

Residents' Association Committee meeting – September 2014

A Meeting of the Committee took place on Tuesday, 9th September 2014. In addition to Committee members, Councillors Bob Gardner & Simon Parnall were in attendance.

Councillor Parnall reported on:

- The current situation regarding two specific planning applications.
- His suggestion regarding the development of a 'Village Plan' (as an adjunct to the Borough Council's Core Strategy) and cited the plans recently developed for both Kingswood & Burgh Heath. After lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the Association would form a sub-Committee to pursue this matter.

Councillor Gardner reported on:

- Remedial work that would soon be undertaken by the County Council on verges and footpaths in Lower Kingswood, especially along Mint Lane, Beechen Lane and the A217/Brighton Road. It was pointed out that there were specific issues in the vicinity of Holly Lodge and the junction of Green Lane with the A217.
- His wish to have a pedestrian crossing installed in the vicinity of Holly Lodge, which would be of particular benefit to the local residents.
- Complaints that had been made about the size of some of the trees in Buckland Road and noted that these would be trimmed in the near future.
- Various issues in respect of yellow lines, which had been introduced into parts of Lower Kingswood. He added that much of this work had been undertaken at the behest of residents and noted that parking was time limited.
- It was reported that the phasing of the pedestrian traffic lights (on the southbound A217/Brighton Road) was still defective. It was also noted that, although traffic generally slowed for the speed camera by the recreation ground, vehicles then tended to accelerate towards the Buckland Road/Smithy Lane/A217 junction and thence the pedestrian crossing.
- It was reported that the speed of traffic using both the local roads in Lower Kingswood and the A217/Brighton Road continued to be a major concern; in the ensuing discussion a number of possible ideas were put forward.
- It was reported that a number of residents in some of the roads in the village were seeking approval to "drop" the kerbs so as to be able to park their vehicle(s) on the frontage of their property, it was noted that this could in turn exacerbate parking issues. Cllr. Gardner added that the costs associated with making such an application were not inconsiderable.