

Residents' Association Committee meeting – May 2015

A Meeting of the Committee took place on Tuesday, 12th May 2015. In addition to Committee members, Councillors Bob Gardner, Ros Mill & Simon Parnall along with PC Kelly Houghton & PCSO Mo Langley were in attendance.

An update was given in respect of the comments in the previous Committee meeting regarding the land to the rear of the Shell garage. Cllr. Spiers had subsequently advised that there was no planning permission on this plot of land and that there was nothing to suggest that any such permission would be granted.

A further update was given with regard to the installation of a new village Notice Board. It transpired that the cost of securing advertisement consent (of £385) from the Borough Council was not negotiable since this fee was set nationally. Discussions were continuing with Council Officers to ensure that the required supporting documentation was completed appropriately.

PC Houghton reported on:

- Instances of criminal activity in and around the village continued to be relatively low.
- Concerns expressed by some residents of Smithy Lane in respect of inconsiderate parking by some parents dropping-off and collecting children from the Little Acorns playgroup.
- Advice to residents to be wary of chalk markings made on pavements or walls in front of their properties, which could indicate that opportunistic thieves may target their property.
- The attendance of the Police at the Village Fête and offered her thanks to the Committee for their organisation of the event.

It was reported that there had been a very good response from residents to the recent Planning Questionnaire (sent out with March newsletter). The opportunity had been taken to canvas visitors to the Village Fête, with thanks being given to the Committee for their assistance and support. A further opportunity had been taken to canvas those residents visiting the Polling Station, although this had resulted in a referral to the Borough Council's legal department to ensure that this was not in breach of polling restrictions!

Councillor Parnall reported on:

- The issue of the recent planning application for Rookery Way - including the demolition of the garages – was raised, along with the associated petition submitted by Rookery Way residents. Cllr. Parnall undertook to investigate further.
- A particular planning application was discussed with concerns expressed that such an application could set a precedent for others in the Borough. Cllr. Parnall stated that the application would be judged against the Council's planning policy.
- The recent establishment of the Tadworth Forum, which he supported and added that the Council was hosting workshops to aid this project.
- The issue of the Little Acorns playgroup was discussed at length. It was clear that its move to the Evangelical Church was causing concerns for some residents in Smithy Lane; with inconsiderate parking issues being reported to the Borough Council, County Council and Police. Notwithstanding such issues it was clear that the playgroup was providing a much-needed facility for local residents with young children.

Councillor Gardner reported on:

- Improvements to be made to parking in Rookery Way - allowing residents to park on the verges. 50% of this work was to be undertaken in 2015/16 with the balance the following year.
- It was reported that there was a problem of sewage flooding the A217/Brighton Road (opposite Green Lane) with tankers having to pump the sewage away every 2 hours. It was also noted that the tankers were performing illegal 'U-turns' into Green Lane and that this had been reported to the Police.
- The yellow lines at the Green Lane junction with Smithy Lane, which seemed to be alleviating inconsiderate parking.

Councillor Mill reported on:

- The success of the Village Fête and offered her thanks to the Committee for their organisation of the 'Councillors' Surgery' tent.