

RVPS Newsletter

May 2014

Issue 3/2014

www.rvpsbromley.org



Welcome to the May newsletter. After 25 years we have decided to include colour and will continue to evolve as more members sign up for email distribution, allowing us to extend the content, traditionally focussed on planning and environmental matters, to include a wider variety of topics. Please send comments about the newsletter and website to rvps@talktalk.net.

Message from our new chairman, Clive Lees



I am delighted to introduce myself, having been elected chairman at the recent AGM. Those of you who don't know me may well have seen me cycling round the area in a hi-vis jacket! As you may be aware, I have already been the society's Planning Officer for seven years and now look forward to this new challenge.

As well as changing the layout of the newsletter, **please note** that in future the list of officers and road reps addresses will appear only in the annual roundup. **Please retain this issue for reference.**

As ever, the road reps and Officers are available to help but please try reporting problems to the council yourself first either by telephone (020 8464 3333) or by the websites noted below.

With best wishes, and I hope you enjoy the new newsletter.

Clive Lees, Chairman

Successes

Warren Avenue Playing Fields



Those of you who use Warren Avenue Playing Fields will have noticed that they have been neglected recently, the principal issues being the total failure to collect and store rubbish correctly to prevent foxes getting at it and the area being generally overgrown and uncared for. We have written many reports to Lewisham Council about these issues. See: (<http://www.rvpsbromley.org/warren-avenue-playing-fields.php>)



We are delighted to say that, at last, following our constant pressure, the contractors are taking their job seriously. Litter collection is much improved, two more employees are now available to care for the area and we are hopeful that a comprehensive strategy for continuing maintenance will be in place shortly.

Being stung when sitting may soon be a thing of the past !

Trees



Following the society's efforts to persuade Bromley Council to replace missing trees, the chairman was fortunate enough to have one of the first new trees planted outside his house as shown. If you were one of the lucky ones and also now have a tree please do not forget to water it.

To do so, use the curious green bag that is at the bottom of the tree. The green bag holds 20 gallons of water which is released slowly to saturate the ground around the tree and prevent runoff into the road. Fill it up using the slit at the top.

Additional instructions are on the website: <http://www.rvpsbromley.org/tree-news.php>

With regard to our collaborative project with Bromley Council to replace missing trees in Farnaby Road specifically, we are in the process of confirming the proposed location of new trees and hope to have further news of this shortly.

Reporting problems to Bromley

Bromley Council has an excellent 'problem-reporting' tool at this website: -

<https://fix.bromley.gov.uk/>

This society uses it frequently. It is fully interactive, provides a record of the problem / complaint and the remedy, can be used anonymously and individual users can set up their own password to access their own reports. Do please use it, especially to report problems which reduce the attractiveness of our area such as potholes and untidy pavements.

Following some noisy, out of agreed hours work in Downs Hill on Mothering Sunday morning (the day the clocks went forward), we were asked by a member to remind residents of the council's policy on nuisance noise. Apart from emergencies, they do not allow noisy work to be undertaken after 1pm on Saturdays or at all on Sundays and Bank Holidays. If you are bothered by noise at these times, an out-of-hours noise service is operated by the council on 0300 303 8671. Further information is available at this website: www.bromley.gov.uk/info/412/pollution_control-noise/453/reporting_noise_problems/3

Traffic

Residents will have noticed the 'yellow' box in Station Road at the traffic lights at Shortlands Station. This is to assist HGV's turning into Station Road as they use the alternative route to make deliveries to the High Street whilst Church Road is closed. We asked for this yellow box to remain in place after Church Road is reopened to see what impact this has for traffic turning right from Ravensbourne Avenue but for technical and legal reasons the council are not able to do this.

Constitution and notice of Extraordinary General Meeting

Our existing constitution has been unaltered for nearly 20 years and upon review it has some glaring holes. Therefore, our next meeting will be an EGM. It will be at 8 PM on 3rd July at Bromley Court Hotel. We will discuss proposed amendments to the constitution, the principal ones being: -

- Changing the objectives of the society to focus on being more 'community' minded
- Making the posts of Vice-Chairman and Membership Secretary elected
- Clarifying the procedure for the nomination and election of officers
- Clarifying the procedure for calling an EGM
- Generally tidying up the constitution.

The proposed new constitution will be published some time before the meeting at www.rvpsbromley.org

Anyone requiring a paper copy should contact us.

We will also vote to fill the posts mentioned above. Anyone wishing to stand should contact the Secretary by 20th June.

Help wanted

We are looking for volunteers to fill the following roles. All offers welcome:

Roads and Traffic Officer

We are looking for someone to help maintain the standard of our roads –the principal task is to enthusiastically report potholes and other related problems. At the moment, this is performed by other RVPS Officers –to date an estimated 150 problems have been reported by others to Bromley Council and Lewisham Council this year alone. See the example at www.fixmystreet.com/report/463228

Planning Officer. This is a fantastic role for someone who would enjoy being involved in the local community and meeting and helping those residents who are blighted by planning applications. Interesting and diverse, the role can be very rewarding. On average, 1 to 2 hours per month are needed, but it depends on what planning applications are submitted.

In Memoriam

We are sad to report the recent death of one of our older members. Arthur Barwell of Grasmere Road may be remembered as our Tree Warden from 1996 until he had to give up for health reasons in recent years. What many may have forgotten is the fact that he also served as our Treasurer in 1993 and 1994. Quite apart from the work he did for us he served for many years for a local Citizens' Advice Bureau and did a lot of things for the Talking Books for the blind. He was one of those who made a difference for the better to many.

Members of RVPS may download RVPS newsletters, and agendas and minutes of RVPS meetings, from the website. If you have not done so already and would be happy to receive future newsletters by e-mail, please send your name and postal address to our Membership Secretary, Linda Muller, on l.m.mueller@hotmail.com. This will confirm that you agree to receive future Newsletters and other RVPS documents via e-mail and for these purposes only.

RVPS OFFICERS

Chairman	Clive Lees: 38 Warren Avenue, BR1 4BS
Vice Chairman	TBA
Secretary	Beatrice Osborn: The Causeway, Oaklands Road, BR1 3SJ
Treasurer	Brian Sanders: 41 Farnaby Road, BR1 4BL
Auditor	Pura Atkinson: 94 Madeira Avenue, BR1 4AS
Planning Officer-East	Clive Lees: 38 Warren Avenue, BR1 4BS
Planning Officer- West	Mike Mielniczek: 218 Ravensbourne Avenue BR3 5HG
Membership Secretary	Linda Muller: 4 Brackenridge, 26 Bracken Hill Lane BR1 4AT
Newsletter Editor	Euan McMaster: 35 Downs Hill, BR3 5ET
Roads & Traffic Rep.	TBA
Tree Warden	TBA
LBBRF Delegate	TBA
BPP Joint Working Party Rep.	Leslie Tucker: 5 Bromley Avenue, BR1 4BG
Hon. Legal Advisor	Richard Thomas: 118 Ravensbourne Ave, BR2 0AX
Webmaster	David England: 154 Madeira Avenue, BR1 4AS

ROAD REPS

Bromley Ave. / Grasmere Rd.	Leslie Tucker: 5 Bromley Avenue, BR1 4BG
Brackenhill Lane & Close	Linda Müller: 4 Brackenridge 26 Brackenhill Lane BR1 4AT
Highland Rd. / Karen Ct.	
Coniston Rd / Ullswater & Hawkshead Closes	Barbara Price: 85 Coniston Road, BR1 3BZ
Downs Hill / Crab Hill	Wendy Watmore: 10 Downs Hill, BR3 5HB
Elstree Hill / Erin Close / Hillbrow	Roger Legg: 39 Madeira Avenue, Bromley BR1 4AP
Farnaby Rd (Nos. 1 - 81)	Sarah-Jane Durman: 26 Farnaby Road, BR1 4BJ
Farnaby Rd (Nos. 82 -194)	Kay Shaw: 169 Farnaby Road, BR2 0BA
Madeira Avenue	Brian Atkinson: 94 Madeira Avenue, BR1 4AS
Oaklands / Spencer Rds.	David Page: 3 Lullington Garth, BR1 3SR
Ravensbourne Ave. (evens)	Ann Rowswell: 164 Ravensbourne Avenue, BR2 0AY
Ravensbourne Ave. (odds)	Ann Freiter: 128 Ravensbourne Avenue, BR2 0AX
Ravensmead Road	Peter Saunders: 14 Ravensmead Road BR2 0BT
Warren Ave.	Carol Davidson: 27 Elstree Hill, BR1 4JE
Calmont Rd /Ashgrove Rd / Belgravia Gdns / Ambleside.	Rita Smith: 37 Ashgrove Road, BR1 4JN