic Rep. | TBA |
| Tree Warden | Tony Guyver |
| LBBRF Delegate | TBA |
| BPP Joint Working Party Rep. | Leslie Tucker |
| Hon. Legal Advisor | Richard Thomas |
| Webmaster | David England |

ROAD REPRESENTATIVES

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Bromley Ave. / Grasmere Rd. | Leslie Tucker |
| Brackenhill Lane & Close | Linda Müller |
| Highland Rd. / Karen Ct. | |
| Coniston Rd / Ullswater & Hawkshead Closes | Barbara Price |
| Downs Hill / Crab Hill | Wendy Watmore |
| Elstree Hill / Erin Close / Hillbrow | Roger Legg |
| Farnaby Rd (Nos. 1 - 81) | Sarah-Jane Durman |
| Farnaby Rd (Nos. 82 -194) | Kay Shaw |
| Madeira Avenue | Brian Atkinson |
| Oaklands / Spencer Rds. | David Page |
| Ravensbourne Ave. (evens) | Ann Rowswell |
| Ravensbourne Ave. (odds) | Ann Freiter |
| Ravensmead Road | Peter Saunders |
| Warren Ave. | Carol Davidson |
| Calmont Rd /Ashgrove Rd / Belgravia Gdns / Ambleside. | Rita Smith |

Footnotes:

The prime message of this issue is please come to our AGM - by definition, we only hold one of these each year! Even non-members are welcome although, of course they cannot vote. All they would risk is being tempted to join the RVPS. If you attend, not only will you get a free talk about plans for Beckenham Place Park but also a free cup of coffee and a chance to meet your neighbours.