

B·R·A·CKENBURY Residents Association

Volume 3, Issue 1

Spring

Editorial

The second BRA Social Evening was held in March and it was a very well attended event. Once more residents braved the foul weather and gathered to chat over the wine and cheese – and meet Iain Coleman M.P. and the ward councillors Chris Allen and Steve Cowan. Matthew Carrington (ex Fulham MP) also came as well as our friends in the Brook Green Residents Association. Steve Cowan gave us an update on the HomeZone proposals (more later in this issue) and there were a pleasing number of new members who helped make the event an encouraging success.

Our next major event is the Annual General Meeting which will be held Monday 2nd July at Grove Neighbourhood Centre.

As with any organization of this nature invariably Committee members move on and sadly this year some will be resigning. As a result, there will be a few Committee places becoming vacant at the AGM this year.

To be effective the Association needs people to help liaise with the Council, stand as Committee members, help organise events, deliver leaflets etc. If you can help or want to stand as a Committee member - contact our secretary Anne Whatmore

SCAFFOLD WATCH

Watch your scaffolding – recently, a burglar shinned up scaffolding poles in the early hours of the morning and gained access through a top skylight. So make sure windows are secure and perhaps get the scaffolding alarmed. Also make sure ladders are put away safely.

Now that the weather is warmer, the police also recommend that residents ensure their windows are equipped with window stops.

HOME ZONE PROPOSALS

Child safety is the number one issue for BRA following the area-wide traffic survey that took place between April and November last year. An exhibition of proposed safety initiatives was held at the Grove Neighbourhood Centre on Tuesday 6th March which had 138 local people attend with more still to take part in the consultation.

Possible changes include the introduction of a 20 mile-per-hour speed limit. Signs will tell drivers that they are entering a Home Zone residential area and traffic calming and will be strategically placed on the roads most susceptible to speeding.

The presentation took the form of boards with photos of the traffic calming options being considered and council staff were on hand to answer questions.

The final proposals will be agreed by a residents' working party before going through the Council's normal planning procedures. The working party will include the local councillors, BRA Committee members, the community police officer, and MP.

Satellite Dishes

Planning permission is needed in a conservation area if a satellite dish is conspicuous i.e on the front wall or roof slope. In such cases planning permission is rarely granted. To get illegal dishes removed, the Council rely on people pointing them out.

Recently, in one road four dishes were noticed by a resident who duly informed the Council. The dishes have now been removed. So write (don't phone) giving the address of the building – to Environment Dept, Hammersmith and Fulham Council, Town Hall, King Street W6 9JU
The council will not disclose your name and address.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be held Monday 2nd July at Grove Neighbourhood Centre, Bradmore Park Road at 7.45 p.m.

CONSERVATION & PLANNING

Building Works

Residents might like to know that the Council does not permit building work to be carried out on a Sunday and Saturday afternoon. If you see this taking place then ring up the Council (Emergency number on tel. 020 8748 8588) and they will send someone round to talk to the builders.

The Council sets the hours of permissible building noise to be Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm, Saturday from 8am to 1pm and no noise on Sunday or public holidays. The relevant Act is the Control of Pollution Act 1974 which gives local authorities the power to deal with building noise and, if necessary, take offenders to court.

BOTHERED BY LICENSED PREMISES?

Interesting aspects about Council monitoring came to light at the hearing on 20 March for renewal of Secrets' licence.

In view of Secrets' history of licensing breaches, it might be thought that the Council had an enhanced responsibility to monitor its performance. In fact, the Council licensing officer present at the hearing said he had not actually visited Secrets but he had "*driven past a couple of times recently*" and on this basis he was "*confident that the premises were operating properly*". A report in the file by other Council officers about "*a possible breach*" was there "*by mistake*", he said - it did not relate to Secrets at all and was about altogether different premises.

So if you have any reason to object to licensed premises near you, don't rely on the Council to do the objecting for you. It's up to you to make a note of noise or disturbance and complain about it to the Council - Licensing team, Environment Department, Town Hall, King Street, W6 9JU. Phone 020 8576 5012/3. Fax: 020 8576 5261.

By the way, the Council renewed Secrets' licence.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - NEXT STEPS

On Monday, 16 July, 7.00pm at the Grove Neighbourhood Centre, PC Emma Reed, the Grove Ward Community Officer, will be leading a meeting of Neighbourhood Watch street representatives and other residents interested in combatting local crime.

The evening will start with a short video on the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch and be followed by information on crime figures, especially burglaries, robberies and car crime, the latest trends and advice on how to prevent crime in the area.

The evening will conclude with light refreshments.

If you are a Watch street representative and have not yet been in touch with PC Reed she would be pleased to hear from you. Please call her on tel. 020 8246 2499 or email reed.emma@met.police.uk to introduce yourself and to confirm your attendance on 16 July. If you would like to help the work of Neighbourhood Watch and be a street representative then, again, do contact PC Reed and come to the meeting on 16 July. If you wish you may write to her at Hammersmith Police Station, 226 Shepherds Bush Road, London W6 7NX.

THE COMMITTEE:-

Anna Benson-Gyles; David Rennison, Diana Mather, Derek Hodd; Rosemary Pettit; Sophie Sainty; Stephen Paine; Catherine Stables and Tony Stephens.
Secretary: Anne Whatmore.

UNWANTED FURNITURE

FURNISH – a local charity – provides recycled furniture for the homeless moving into unfurnished council accommodation. If you have any furniture or white goods to donate – call 020 8969 3332