

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Chris Curry

A27 Site

We can now tell you that the site developer has withdrawn the application to develop the A27 Site, which would otherwise have been rejected by the Council Officers on technical grounds. The developer will almost certainly put in a further application but it is primarily based on the need to solve the road junction issue. The design proposed was unacceptable to the Highways Authority. The next application may, therefore, only deal with the track between the New Brighton Rd and Footpath 71. If this happens the rest of the site will be the subject of a later separate application.

In the meantime, I wrote to the Highways Agency asking them not to sell any land which was purchased under the Compulsory Purchase Orders made at the time the A27T was built. The land was purchased for the purpose of providing screening for Emsworth from the A27T. I copied my letter to our MP, David Willetts who wrote in support of our action. David Willetts has been officially informed by the Chief Executive of the Highways Agency that this land is not for sale. This will restrict access to the road leading to the site making development on the proposed scale very difficult.

If we are approached by the developer to discuss any revised proposal, then we shall discuss details with them but without prejudice to our opposition to the use of the site for employment purposes, other than the original hotel and service station accessed from the A27T only.

Interbridges East

Another formal application has been presented by the developers of the land to the east side of the same junction. We are making objections on several grounds as follows:

- Drainage from the site may not be adequate due to frequent flooding problems under the rail bridge.
- The site density has been revised and increased from 10 units approved in January 2006 to 15 on the latest plan and two of these units are located on the south side of the site.
- Part of the land was originally compulsorily purchased for the purpose of landscaping alongside the A27T and this landscaping should be retained.
- The Borough Council had an agreement with the developers and others for the cost of new traffic lights to be borne by the developers. There are no traffic lights included in the latest plan but the public car park related to the rail station will still be on site. The purpose of the signals was to allow cars to enter and leave the site and for pedestrians to cross the road from the public car park.

New Brighton Area

The 26 New Brighton Road application has been withdrawn and therefore the appeal has been dropped. We expect to see another plan brought forward which will be for a lower number of dwellings.

Baptist Church Site

I and other members of the ERA Committee attended consultation meetings in September to ask the community their views about the proposed development. The site includes the former car park area next to the Baptist Church Hall, the Hall itself and the Church. The buildings will be demolished and replaced by a new multi-purpose building. The architects were provided with a copy of the draft Emsworth Design Statement. It will be most interesting to see the results which will have a significant visual impact on all residents and visitors to Emsworth.

Health Service Issues

Chris Curry

The Hampshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee in Winchester have been very cooperative in their response to questions the ERA has raised with them. This HCC Committee has elicited the following informative responses from the Hampshire Primary Care Trust (HPCT), who run our primary health services.

- The closure of Emsworth Victoria Cottage Hospital was 'justified' by the results of an incomplete draft study which was never adopted by the local health authorities. This draft study was also the basis of the plans for Oak Park Hospital.
- Oak Park Hospital is now awaiting the go-ahead from the Department of Health. Until this approval is definite, no plans can be made about the future of the Emsworth Cottage Hospital building.
- Capacity plans for the future do not take account of events that have not yet come to pass, such as additional housing envisaged in the South East Plan or the possible downgrading of St Richard's Hospital.

This information greatly helped us understand how decisions are made by the HPCT and we have acknowledged this. As a result of our correspondence, we have been invited to a meeting to take place soon to discuss our issues with the Director and some key staff.

Other research has discovered that Oak Park Hospital will in part, be financed by the sale and leasing back of the land on which the new hospital will be built and selling the Emsworth Cottage and Havant Memorial Hospital sites.

Market Town Initiative (MTI)

- Progress Report

Brendan Gibb-Gray

Sarah Snowden, MTI coordinator, recently presented the initial findings to the Emsworth Community Board of the work completed by Emsworth volunteers. The final report for consultation and consideration by the community is now in the preparation stage. One interesting suggestion being promoted is that there should be a "play area" for children under ten years old somewhere on the beach. Many people have said that the absence of play activity for children living south of the A259 is a serious drawback. The MTI team have put forward an idea for such a beach play area to HBC for consideration in a funding application to the Big Lottery. Clearly any activity on the beach will have to ensure no disruption to wildlife and the natural environment. The dangers associated with play near water are obvious, but we hope to develop something that supports innovation and provides new ways of providing safe play and experiment for our younger residents. This is even more important now that crabbing and swimming have unfortunately been banned from the Emsworth pontoon. Parents interested in helping to take forward the idea of a beach play area are invited to contact me. More ideas and suggestions will emerge from the final MTI report which will act as a consultation document for all the community.



Emsworth Design Statement reaches the next stage

The EMS has been silent about the progress of the Emsworth Design Statement for a while. This is because we have been consolidating the text while preparing pictures and maps. The Design Statement is currently being reviewed by Havant Borough Council Officers.

When this review is complete (probably in January/February), we will prepare the document with all its contents formatted as for publication. We shall then ask you, the people of Emsworth, for formal endorsement.

As soon as we have copies available, notices will be displayed on the ERA notice board outside the Co-Op, at other places in Emsworth and on the home page of the ERA website. The Design Statement will then be available in the Library, the Pastoral Centre and on our website with forms for formal comment. Since Emsworth people have already had many opportunities to write about detail, we will only make changes relating to major issues. We are looking for support as well as criticisms on items such as the Design Points.

After the consultation period of four weeks is over, we shall make final modifications and the document will return to the Council for approval. The EDS will then become a planning document.

Watch out for the Notices, read the Design Statement on the ERA website or in the Library or Pastoral Centre and then complete the endorsement form with your comments. The final return date for this form will be advertised.

Emsworth Pavement Petition

Ann Lanchbury

I would like to thank everyone for their enthusiastic response regarding my efforts to improve the pavements in Emsworth. I would also like to thank all the kind people who assisted me in collecting the many signatures, as there are too many to mention individually. Between us we obtained more than two hundred signatures on the petition, which I will be presenting to our three local Councillors in the New Year, hopefully winning their continued support.

I realise that this issue is probably way down the pecking order but, by your response, I know it is very close to your hearts. I will continue to exhaust all possible avenues, in the hope that one day, we will achieve some satisfactory results.

Dog Fouling in the Town and Promenade

Brendan Gibb-Gray

Residents, business people and visitors complain about the amount of dog mess encountered in and around the town, particularly on the promenade. The problem always seems worse during the winter months and is especially bad at the moment. The majority of dog owners act responsibly, but we have a few residents/visitors who are serial offenders. The Dog Wardens at HBC have been alerted and will take action where appropriate.

Is there a need for volunteers to support the Borough's Dog Wardens in working to reduce the antisocial behaviour of the few? I would welcome your views on this subject.



BORLAND & BOUND
AWARD WINNING
INDEPENDENT ESTATE AGENTS
9a High Street, Emsworth
01243 377655

ALSO

BORLAND & BOUND
LETTING AGENTS
5 High Street, Emsworth
01243 374005
www.borlandandbound.co.uk



M. Reed Tree Service

All aspects of Tree Surgery undertaken

- Felling · Pruning
- Deadwooding · Shaping
- Ornamental & Fruit Tree Pruning
- Trained and Fully Insured
- Replanting and Disease Control

For Professional Advice & Free Estimate contact:

Michael Reed, 30 Christopher Way
Emsworth Hants. PO10 7QZ

Emsworth (01243) 375434 & 376906



M.O.T TEST CENTRE
ACCIDENT REPAIRS

- SERVICING
- TYRES
- EXHAUSTS

(01243) 372336

e-mail: lillywhitebrosLtd@yahoo.co.uk



CLASSY COOKS

We are a small independent cookshop with friendly, knowledgeable staff, selling a wide range of products for the discerning cook. Whether you want to buy a kitchen essential, a present, or a treat for yourself, we have something for anyone who enjoys cooking and good food.

CLASSY COOKS

4 Central Buildings • North Street
Emsworth PO10 7DU
Telephone 01243 377518
www.classycooks.com

THE COMPLETE DECORATING SERVICE

R. C. DECORATORS

19 Years Exp.

Painting & Decorating • Wall Papering
Artexing • Coving • Maintenance

DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR

All Work Guaranteed

Dulux Approved



(01243) 372337

Mobile 07771 628188

6 The Crescent, Emsworth



Enjoy Bed & Breakfast
in the elegant surroundings of

Hollybank House

Also an ideal setting in Emsworth for wedding receptions and private functions

Contact: Anna Williams 01243 375502

anna@hollybankhouse.com

www.hollybankhouse.com

See website for villa for 10 in Nerja, Spain

C. W. HAYNES

Landscape Gardener
and Fencing Contractor

All Garden Work
Undertaken

From Complete Design
and Layout down to the
smallest job

Emsworth 376351

Tax Returns . . .

without tears
(or tantrums)!

Ring Chris Dyer-Smith, F.C.A.
on Emsworth 377037

Home Visits
always
a pleasure



7A HIGH STREET
EMSWORTH PO10 7AQ