

Newsletter Wickham Common R.A. February 2011

We are sorry it has been quite a little while since you have received any news regarding our Residents' Association. This is due to the fact that there has been some illness amongst our Committee members and that there are so few of us to do the work. However during that time your committee has not stood idle. As usual we have been very busy upkeeping the rural aspect of our area, monitoring planning applications or any other developments.

The bulk of our work is done on planning, whether it is objecting to constructions which would damage the Green Belt or monitoring the closing time and the selling of alcohol in establishments close by as this might affect our area with increased noise or disorderly behaviour. Previously we have had an input in the licensing hours of the Coney in Croydon Road and more recently for the New Inn opposite Hayes Station. For quite a while and still ongoing we have also objected to the opening of a new food and alcohol selling establishment in the parade of shops along Croydon Road. We have also objected to some alterations on a building on the Green Belt in Cudham and much nearer home we are working in conjunction with Nash R.A. to object to the changes proposed for Moot Farm. Our planning Officer, Mr Chris Beckley, is monitoring regularly all the planning applications for our area. As part of planning we also monitor the cutting down of trees or illegal encroachments on roads, particularly on the unmade roads of our area.

We have been working in close contact with the school, the Police, the SNT team and LBB to obtain yellow zig-zag lines around the corners near the school. This project is not yet finalised as we understand some single yellow lines are to be put along parts of Gates Green Road. The SNT Team is not only helping in this matter but works very hard to keep our area free of crime and is constantly reminding residents on how to keep their property and themselves safe. Our contact is Katie Burge and she can be reached on Katie.Burge@metpolice.com.

Following the heavy snow we have had in November and December several residents have become "Snow Friends" which means that they are in possession of salt and a shovel in readiness for people to use for clearing the footpath in front of their property. This will hopefully avoid the terrible situation we have had with pavements being lethal. LBB started this scheme as the salt and grit they put in boxes along the roads was continually being stolen. The Snow Friend project has now been stopped but you can become a "Street Friend" which means you care about the street's environment and want to make the street in which you live a clean and safe place. If you wish to join contact street.services@bromley.gov.uk or telephone 020 8313 4621.

You might be aware that LBB is consulting all Bromley residents on their views about extending the business hours of Biggin Hill Airport during the Olympic Games and the period just before and just after. You have until 18th February to let LBB know your opinion on this subject by emailing airport.consultation@bromley.gov.uk or by writing to LBB Airport Consultation, Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Bromley, BR1 3UH.

Wickham Common is constantly organising walks or events. The next one will be on Saturday 12th March, 1.30 pm till 3 pm "An introduction to West Wickham Common". Phone 01 372 27 90 83 to book your place or find out which other events they are planning. These are often advertised on their board on the Common as well as on our website.

At our last AGM it was decided to reduce the subs to £3.00 per household and we would be most grateful if you would kindly drop this to the addresses listed on the website in the envelope provided.

There just remains for us to wish you a good and happy Spring.

The Committee of Wickham Common R.A