

Emsworth Community Board

**Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 11 October 2007
at 7.30pm at Emsworth Community Association Centre**

Present:

Community Board Members

Steve Pearce	Chairman/Resident
Helen Barnard	Emsworth Community Association
Tim Brooks	Emsworth Business Association
Brian Edwards-Picknett	Resident
Frances Jannaway	Brook Meadow Conservation Grp/EDS Tree Warden
Donald Wells	Resident
Malcolm Emery	Resident
Mike Iddon	Creek End Residents Association

Others:

Helen Wood	Community Boards' Support Officer
PS Grey Police	Community Boards' Support Officer
Steve Ward	PCSO

10 members of the public

Action

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the October meeting of Emsworth Community Board, especially those who had not previously attended, and provided a short explanation of the procedure.

Apologies had been received from: Cllr Virginia Wilson-Smith, Jayne Emery, Martin Bonner, Maurice Clarke, Ken Gilchrist, Rosemary Osborne, Richard Galloway, Lisa Jones and Nick Horten.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

Matters Arising

Item 5c 97 Havant Road - It was confirmed that the horse chestnut tree in the grounds of the Brookfield Hotel was subject to a Tree Preservation Order.

Item 7 It was confirmed that the Highways Agency and Network Rail were responsible for the A27 underpass (from Seagull Lane).

Reinforced wire had been placed under the A27 underpass (New Brighton Road) following the failure of netting to deter pigeons. Havant Borough Council had agreed to clean the area. It was confirmed that the same action would be taken at the A27 underpass (Seagull Lane) within 6 months.

Item 9 Emsworth Memorial Garden Event. It was confirmed that the date of the main event had been changed to 19 April 2008 although a smaller

		Action
	event would still be held in the Square on 27 October 2007 with Angel Radio attending and an exhibition being held. Volunteers were sought from the Community Board to assist with collection boxes on 27 October.	All
3.	Summary of Reports/Documents Circulated	
	The minutes of the previous meeting and agenda for the current meeting had been circulated.	
4.	Police Report/Environmental Ranger	
	<u>Police</u> Steve Ward, PCSO for Emsworth, reported as follows:	
	Motor vehicle theft (sat navs), especially in Bath Road, had decreased.	
	There had been an increase in burglaries across Emsworth, both dwelling and non-dwelling. An arrest had been made and a person charged.	
	Thefts of garden ornaments and furniture had occurred in a number of roads (usually between 1a.m. and 4 a.m. Enquiries were in hand. There was a short discussion regarding identifying such property and it was suggested that post codes were used to ease identification when items were recovered. The reporting of incidents was encouraged as such reports helped to target resources.	
	It was confirmed that extra patrols would be in place for Halloween and Police were working with shops regarding the sale of flour and eggs to young people.	
	<u>Environmental Ranger</u> Nick Horten had forwarded his apologies but had provided a written report.	
	Junior Citizen, organised by HBC was held annually at Fort Purbrook and attended by all 10 year old pupils from schools across the Borough, including Emsworth. Rangers had spoken to 1,500 young people over a period of two weeks, successfully getting over a number of environmental messages to a receptive audience. The approximate number of young people spoken to, Borough wide, at a number of venues was approx 4,500.	
	Travellers in the Borough had been dealt with expeditiously by the Ranger team and HBC Legal Services and their impact on residents was minimised, whilst complying with the Travellers Human Rights. Partly as a result of this there were no Traveller incursions in the Emsworth area.	
	There had been no reports of significant fly tipping within the area.	
5.	Community Development Strategy	
	Due to sickness of speakers this item was deferred to a future meeting. Steve Pearce confirmed that a list of meeting venues for hire in Emsworth was being compiled and requested a volunteer to co-ordinate this.	All
6.	Emsworth Town Partnership (ETP)	
	Steve Pearce provided a presentation on the Emsworth Town Partnership which would be circulated to members separately.	HW

There was a short discussion questioning whether charities such as the Community Association were able to become members of the Town Partnership. Helen Barnard and Steve Pearce to consider this.

7. Progress Reports from Sub-Group

Environmental Group

Two members of the group had been considering issues with graffiti/litter etc and had been assured by Havant Borough Council that all items raised would be resolved by the end of the year.

Frances Jannaway had been involved with trees in the area and confirmed that 4 of the trees (double flowering cherries) planted on the southern edge of the recreation ground, had probably died, possibly due to the waterlogged ground conditions. Andrew Skeet from Havant Borough Council had agreed that trees would be replanted if they failed to revive.

Steve Pearce confirmed that the pruning and cutting down of highway trees, often with little or no warning, was of concern to the Community Board. This issue was being taken forward via HATs.

Transport Group This group was reviewing its objectives for the current year. Pressure groups on transport would be contacted to identify needs, concerns and issues.

Planning

26 New Brighton Road An appeal had been held but no decision available.

97 Havant Road (9 flats) This had been refused.

A27 Interbridges Access Road for the western site would go to Development Control Committee at 5 p.m. on 18 October. Emsworth Community Board and the Residents Association were sending a deputation. It was hoped as many people as possible would attend the meeting as it was believed this would have a major negative effect on Emsworth.

Interbridges East had also been raised with a new, larger, design. A letter of objection had been sent in regarding junctions, drainage, density etc.

A Planning Application for a house behind the Texaco garage and Brookfield Hotel was being considered.

Planning Applications in West Sussex were being monitored.

8. Public Forum

A resident raised an issue with cars, including taxis, parking in Westbourne Avenue, either side of the road and close to the junction. This was seen as dangerous. Cllr Brendan Gibb-Gray confirmed that this issue had been raised several times and involved companies based in Seagull Lane. As it was recognised that this was a dangerous junction with a sharp bend the Enforcement Officer had been asked to consider the status of the small warehouse buildings and their permissions. Cllr Gibb-Gray believed that once the appeal for 26 New Brighton Road was sorted, yellow lines might

be put in place.

It was agreed that there was an issue with the number of parking spaces provided at The Grange and that many complaints concerning these issues had been received. It was suggested that residents contact the Police on the 0845 number if they felt vehicles had been parked in a dangerous manner.

A resident spoke of the West Sussex footpath from Emsworth Marina to Thorney Road and unlawful use of the ground. Steve Pearce confirmed that issues would generally only be considered if they were in the ward of Emsworth but this may be an issue which required further consideration.

Ray Palmer from Waterlooville, an independent member of Hampshire Police Authority spoke of attending each of the Community Boards as part of the Neighbourhood Policing Agenda. He confirmed that Community Boards had been put forward as being the main means of engagement and he was looking at the effectiveness of the Community Boards in consulting with the people of Emsworth.

Steve Pearce informed Mr Palmer that the Community Board consisted of 15 members, from a cross section of the community, members of the public attended the meetings and provided input and the Community Board worked closely with the local Councillors. Questionnaires and exhibitions had also been used for specific projects. There was a discussion regarding communication, including working with the Residents Association, articles in 'The Ems', the 'Chichester Observer', 'News' and 'Ems Valley Gazette'. It was generally felt that Community Board members were well informed about what was happening in Emsworth. It was also confirmed that the Police and Environmental Rangers were very good in following up any issues raised at meetings.

There was a very short discussion, following which it was agreed to consider amending the Agenda to ensure the Police were available for the 'Public Forum' item at each meeting.

A resident requested information regarding the acquisition of 'No Cold Calling' signs and the possibility of having smaller signs available. It was believed that Jayne Emery could provide information on this matter.

Cllr Brendan Gibb-Gray asked for an item to be added to the next agenda to discuss the placing of a flag pole in Emsworth especially in view of the local military base on Thorney Island. It was felt that this could be used to recognise the bravery and commitment of those serving in Afghanistan and Iraq.

SP

9. Any Other Business

Steve Pearce reminded those present of the meeting to be held at St James Church on Monday 30 October regarding St Richards and the general hospital situation. Everyone was encouraged to attend as this was an important issue for the people of Emsworth. Some leaflets had been distributed but more volunteers were required for specific areas.

Action

Steve Pearce had received an email from Abbie Eales, Deputy Governor Services Co-ordinator, who was seeking new school governors and was willing to provide information or attend a Community Board meeting.

It was agreed that Steve Pearce would contact her and request that information be sent for distribution to Board members.

Helen Barnard reported that the appointment of the new Head, Mr Davies (previously Deputy Head), at Warblington School, was widely appreciated. Discussions were continuing over the sale of part of the playing fields and the development of an all weather sports facility for the school.

A new Head would commence at the Church School after January.

Everyone was asked to support an informal non-denominational ceremony to be held at the Memorial Gardens at 11 a.m. on 11 November.

Mike Iddon passed on thanks to the Community Board, Cllr Gibb-Gray, local residents and Frances Jannaway for the support received over the development at 50 Bath Road.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 8 November 2007 at 7.30pm at Emsworth Community Association Centre.