

Residents' Association Committee meeting – November 2013

A Meeting of the Committee took place on Tuesday, 12th November 2013. In addition to Committee members, Councillors Bob Gardner, Simon Parnall & Joan Spiers were in attendance.

Councillor Spiers reported on:

- The unanimous rejection by local GPs of the changes - proposed by the recent review - which could have led to the downgrading (or loss) of some of the current services provided by Epsom Hospital; she added that the whole subject would now be re-visited.
- The Chairman acknowledged the time and effort expended by the Borough Councillors and Officers in respect of the various issues in respect of 'Highlands'. Cllr. Spiers noted that, notwithstanding the decision of the Planning Inspectorate, the Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government had dismissed the ruling and re-affirmed that the proposal would constitute inappropriate development of the Green Belt.
- Discussions, which had commenced on the Borough Council's budget for 2014/15.
- The outline agreement, which had been reached with the Bowls Club allowing their continued use of the bowls green, and noted that there had been delays in receiving back, signed documentation. Cllr. Gardner stated that, since he appreciated the importance of local facilities for the community, he had offered his assistance in finalising the relevant documentation.

Councillor Parnall reported on:

- The success of the Borough Council's recycling scheme, which was now recouping some 90% of the cost of its entire refuse disposal service.
- The proposed BMX facility in the recreation ground, which was awaiting funding.

Councillor Gardner reported on:

- Discussions, which had also commenced on the County Council's budget for 2014/15.
- The Village Notice Board and noted that he had been in contact with the Treasurer and had agreed that the County Council would meet the costs of repair or replacement.
- The proposed "yellow lines" at the end of Buckland Road, which would allow for the usual exemptions for users of the Wisdom of God Church. He added that he and Cllr. Parnall had discussed the possibility of providing additional spaces by extending the car park in the Recreation Ground. The Chairman questioned whether any Section 106 (Community Infrastructure Levy) monies were available to offset the cost.
- Potential changes to the A217/Brighton Road junction with Buckland Road & Smithy Lane, which could allow for the re-location of the existing pedestrian lights (by the Royal Ghurkha/Fox on the Hill) further north by the Holly Lodge park home site.
- His discussions with the Officer in charge of trees dealing with a number of outstanding issues.
- In response to a query about the appearance of bollards in Smithy Lane, Cllr. Gardner stated that these had been requested by some residents to deter the parking of vehicles on verges.