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## LOCAL NEWS

### Planning Update

#### Kings Terrace

The battle to prevent two houses being built next to No 4 Kings Terrace has been lost on appeal despite the application being rejected unanimously by Havant Borough Council Planning and Development Committee. There is no evidence to show the inspector was unduly influenced by the owners of the site, Hampshire County Council Highways Department, as all the applications and appeals were made on behalf of the developer, Interquest Homes.

Opponents of the scheme have now taken the matter up with the Quality Assurance Unit of the Planning Protectorate in an endeavour to have this investigated.

#### 94 New Brighton Road

A few years ago, when it was first proposed, the ERA supported the redevelopment of the old laundry site at 94 New Brighton Road. Now the detailed plans have been published, the picture looks rather different.

There is now a planning application for 33 housing units on an extended site, which includes the demolition of a large Victorian house, No 96, which is a fine example of the solid and imposing residences which give the New Brighton area its distinctive character.

The applicants, Crayfern Homes Limited, are proposing to construct nine, one bedroom apartments, eight, two bedroom apartments, eleven, three bedroom houses, four, two bedroom houses, one, four bedroom house and a new access onto New Brighton Road. They also propose to fell three TPO trees and severely prune seven others. The ERA has submitted objections to this detailed planning application.



The old laundry site at 94 New Brighton Road

#### 3G mobile Phone Mast New Brighton Road

AWA Telecommunications are having a 'Pre Planning Consultation' for a proposed Hutchinson 3G Ltd Base Station at the junction of New Brighton and Westbourne Roads. Installing a mobile phone mast does not require planning permission but they are required to consult with residents and 'seek an agreement'. The pole height is 14 metres (approx. 45 feet) located amongst the trees. Alternative sites, such as the Wren Centre, have been proposed but the owner does not want the mast there as he has "other plans for the area"!

#### Hermitage development saga continues

A current application for additional houses on the Hermitage development sites now brings the total number of extra units to nearly 25% of the original application, increasing the number from 64 houses in 2003 to a current 79 units (flats and houses).

Does this expansion erode the reserve capacity in the SUDS system, designed to control water run-off from the site?

Is the infrastructure in the area sufficient to cope with this number of units in respect to school places, children's playgrounds, traffic generation and the like?

#### Hollybank Lane TPO tree

The ERA has written to oppose the felling of a large Turkey Oak tree (with a Tree Preservation Order), in the front garden of 9 Hollybank Lane on the grounds that hardwood trees are becoming increasingly rare and need to be preserved where possible.

#### Minerals in West Sussex

*Information provided by Rosie Haverson Sanday in her role as chair of the ERA Public Services Committee.*

Big things are afoot just over the border in West Sussex. There is an official plan, the 'West Sussex Local Minerals Local Plan 2003' in which the government inspector specified in great detail areas for potential mineral extraction. Two years later there are moves afoot to begin a vast new phase of gravel extraction.

Maps of potential sites associated with these plans cover a far wider area than the approved 2003 plan. The relevant Parish Councils in West Sussex are meeting and considering plans of action to oppose what could be a vast operation with far reaching environmental consequences for everything from traffic to water conservation.

It is too soon to determine any details but The EMS will cover the event more fully in the next issue and meantime keep you posted on the ERA website.

#### Controversial sites for sale

The two sites at the southern end of New Brighton Road, either side of the A27, the Interbridges Site and the one behind No 22 are both up for sale. It will be interesting to see what any new owners propose for these sites.

#### New ERA website service

The ERA website now contains links to all planning applications made in Havant Borough (from August 2005) and their outcomes. This is in addition to posting a summary of current applications on the site itself.

### Liveability Expenditure for Emsworth agreed

*David Gillett*

The Borough has been awarded a total of £3.4 million under the Liveability scheme; a government initiative to improve the environment. Emsworth, as one of the six wards in Havant Borough, has been awarded funding amounting to more than £250,000. This funding has been split into two amounts, the smaller part (£50,000) is being managed by the Emsworth Community Board and the rest, a larger capital sum totalling over £200,000, by the Borough Council Strategic Board. This board's remit is to improve corridors through the Borough and key strategic locations.

The Emsworth strategic project focuses on the central roundabout area on the A259 for which extensive public consultation has been carried out. There were several public meetings, including a workshop and an exhibition in the Pastoral Centre to which the public were invited to put the proposed improvements in order of priority. This survey was also carried out in the last edition of The EMS and sent to the Community Pulse Citizens' Panel.

The results of the survey have been processed and the following list of improvements are to be implemented:

- Light reflecting paint in the subway
- Security mirrors to give views of the underpass
- Improve crossing refuges north and south of the roundabout
- Provide lighting on path to Palmers Rd car park from the underpass
- Improve the anti-slip surface on ramps to underpass
- To improve access from Palmers Rd car park to the subway we will replace the small set of steps with a ramp (adjacent to the bus stop)
- Fit hand rails both sides of the underpass ramp
- De-clutter roundabout central feature by lessening road signage
- Install public art panels in the subway with possible theme such as the Echo
- Paint Brook Meadow underpass with light reflecting paint
- Treat woodwork on bridge and walkways to the south of Brook Meadow
- Improve length of footpath from the footbridge to Palmers Rd car park
- Replace existing junction railings with more decorative style in a theme relevant to Emsworth
- Improve signage of Palmers Rd car park from North Street and the A259
- Remove railings and island by the bus stop east of roundabout

From initial discussions with HCC, they have indicated that they may be willing to part fund some elements of this underpass work.

All of this work will be completed by the end of next summer with the start being mid November to early December.

We also have an additional wish list of expenditure that scored lower in the consultation and which can be implemented should any of the above need to be dropped for technical reasons. Included in this list is replacing the very high lighting at the central junction and along the A259 with lower level lighting and much more in keeping but there are issues of responsibility for street lighting getting in the way for the moment.

### Emsworth Community Board

*Virginia Wilson-Smith*

It is 'all systems go' now with the projects on which the Board have decided to spend our £50,000. We have received the go-ahead from the Liveability Strategic Board for the Skate Park in the Horndean recreation ground. The young users group is busy with the final designs and it is hoped to commence work at the end of September/early October.

Following the exhibition in late June and public consultation, which was evenly split between the Waymark Trail and the single sculpture, the Board voted for a 'Wayfarer's Trail' of Sculptures. This is as a Memorial to those who gave their lives in the two World Wars and in all subsequent conflicts where peace and justice have been under threat. It is intended that the Trail will start somewhere on the foreshore and pass through Emsworth, uniting all areas from south to north and west to east. We wish to have a 'Garden of Remembrance' along the Trail with seating and a larger sculpture with suitable inscriptions.

Various ideas have also been put forward to the board. One is to have a website with the names and details of those killed in action in WW1 and WW2 and in subsequent conflicts. There will also be a leaflet with details of the sculptures guiding people along the Trail. It is hoped to hold workshops with the sculptor showing him/her at work; everybody would be welcome to come to these workshops, thus involving you in the creative process and we hope to see you there. If you have any ideas which could be useful to the board in progressing this Trail, then please, contact me on 01243 373744 or by email, virginia.wilson-smith@havant.gov.uk.

If you are interested in the work of the Board, please come along to one of our meetings. Dates and times are announced on yellow posters around Emsworth including the ERA notice board.

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