

Residents' Association Committee meeting – November 2012

A Meeting of the Committee took place on Tuesday, 13th November 2012. In addition to Committee members, Councillors Michael Gosling & Joan Spiers and PCs Kelly Houghton & Katherine Peters were in attendance.

PC Kelly Houghton reported on:

- Several burglaries, which had taken place during October, along with thefts from vehicles and instances of criminal damage. She provided an update in that, following an increase in the number of Police patrols and surveillance operations, several arrests had now been made.
- It was felt that the BP filling station was considered unsuitable for future 'Meet the Beat' events and that alternative arrangements – including attendance at Councillors' Surgeries – were to be evaluated.

It was reported that the 'No U-Turn' sign at the Buckland Road/Smithy Lane/A217 junction was still being ignored by some motorists and thus giving rise to dangerous situations at times.

Councillor Spiers reported on:

- The likelihood of an appeal being launched following the refusal of a recent planning application.
- The unsuitability of the recreation ground pavilion for young children and she added that considerable refurbishment was required which would be very costly and would be likely to take 2 years or more. Other alternative options were being considered.
- Following a question regarding the period of tenure of the recreation ground bowling green, Councillor Spiers undertook to investigate and report back

Councillor Gosling reported on:

- New street lighting along the A217/Brighton Road, which should be completed in the near future.
- Following complaints about continued flooding taking place at the Chiptead Lane/A217 roundabout and parts of Chiptead Lane itself, Councillor Gosling indicated that the utility company works should be completed within the next 3 to 4 weeks.
- As a follow up to the above, it was also reported that several drains in Green Lane were blocked by leaves etc. and this could lead to flooding; Councillor Gosling stated that road/street sweeping was a Borough Council responsibility.
- Following a question about the future of Ruffets Cottage and the adjacent (now unused) salt silo, Councillor Gosling agreed to check and report back.
- Following a question about the possible closure of the respite centre at The Beeches, Councillor Gosling agreed to investigate the current situation.

It was reported that there seemed to have been little or no progress in setting up "speed-watch" arrangements covering Chiptead Lane, Green Lane & Smithy Lane; it was agreed that the matter should again be publicised in the newsletter.

The proposed merger of Epsom Hospital with Ashford & St Peter's Hospitals Foundation Trust was discussed and Councillor Gosling confirmed that discussions were still in progress.