



**PETERBOROUGH
ROAD & AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

Incorporating Clancarty
Road, Daisy Lane
and Settrington Road.

PRARA NEWSLETTER

Volume No. THREE

Issue No.14

Date: July 2004

AGM - NEWSLETTER - POLICE PHONE NUMBERS

AGM

The Annual General Meeting was held on Monday, 7 June 2004 at the Ashville Surgery, Swan House, Parsons Green Lane, at 6.30pm.

Attending: A. Williams (Acting Coordinator), C. Stenning, (Hon. Treasurer), A. Gray, (Neighbourhood Watch), G. Nicholson, (Daisy Lane Representative), Mrs A Leonard representing P. Leonard, (Planning), A. Rosenberg, (Hon. Secretary).

Apologies: C. Truman (South Park representative), R. Brown, Brendan Bird (Councillor Sands End Ward),

Guests: Nick Botterill, (Councillor Walham & Parsons Green Ward), PC Jason Devlin and PC Ray Hayes (Safer Neighbourhood Scheme).

Anthony Williams, Acting Coordinator (since Patricia Hicks has stepped down), welcomed the guests and twenty-three PRARA members. He announced that the Standing Committee wished to present Patricia with a gift as a token of the Association's appreciation for her hard work over the past two years in establishing PRARA. Members endorsed this and agreed that as Patricia was unable to attend the AGM because she was away, the presentation would be done at a later date. AW also thanked Dr Stephen Aras for the use of his meeting room for the AGM.

PRARA STANDING COMMITTEE

Coordinator: vacant.

Vice-Coordinator & Clancarty Road Representative: Anthony Williams, 59 Clancarty Road, Tel: 7736 6045 email: Gileswill@aol.com

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator: Andrew Gray, 65 Peterborough Road, Tel: 7751 0119 email: graya@forbes.co.uk

NW Clancarty Road: Michael Foster, 65 Clancarty Road, Tel: 7371 9807 email: michaelfoster1@hotmail.com

Hon. Secretary: Ann Rosenberg, 72 Peterborough Road. Tel: 7731 5151 email: anntony@which.net

Hon. Treasurer: Chrissy Stenning, 15 Peterborough Road, Tel: 7736 8053 email: kstenning@compuserve.com

Daisy Lane Representative: Guy Nicolson, 21 Daisy Lane, Tel: 7736 8015 email: guy.nicolson@virgin.net

Planning Representative: Paul Leonard, 21 Peterborough Rd., Tel: 7384 2706 email: Paulleonard@leonarddesigns.com

South Park Representative: Charles Truman, 80 Clancarty Rd., Tel: 7731 3105 email: charles-truman@lineone.net

AW said that as there was no-one currently able to take over the role of coordinator, many of the functions of the role had been successfully delegated to members of the Standing Committee. He said he would continue as Acting Coordinator for the present, but was unable to take on the role due to his own time constraints.

The search for a coordinator continues, and a description of the duties of the role is available from the Hon.Sec. However, the hard work of establishing PRARA was completed, and the role of coordinator is not quite so demanding, although there is still valuable work to be done to maintain and safeguard the quality of life for PRARA members.

He mentioned that after some teething problems, the rising bollard is now functioning as intended and that the Whitebeam tree planted by PRARA last November to celebrate the Centenary of South Park is thriving. (Newsletter No. 12 - April 2004 summarised PRARA's achievements to date).

He then invited Nick Botterill to speak and answer any questions from PRARA members.

Councillor Nick Botterill spoke of the Safer Communities initiative which came about as a result of the analysis of crime statistics for the Walham and Parsons Green Ward (the third worst in the borough and the worst for car crime). Altogether there are three wards in the borough which will benefit from this initiative, which will comprise a dedicated force of 6 officers; one sergeant, two community officers and three support officers. Sands End Ward has very low crime statistics and will be served by the Problem Serving Team - Tel: 020 246 2909.

Mr Botterill also touched on last year's proposed changes to the parking regulations in zones Q & R, which are due to be implemented later this year. Controlled parking times are to be extended to Monday - Friday 9.00am - 8.00pm. Permit holders will be entitled to park in bays during the following resident priority hours: Monday - Friday: 6.30pm - 8.00 pm and Saturday: 3.00pm - 4.00pm and 6.30pm - 8.00pm. Guest permits will be available to all permit holders for use during these hours. Other restrictions will be 2-4pm on Saturdays as in zones F & S. Existing bays in side streets close to commercial premises will be restricted to a maximum stay of one hour. This will enable parking for visitors to local businesses during the resident priority hours and allow a greater turnover in visitor parking at other times. The 8 hour maximum parking time would be changed to prevent overnight parking.

This experimental scheme will be advertised in the local press and all representations received in the first six months of the scheme will be analysed before deciding whether the scheme should be amended, abandoned or made permanent. (Contact: John Birch, Project Engineer, Traffic & Road Safety, Tel: 020 8753 3522; email: John.Birch@lbhf.gov.uk)

He said that the consultation paper showed broad support for these changes. (The Council has now circulated residents with details of the consultation results. No date for commencement was given but further details in the form of an information pack will be circulated in August.

GN asked why these proposals were not going to be implemented in Daisy Lane and Sullivan Road (Zone Q).

Mr Botterill replied that this was due to the fact that the members of the Parsons Green Club would be adversely affected by the new parking restrictions, and as the club urgently needed to increase its membership, it was felt that an exception was justified.

A PRARA member expressed concern about street cleaning and the state of some of the forecourts along Wandsworth Bridge Road. Mr Botterill agreed that street cleaning was not a high enough priority and advised members to contact him via email (nbotterill@aol.com) or phone 0795 6176255 about their concerns and he would contact the relevant department.

With regard to the forecourts in Wandsworth Bridge Road - the Council will only act if there is a statutory nuisance or hazard.

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Andrew Gray (Neighbourhood Watch) welcomed **PC Ray Hayes and PC Jason Devlin** and asked them to speak about the problems of concern to residents.

PC Hayes said he had worked in the borough for 12 years, been on the Problem Solving Team for 3 months and is now working in the Safer Community Team, comprising Sergeant Mick McDonald and 3 PCs.. They are familiarizing themselves with Fulham's crime problems and are supported by the 8-strong Problem Solving Team. These flexible teams will be more effective dealing with anti-social behavior, thefts, mugging and burglary. They will identify the troublemakers who will be subject to zero tolerance. Although bikers and scooters (causing noise and a potential danger to themselves and pedestrians) can't be chased, the police can now seize the machines, and traffic police are now authorized to give chase. They can act if they are given identification plate numbers, but cyclists have to be caught indulging in anti-social behavior.

He reported that Fulham burglary statistics are average for the borough. They are committed to tackling the problem and are willing to meet residents to discuss domestic security, and crime prevention awareness.

Chrissy Stenning (Hon. Treasurer), thanked everyone who had responded to her request for their annual donation, and reported that PRARA had enough funds to cover administrative costs for the coming year.

Anthony Williams (as Clancarty Road Representative), reported that the problems concerning Broom Farm had been tackled by Social Services and the police and this appears to be having some effect as there are now fewer anti-social incidents.

Guy Nicolson (Daisy Lane Representative), reported on his attempts to stop large commercial vehicles turning into Daisy Lane from Broomhouse Road to reach Peterborough Road to return to Carnwarth Road. His suggestion of putting a mini-roundabout at the junction of Daisy Lane which would enable large vehicles to turn round and return to Carnwarth Road via Broomhouse Road was rejected. An official from the traffic department had monitored the Daisy Lane junction for one day and reported that only one heavy vehicle had used this stretch of road during that period.

They now propose returning to the original plan of allowing heavy vehicles to use Daisy Lane, and facilitate the right turn into Peterborough Road by removing a parking bay. GN will continue to oppose this proposal, and suggested that a sign is placed at each end of Daisy Lane saying it was unsuitable for large vehicles.

GN also said that bollards would be erected on the grass verge at the junction of Daisy Lane and Broomhouse Road to prevent cars mounting the pavement/grass verge. However this part of Daisy Lane was also to be used for locating recycling bins for the use of the residents of Sullivan Court as the orange recycling bags are not suitable for blocks of flats. He opposed this as the bins are not regularly emptied resulting in an accumulation of rubbish in the vicinity, and thus degrading the area.

(In a written report read out by AW), **Charles Truman (South Park Representative)**, reported that the Parks Manager was to be congratulated on the upkeep of the playing fields. However there was little progress to report and the park was not considered safe after school leaving time. He felt that the Problem Solving team should attend to this. He has notified the Parks Police about youths hitting hardballs with golf clubs.

AW reported that the decision as to the fate of the lodge in South Park would be taken sometime in August.

Alex Leonard (representing Paul Leonard - Planning), reported that broken paving in Peterborough Road had been replaced after a letter from PL was sent to P. Nichols (Head of Highways).

Ann Rosenberg (Hon. Secretary), reported a small increase in membership, and was especially keen for more members to be recruited in Settrington Road. There are currently 73 membership households.

SPECIAL MEETING - AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

In accordance with the existing Constitution, the AGM was temporarily adjourned in order to consider the proposed changes to the Constitution circulated with the AGM notice. AW explained that most of the changes were in response to the present growth of PRARA and the need for the Standing Committee membership to reflect this by ensuring every road was properly represented on the committee. Other changes were consequential. The only change of a more fundamental nature was the creation of an associate category for local societies so they can liaise with PRARA and add strength to PRARA initiatives if needed. PRARA could also enter into reciprocal arrangements.

Members endorsed the proposed changes and the Standing Committee was charged with producing a revised constitution. A copy of this is attached to this newsletter.

Nominations for the Standing Committee

There were no nominations for posts on the standing committee and current committee, having indicated their willingness to continue, were re-elected.

Andrew Gray said he would like to stand down as Neighbourhood Watch coordinator next year and Ann Rosenberg said she is looking to share the duties of Hon. Sec.

Also a Peterborough Road Neighbourhood Watch representative is urgently needed for the bottom end of the road, (between Clancarty & Sullivan Roads). Please contact Andrew Gray or Ann Rosenberg if you would like to volunteer.

AOB

AR's suggestion of a Picnic in the Park to celebrate the Centenary of South Park in early July was subject to Council permission, but in the event, the combination of her lack of time, and the tragic death of a local boy in Daisy Lane meant that it was not only difficult to organize it in the time available, but also inappropriate. She apologises to everyone who may have liked to take part, and hopes that there will be renewed enthusiasm for the event next year.

PRARA member Sue Pierson (Tel: 7731 6544) is writing a history of the Sullivan family, (benefactors of area) and would welcome any information.

PRARA member Dr Aras has some black & white period floor tiles which he is happy to give to anyone restoring their floors.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Since the AGM, there was a tragic murder of a young boy in Daisy Lane, and more vandalism of the historic terracotta balustrading in South Park and damage to the pedestrian entrance to South Park in Clancarty Road..

Andrew Gray (Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator), reports that Sgt. Mick MacDonald informed him that two people have been charged with the murder in Daisy Lane, and the rapist who was operating in the Parsons Green and Walham Ward has been charged with three attempted murders and related sexual offences. However AG was pleased to report that crime in the ward has almost halved since the same period last year, now that the Safer Neighbourhood scheme was in operation.

Anthony Williams wrote to the Leader of the Council, Andrew Slaughter,(letter dated 17 July, reproduced below), and has received an acknowledgement, but no reply to date. The side gate entrance to South Park which was partially demolished has now been re-built. The Mayoral celebration of the Centenary of South took place in South Park on Saturday 31 July with music from the Fulham Brass Band. It was a low key event to which representatives of local organizations and groups were invited. There are 3 new benches in the park with a plaque to commemorate the centenary. Cllr. Brendan Bird suggested to the Mayor that next year, there could be similar event for residents of the area to celebrate their own park - a rare amenity in the city - in larger style. The Mayor agreed, so PRARA hopes that with Council support, there will be a Picnic in the Park next summer, with music from the Fulham Brass Band invoking the spirit of the era when the park was first created for the children of Fulham.

17th July, 2004

Cllr. Andrew Slaughter,
The Leader of the Council,
London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham,
Town Hall,
King Street,
Hammersmith,
London, W6 9JU.

Dear Councillor Slaughter,

South Park

I am writing on behalf of the Standing Committee of the Association to express our deep concern about the latest very extensive bout of vandalism affecting the terracotta balustrading in the north west corner of the park, and the need for urgent action.

On behalf of all residents, and the many other users of South Park who are not members of our association, I call upon you to give the highest priority to producing a proposal for the comprehensive restoration of South Park - on which we are willing and keen to comment constructively - with agreed plans to be rapidly endorsed and implemented.

It is both disgraceful and ironic that the Mayor will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of South Park at the end of this month with the park in such appalling condition. As well as this damage to the terracotta we can highlight:

- *The shameful state of the re-landscaping of the former play area in the south east corner - some £80,000 of work last year, wasted.*
- *The damaged pillar of the pedestrian gate in Clancarty Road at the Settrington Road end, which has resulted in the entrance being crudely boarded up.*
- *The general condition of the fenced in games areas adjacent to Hugon Road.*
- *The state of the "changing rooms", toilets and pavilion in the middle of the park on the Peterborough Road side.*
- *The derelict cottage in the north west corner (although it is understood that at long long last this is due to be re-occupied.)*

PRARA, and especially our founding Co-ordinator Patricia Hicks, have been working for years to obtain an improvement in the state of South Park and throughout that time we have been highlighting the need to repair and protect the terracotta, which originally required only relatively minor renovation and repair.

PRARA has welcomed, supported and praised the work that was done last year to upgrade the planting and generally improve the horticultural maintenance of the park and implement small scale improvements. Indeed we contributed to these by planting a tree in the park last December to mark the centenary.

Nevertheless we have had to repeatedly point out that money spent on improvements will be wasted unless it is followed by a comprehensive maintenance programme. Sadly, our comments have fallen on rather deaf ears.

I am writing this letter on my return from holiday after having this morning viewed with horror the extent to the damage to the terracotta whilst I have been away. During that time PRARA's South Park Representative, Charles Truman, has spoken to numerous council officers about this latest bout of vandalism and we know that some are as distressed as we are at the latest very serious incident. Mr. Truman has also spoken to the police - although they were regrettably too occupied with the Sullivan Court murder to investigate the matter.

We can only express pleasure that Mayor is recognising the importance of South Park by celebrating its 100th anniversary - but much, much more than a mayoral celebration is urgently needed, including the immediate preservation of the remaining terracotta.

Years of neglect must be addressed and a solution to the terracotta problem found. All assurances to date about its reinstatement have proved hollow. Maybe it will be necessary to consider more radical alternatives, such as replacement by a modern version in metal. Vision and imagination are needed - surely a Beacon Council can find some?

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Williams
Acting Co-ordinator

Copies to: Charles Truman, PRARA South Park Representative
Roger Khanna, Director of Direct Services
Councillor Nicholas Botterill
Councillor Brendan Bird

POST SCRIPT

Temporary Jobs Available / New Voters Lists

The Council's Electoral Services department is keen to recruit local residents to their team of voter registration canvassers and has asked us to circulate some details.

Each canvasser is responsible for an area of about 350 - 450 properties and there is a four stage process to be followed. Stages 1 to 3 cover the delivery of the form and two reminders, with deliveries to commence on 2nd September and be completed by 10th October.

Stage 4 involves visits to households which do not return their forms by post, in order to gather the necessary information personally. This stage takes place from 21st October to 8th November.

You can choose between Stages 1 - 3 only, Stage 4 only, or commit to all four stages. Payment for "delivery only" canvassers is 20p per household if you only do Stages 1 - 3, but 30p if you do Stage 4 as well. There is a sliding scale for the visit stage ranging from 90p to £1.50 per form depending on the percentage of completed forms. The best performing ward team will share a bonus of £1,000.

Application forms can be downloaded from the council's website www.lbhf.gov.uk or contact Zoe or Stella on 020 8753 2177 or 020 8753 2640 who will also answer any questions.

The new Voters List will be published on 1st December.

**KEEP THESE NUMBERS BY YOUR HOME PHONE AND
PROGRAMME THEM INTO YOUR MOBILE PHONE**

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOR
PRARA RESIDENTS.**

**SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHEME
(PARSONS GREEN & WALHAM WARD)**

and

**PROBLEM SOLVING TEAM
(SANDS END WARD)**

020 8246 2090

PARKS POLICE

Inspector Stan Davies - 020 7385 8963