



PETERBOROUGH ROAD & AREA
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
Incorporating Clancarty Road,
Daisy Lane and Settrington Road.

PRARA NEWSLETTER

Volume No. 4

Issue No.16

Date: February 2005

OPEN MEETING

PRARA's first open meeting of 2005 will be held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 16 March at Christchurch, 67 Studdridge St.

All members are cordially invited to attend. You may bring a guest if you wish. The guest speaker will be David Early of Living Streets, a major new campaign of the Pedestrians Association (PA), and there will be an opportunity to get acquainted with fellow members and the committee.

PA state that the Living Streets campaign is a clear and urgent challenge to the authorities who, for decades have allowed traffic priorities to overwhelm our local streets and public places, and failed to keep them clean and safe. They are the one body that can speak for communities with authority. The PA has since 1929 been the driving force behind much road safety regulation and many schemes such as The Walk to School campaign, Home Zones and pedestrianised areas. They are non-profit making, and are neither party political or anti-car. They campaign for a better quality of life for all.

PRARA might be able to benefit from the campaign in some way and David Early will be pleased to respond to any issues you may want to raise.

Refreshments will be available: red and white wine, fruit juice and mineral water, for which a small donation would be welcome to cover the cost.

Please RSVP to Ann Rosenberg, by email/phone/note through the door, so we know how many seats to provide.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Dispersal Order on Sullivan Court has had the desired effect, and the groups of youths who

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congregated there are no longer in evidence. The situation is being monitored by the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT), especially as the weather improves and the days get longer, and therefore conditions for this situation are likely to re-occur.

The SNT for the Sands End Ward began patrols on Monday 14 February. The team leader is Sergeant Mark Trower. The team consists of two Police Constables and two Community Officers.

The SNT is to be a permanent feature for local security policing in London. Therefore it is very important that PRARA members report any incidents, however small, regarding crime, anti-social behaviour, suspicious individuals, or any other degradation of local amenities to their NW representative, so this can be relayed to the SNT operating in the PRARA membership area. This information gives the police a picture of potential criminal activity in the area, and aids their effectiveness. **However anything of an obvious criminal nature or activity that causes concern should be reported directly to the police, without delay.**

In future newsletters, we hope to give reports on each of the two wards in the PRARA membership area – Parsons Green & Walham, and Sands End. However we also hope to create a PRARA website in which more detail of criminal or anti-social activity is reported as the information is received from the two SNT teams.

Briefly, the latest report on the Parsons Green and Walham Ward, indicates that residential burglaries are down by 47%, robberies and snatches down by 37%, vehicle crime down by 83% and disorder calls been reduced by 40%. There is also a report of a night-time burglar operating in the Hurlingham Road area, and con artists in the streets in the Peterborough Estate. However there is no room for complacency and vigilance on the part of residents is crucial to the success of this policing initiative.

There have been security warnings and advice given in previous issues of this Newsletter. Please take note of these and if you need to be reminded, get in touch with your NW watch representative.

One example is the warning not to leave car/house keys visible near the front door, as thieves armed with hooked poles can steal these via the letter-box. Members were also asked to install either a cage over the letter box, or a flap. Within the last few weeks, thieves successfully employed this method in Sullivan Road. Police were alerted but the thieves escaped. A hooked pole and several sets of keys were recovered, which the police attempted to return to the householders.

PLANNING ISSUES

Imperial Wharf: a duplicate application was submitted to the council by St. George for 648 residential units, 744 sqm of retail \ office, 1003sqm of business space, 856sqm pre school facility and 124 parking spaces. PRARA have again formally objected to the application on grounds of traffic congestion generated by the proposal.

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28 Peterborough Road: a planning application for 10 B1 [studio \ business \ light industrial] was submitted by the new owners of the site. Robust objection to the scheme were made by numerous residents on Peterborough Road & Broomhouse Road and PRARA submitted a supporting objection. The local councillors additionally objected to the proposed scheme. As a result of the objections the application will be considered by the planning committee on the 8th March. PRARA will keep you advised of progress.

Details of the above planning application and others can be viewed on the council's web site www.lbhf.gov.uk just follow the link to planning.

SOUTH PARK

Although there have been very few obvious improvements, Direct Services are - slowly -tackling all the items that are now recorded as needing attention. We are continuing to press for a specific major capital expenditure commitment but so far the Council have only provided general and non-specific undertakings. PRARA is in regular contact with Head of Service responsible for the Borough's parks and receives regular progress reports. We are also now planning a petition involving all park users. Beth Patrick is due to take over responsibility for South Park from Charles Truman who will remain South Park Representative until the handover is complete.

STREET LIGHTING - BAD AND GOOD NEWS

PRARA has attempted to have the level of street lighting raised in Clancarty Road in response to residents' concerns about the low level of illumination. Unfortunately it is not possible to increase the brightness without changing the lamp standards. Sadly this is not scheduled for a further three years as priority is being given to replacing the steel columns which are becoming dangerous. The good news is that all the street lighting on and around Parson's Green is being replaced in about three months time, which should improve safety.

NEW LICENSING POLICY

The Council has now published its Statement of Licensing Policy which sets out the principles to be used in considering the issue of all licences from 7th February of this year. It is pleasing to report that PRARA's responses to the draft policy have been taken into account, as to the need to advise Residents' Associations about applications and that complaints are now to be made via the council rather than to the premise's owner or licensee as was originally proposed.

HURLINGHAM & CHELSEA SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT LICENCE

Under the new licensing system PRARA was consulted about an occasional licence for the annual charity pantomime which takes place at the school each December. After consultation with members in Peterborough Road and Daisy Lane whose houses back onto the school premises, an objection

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was submitted by PRARA concerning noise on the two late nights, Friday and Saturday. We are pleased to report that the organisers responded promptly and in considerable detail, setting out all the arrangements they were making to limit and control disturbance and noise. We were sufficiently reassured to withdraw the objection and our members report that the 2004 pantomime was conducted in an exemplary manner and did not cause any problems.

HURLINGHAM & CHELSEA SCHOOL - CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOUR

After school behaviour continues to give to concern as standards seem to have deteriorated again. One particular problem is groups of children walking down the middle of local roads on their way to Wandsworth Bridge Road and deliberately blocking vehicles. PRARA has written to the Head of the school requesting remedial measures.

CASH ONLY PARKING METERS

The notification to residents about the recent change in Residents' Parking arrangements did not make any mention of the introduction of non-residents, pay only bays at the end of some of the roads. Many residents received parking tickets as a result and PRARA joined in the protests and complaints which resulted in the special, yellow notices which now alert people to the special restrictions on these spaces.

CONGESTION CHARGE EXTENSION

The Council has finally taken a decision on its policy towards the Mayor's proposed extension. The Leader of the Council, Andrew Slaughter, has advised us that at its meeting on 26 January:

"This Council resolves to oppose the westward extension of the Congestion Charge Zone, as proposed by Mayor Livingstone. In the event that the zone is extended, the Council resolves:

- To support the campaign of the Edward Woods Residents' Association to exclude the Edward Woods Estate from the scheme; and
- To oppose the proposal from the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea to make the Borough boundary the zone boundary. "

OVERGROWN HEDGES

Requests were made to the Highways Department to deal with some overgrown hedges which are obstructing footpaths in Clancarty, Settrington and Peterborough Roads. The process is slow because of the steps that the Council is obliged to follow but some improvement has resulted. If householders continue to fail to take action the ultimate sanction is that the Council undertakes the

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work and charges the householder.

EMPTY RESTAURANTS ON CORNER OF CLANCARTY ROAD

The leases of these restaurant premises at 140 & 142 Wandsworth are now being actively marketed. In view of the history of problems experienced by nearby residents, PRARA has written to the agent asking them to advise prospective tenants of the need to observe the planning conditions on the sites and have due consideration for neighbours.

RECRUITMENT DRIVE

PRARA's successes to date have proved that a residents' association can be effective in protecting and improving the local environment, and safeguard the quality of life. It is a continuing process. PRARA intends to offer membership to the residents of Sullivan and Hugon Roads, which will add strength to its efforts.

CHELSEA FOOTCLUB LIAISON MEETINGS

PRARA is one of the local organisations which is invited to attend the regular (three times a year) liaison meetings held by the club to deal with any problems affecting residents caused by Chelsea Village. We would like to find a PRARA member who would be willing to represent PRARA at these meetings. Please let Ann Rosenberg know if you could be interested.

WEBSITE

PRARA hopes to have a basic website established soon. This is being created by a PRARA member, but if anyone has web design skills, and would be prepared to offer them, we would be very grateful. The content will cover on-going initiatives such as the maintenance and upkeep of South Park, Neighbourhood Watch and other security issues – especially updates and alerts, planning applications, and local council activities which directly affect the PRARA membership area. If any member wishes to suggest content, please email Anthony Williams.

PLEASE NOTE: Some of the email addresses need updating, so if you are on email please can you email Hon Sec. Ann Rosenberg: anntony@which.net on receipt of this Newsletter, so we have a correct email address for our records.

We hope to see you at the Open Meeting on Wednesday 16 March. Don't forget to RSVP.

Ends
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