

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Chris Curry

Build, build, build - latest Government moves

An alarming new factor in the planning system is the proposed change of rules by the Government. These rules will prevent Local Authorities from relying on unexpected 'windfall' sites when planning where new homes will be built. This change undermines both local authorities' planning role and South East Regional Assembly (SERA) targets for 60% of development on previously developed land, as set out in the region's 20 year planning vision. In the present Havant Borough Local Plan, 22% of the homes scheduled to be built between 2001 and 2011 are expected to be windfalls.

Windfall sites, such as small industrial sites, car parks or bus depots, often become available for housing after development plans are written, but an allowance for such sites can no longer be built into council plans.

Councils must therefore identify extra greenfield land for potential housing, but once it is identified - even as a reserve site - Planning Inquiry Inspectors will bring it forward for development. This will undermine the councils' role in planning for the needs of their areas and will use greenfield land for housing, unnecessarily.

Amazingly, on their previous record, SERA is campaigning against it. I suggest that we all write to our MP, whose address is on the back of The EMS to object to this plan and ask for his help in defeating it. It would also be useful to write to SERA supporting their opposition. The address is:

Heather Bolton, Assembly Communications Director - South East England Regional Assembly, Berkeley House, Cross Lanes, Guildford Surrey GU1 1UN
E-mail heatherbolton@southeast-ra.gov.uk

Interbridges East

The most recent planning application has been withdrawn pending the resolution of various technical points which are still under discussion with the Borough Council. Part of the land was originally compulsorily purchased for the purpose of landscaping alongside the A27T. We are considering how this landscaping can be retained.

Committee and other organisation changes

At the AGM in January, there were some changes to your committee. In particular, I would like to mention Frances Jannaway and thank her for her help over several years on the Committee and working on the Emsworth Design Statement. She is retiring from our Committee but she is not leaving to put her feet up but to further her work for Emsworth in other ways. She is Chairman of the Brook Meadow Conservation Group and, having started up the Tree Warden scheme in Emsworth, is also Tree Warden coordinator for the whole borough. Additionally, Frances is Vice Chair of Emsworth Community Board and is taking an active role in the recently formed 'Friends of Emsworth Memorial Garden'. These take up considerable time and we wish her well in these activities.

We have now officially appointed Tony Morgan as a full member rather than a co-opted member and we welcome Dick Howell who is joining the committee as a new member. There were no other committee changes.

Sue Granville George who has been responsible for the distribution of The EMS for several years is moving from Emsworth after 25 years and John Kieran has agreed to take on the role. We thank Sue for all her work and welcome John who will be trying his hand with this edition.

Fields north of Spencer's Field - Emsworth

The field running east of Horndean Road and to the north of Spencer's Field has recently been enclosed and leased to a stockman. He plans to use the area for grazing. This has caused concerns amongst residents in that area and the Emsworth Residents Association has been approached about the issues.

After investigation, we realised that there were two points of view. Some residents wished to have the activities of motorcyclists, who have used that area, curtailed and others who wished to see the land available for dog walkers and picnickers, did not mind the activities of the local motorcyclists. This group also felt that the motorcyclists will be displaced into Hollybank Woods. There was also concern that the enclosure had occurred without prior warning.

After discussions with Borough Officers and Emsworth Councillors, it was agreed that when the lease expires in three years, there would be an opportunity to review the matter before a commitment is made to either continue the lease, or undertake another option.

Medical Issues

Chris Curry

Multidisciplinary Response Team

These teams are part of the new look health care and consist of people from the NHS and Social Services cooperating to support the elderly and infirm in their own homes. Fran Williams of the Multidisciplinary Response Team based at Emsworth Cottage Hospital has reported excellent results from this cooperation and we look forward to hearing of satisfactory outcomes from this relatively new service.

Emsworth Cottage Hospital

With regard to Emsworth Hospital future use, I had information from Dr Tibbs of Emsworth Surgery, which I mentioned at the AGM. He said, "We are very interested in buying the site and replacing the hospital with a modern medical centre to serve the medical needs of the population and we hope this would include physiotherapy, district nurses, midwives, medical loans, etc., etc. All suggestions as to what is needed are welcome."

Market Town Initiative (MTI)

Brendan Gibb-Gray

The MTI project funded by Hampshire County Council was launched during the 2005 Food Festival. Volunteers have now completed a "health check" of the town and its environs. Churches, schools, groups and associations and indeed many individuals have made significant contributions to the findings, which will set out a programme for future work.

We are currently exploring the possibility of setting up a Town Partnership which would be representative of the myriad of groups and interests in Emsworth. Already we have strong indications that the Emsworth Residents and Business Associations, together with the Community Board, Churches and Conservation Groups will take part. It is not too late for your group to get involved in this interesting project.

One issue that children at our primary schools raised was their desire to have somewhere to play on the beach. Both parents and children said there was no "playspace" between Victoria Road and the Harbour. Unfortunately, environmental considerations make the provision of such space very difficult, (see page 8), but the Conservancy has agreed to work with MTI in exploring the possibility of supporting the creation of an education and interpretation centre in Emsworth. We also hope that courses in basic sailing might be introduced for those local children who currently have no experience of the water and who might enjoy the opportunity this would give.

All these and any other ideas will depend on the formation of a Town Partnership as will the success of funding applications from the National Lottery and other funding bodies. An executive summary outlining work so far can be viewed at www.emsworth.org.uk. Please contact me if you can help or have any comments on the document.



**Emsworth
Community Board
Needs You**

Steve Pearce and Frances Jannaway

Do you enjoy living or working in Emsworth? Do you want to maintain the quality of life in our community? If so, the Emsworth Community Board needs you.

Who are we?

The Emsworth Community Board (ECB) comprises 15 people who live, work or learn in Emsworth. Our role is to represent the views of Emsworth people on local plans, services and facilities to Havant Borough Council, Hampshire County Council, the Police, and other local agencies to improve the quality of life in Emsworth.

What do we do?

We meet once a month at a public meeting to review local matters.
We work in focus groups to review current issues and develop plans for action.
We meet and communicate with council officials to lobby for improved facilities and services.
We organize community teams to tackle litter and other environmental problems.
We contribute to the formulation of local plans and strategies.

What do we want from you?

Your enthusiasm.
Some of your time.
Your willingness to take part as well as talk.

What can we offer you?

The opportunity to make a difference to everyday life in Emsworth.
The chance to influence the plans and strategies that are shaping Emsworth's future.
The satisfaction that comes from putting something back into the community.

When can you join?

In line with the ECB constitution, five new members will be elected at the AGM to be held on **Tuesday 24 April, 7.30pm, at the Emsworth Community Centre**. If you would like to put yourself forward as a candidate, please contact Frances Jannaway, tel: 01243 430314; or email: brettelff@ntlworld.com

How do you join?

We will send you a nomination form and some background information about ECB. In return, we would like to know a little bit about you and why you would like to be a member of the Board. You will need to get two residents of Emsworth to sign your form as proposer and seconder.

Please come and vote

Even if you do not want to be a member of the Board, please come along to the AGM on **Tuesday 24 April** and cast your vote. All people who live or work in Emsworth Ward are entitled to stand for election and vote.

Please Note: The normal monthly ECB meeting on 2nd Thursday of April has been cancelled.

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

Lillywhite
BROS LIMITED
40 Queen St, Emsworth, Hants

M.O.T TEST CENTRE

ACCIDENT REPAIRS

SERVICING
TYRES
EXHAUSTS

APPROVED PAINT & BODY SHOP

(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

Emsworth

Chiropractic clinic

1d School Lane,
Emsworth PO10 7ED
(off High Street)
Telephone: 01243 373721
www.emsworthchiropracticclinic.co.uk

For better health and a more active lifestyle choose safe, effective chiropractic care. Stop symptoms such as pain and stiffness from getting worse.

Not sure if chiropractic can help you?
Give us a ring and find out more.

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