

B·R·A·C·K·E·N·B·U·R·Y

Residents Association

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Winter 2002

Editorial

Winter is here and the Association is back with many new faces on our Committee. We welcome the involvement of Dr James Briscoe, Richard Winterton, Oliver Benn and our new secretary – Sophie Stewart. Straight off, there are a few planning applications and issues that residents are raising. On our agenda again is the Premier West development and then there is the advent of a fifth terminal at Heathrow and a third runway which will have an immediate impact on our area. On a more positive note, the traffic calming scheme is now complete - the final stages having been put into Overstone Road.

LOCAL POST OFFICE UNDER THREAT

As mentioned in the previous newsletter the Post Office in Brackenbury Road is likely to close down. Government pensions and welfare benefits make up half the business and these will be removed over the next year or so. We are advised that Cllr Steve Cowan and our MP Iain Coleman are meeting the Regional Manager to investigate the situation. For our part we are writing to the Prime Minister, the Mayor – Ken Livingstone - and Iain Coleman to stress again the benefits of this Post Office to the local community.

PREMIER WEST

The planning application by Premier West hotel has been resubmitted. At first sight it does not appear to have changed in any material way – but nor have BRA's objections to it. Consequently, we have written to the Council with our objections and brought it to the attention of Cllr Chris Allen. We also fully support the campaign organized by Tanya Severn in Overstone Road. She has been very active in distributing leaflets to all the neighbouring households. In addition, Councillors for Broadway Ward have lodged objections to Premier West renewing their Public Entertainment License. Let's hope our combined efforts are successful once again.

THIRD RUNWAY AT HEATHROW

Last November, Stephen Byers authorised the building of a fifth terminal at Heathrow Airport.

The principal point is that by increasing the passenger handling capability of Heathrow (from the current 30 million passengers per annum to 80 million ppa), Heathrow would be of more economic value to Britain.

The impact that this increase in passengers will have in our area is likely to be

- increased noise from aircraft which are stacked to use the existing two runways
- increased congestion on the Piccadilly line
- increased traffic flow and congestion along the M4 motorway
- increases in pollution levels from aircraft and vehicles

Now there is an application for Heathrow to build a third runway. The third runway would cater for even more aircraft traffic (which currently stands at 480,000 flights per annum).

The Association has written to Iain Coleman MP to ask for advice as to how to go about objecting to the third runway and we would welcome his support in this. Other MPs are reported to be lending their weight to HACAN's Clearskies campaign and BRA members are keen to get involved.

If you would like further details on the Terminal 5 development and the third runway the following url addresses are worth reading:

<http://www.press.dtlr.gov.uk/pns/>

<http://www.planning.odpm.gov.uk/callins/>

It is now Council policy to oppose the plans for Heathrow and it has made a submission to the Dept of Transport consultation – a copy of which can be had from paul.baker@lbhf.gov.uk or 'phone 0208 753 3431.

We are also glad to see that the *Green* magazine is fully supportive of local residents' campaigns to stop further expansion at Heathrow. A letter in the December issue from a Hammersmith Grove resident points up what we have already experienced – many more night flights over our area. This is serious!

NEW RECYCLING SCHEME

The Council has obtained funding under the Capital Waste Minimisation and Recycling Fund for a new recycling scheme to start operations in February or soon after. To include Brackenburg the two-year scheme will collect paper (as now), glass, cans, aerosols, plastic bottles and textiles, all of which may be put in the same bag for kerbside collection. Between April and October a separate bag will take green garden, and vegetable, waste for composting.

The Council promises lots of publicity for the scheme - so keep an eye out for the details in the spring.

Smarter borough – if, like us, you get fed up with bags of rubbish and uncleaned streets in Brackenburg then please call the Smarter Borough Hotline; the number is 020 8753 1100, or e mail wastehelp@lbhf.gov.uk to report flytips, graffiti, removal of bulky objects or uncollected waste. The telephone number for abandoned cars is 020 7371 5678.

SODERE RESTAURANT

The Sodere restaurant is situated in the Goldhawk Road in an area which is almost entirely residential. The restaurant has now applied to the Council for a late-night entertainment license. The Council's stated policy is to restrict late-night entertainment to town centres and to grant the Sodere a license would seem to contradict this policy.

Concerns have been expressed by residents about the impact the licensing would have - clubbers leaving Sodere in the small hours of the morning will often be tired and drunk, and certainly noisy. Residents nearby are likely to be regularly disturbed.

We have written to the Council to object to the application for late-night music and dancing.

Buildings Historic

If you care about historic buildings, their settings and open spaces, and trying to protect them for future generations, you may like to join the Hammersmith and Fulham Historic Buildings Group. For an informal chat about the group and its work please call the chairman, Angela Dixon, on 020 8748 7416. She has recently won honorary membership of the Royal Town Planning Institute 'in recognition of her tireless planning and conservation work in the borough'. The Group gave evidence to the borough's Unitary Development Plan, was consulted on the Mayor's *London Plan*, and helped to inaugurate and develop *The Thames Strategy Kew to Chelsea* plan. The annual membership fee of £5 may be sent to the Treasurer, Jo Brock, H&F HBG, Flat 12, 43 Peterborough Road, London SW6 3BT.

Neighbourhood Watch

The last meeting of the Neighbourhood Watch was on 24th January. The role of Street Rep was discussed and, according to the Police, essentially each Street Rep is an autonomous being and can call a meeting of their street members whenever they want. They can also ask the police to come along if they have particular concerns, but the initiative comes from the Street Rep rather than from the Police.

In an ideal world the Street Rep should get to know people in their street and encourage involvement - perhaps organise a little meeting with a social emphasis and use the forum for exchanging information.

Essentially, the success of the Watch in any street does seem to rest with the time and energy a Rep is prepared to put into it.

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

From time to time we email BRA members with news about the association or items of local interest. If you have recently received an email from us about the historic buildings group then we have your email address and there is no need to send it again. If you didn't receive this information - and have an email - then do please email the Membership Secretary at rosemarypettit@onetel.net.uk and she will add you to the BRA list.

If you do not have an email then we will, of course, alert you - as we do all members - to forthcoming events by hand-delivered mail. Anyone who would be willing to help with delivery please call the Secretary, Sophie Stewart, on tel. 0208 563 0476

Bradmore in recent times

The next instalment in the series of talks by Dr Moya Tyson on the history of the Brackenburg area has been arranged for Thursday, 27 March at the Grove Neighbourhood Centre. More details to follow.

Be social

We've booked the Gothic hall of Godolphin and Latymer School for the BRA annual social, this year to be held on Thursday 27th February at 7.30pm. If you can help with this event, either by preparing food, serving at the bar or in other ways, please call the Secretary, Sophie Stewart, on tel. 0208 563 0476