

THE MOORPOOL DUCK

Residents' Newsletter

Issue No. 21

October 2006

MOORPOOL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 31st October 2006

in the
MOORPOOL HALL THE CIRCLE

7.15 pm for 7.30 pm

NEW BUILDINGS? ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR!

CHANGES? CONSERVATION STATUS UPGRADE!

ARE YOU WORRIED AND CONCERNED?

Life on our estate has changed over the years and changes are again underway. The AGM is a chance for you to hear what is happening, what is being planned and what may be planned. The Residents' Committee represents all residents - freeholders, leaseholders and tenants - and it invites your attendance to elect a committee for 2006-7 and also to add your voice to the developing situation on the estate.

PLEASE ATTEND THE MEETING AS WE NEED TO HAVE YOUR SUPPORT TO KEEP THE INTERESTS OF ALL RESIDENTS IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE MANY DECISIONS BEING MADE AT THE MOMENT

All Residents welcome

AGENDA FOR AGM

1. Apologies
2. Election of Officers / Committee
3. Minutes of last AGM
4. Matters Arising
5. Chair's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Conservation Status
8. Development Proposals
9. Anti-social Behaviour
10. Centenary Plans
11. Social Events Planning
12. Allotment Association
13. AOB

— : —

AGM Further Information.

Tea and biscuits will be served from 7.15 - 7.30 pm and again at the close of the meeting.

At the moment there are vacancies on the committee. Anyone wishing to stand for election to the committee, either for the "office" roles (chair, treasurer etc.) or the General Committee places, please contact the Secretary (Margaret Harley, MRA Secretary c/o Moorpool News and Wines, The Circle) via the Association letter box which Raj has very kindly offered to have in the newspaper shop.

We would be delighted to see new members coming to join the committee. At the moment the main committee aims to meet about once every two months, the sub committees meeting a little less frequently.

Subscriptions to help fund our activities are due again and can be paid at the AGM . The rates are £3 for an individual or £5 per household.

TIM BEAVIS

We were greatly saddened to hear of the death of Tim Beavis. He was a well known figure on the estate from his connections with St. John's Church, his Betterware work and, for several years, his work as Treasurer and Committee member of the Residents' Association. We shall miss him very much and offer our sincere condolences to his wife and family.

— : —

MOORPOOL NEWS & WINES

The shop now has a cash machine, so if you are in need of topping up during - opening hours, no need to go up the village - shop locally! Don't forget you can have newspapers, magazines etc delivered and there is an extensive range of groceries, wines & spirits, stationery, confectionery as well as dry cleaning service.

RESIDENTS POST BOX

Raj, as already mentioned, has very kindly agreed to house a Post Box in the shop at the Circle for residents to use when communicating with the Committee. Please do use this as well to send us ideas and comments etc.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR can be a worry and many Residents have asked what can be done about it, or how can they help. The "Duck" asked Sergeant Ogden from Rose Road Police Station to answer the question.

Policing Moorpool. An update from Sgt. Ogden.

As a Moorpool resident, you are policed by a dedicated Neighbourhood Policing Team based at Rose Road. The team consists of myself, Sergeant Neil Ogden and eight other Police Constables, some of whom you may have seen or met on patrol. PC Regisford has been responsible for addressing some of the issues on the Moorpool estate during the summer months and I'm sure if you have not seen or had contact with him, then in the near future you will see your local officers on 'the beat'.

Officers from your neighbourhood team daily patrol areas of Harborne on foot, mobile transport and also on new pedal cycles. The team is supported by colleagues who attend emergency calls 24/7, Police community support officers and special constables who regularly give up their time to police

I am proud to say that the West Midlands Police is presently the best performing metropolitan police force in the country and that our area in recent years has seen the lowest overall crime figures in the West Midlands. Further, the Harborne area is currently achieving the highest reduction of crime within the area which polices the areas of Quinton, Edgbaston, Ladywood and Winson Green. This I believe has been down to the introduction of Neighbourhood Policing.

As your local Police we aim to work closely with you to address any problems you have. We will use a range of Policing methods to ensure that any problems are solved as quickly as possible and do not re-occur, putting further long term preventative measures into place. It will require the right people to be in the right place at the right time. A range of pro-active patrols and crime reduction operations also takes place, such as bus operations and vehicle number plate readers at check points on main road. We will only achieve further crime reductions in your area with your assistance and co-operation.

Officers from the team work within local primary and secondary schools to give informative talks, including "good citizenship" presentations and offering crime prevention advice. We also attend local meetings and recently attended the Moorpool Residents' Committee meeting which was for myself the start of our new relationship in working together to make 'The Moorpool' a safer place.

We have regular contact with our Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators via a telephone system. It allows everyone to be informed of any incident quickly and will help prevent any incidents from taking place. This is a valuable long established system which has seen some great achievements through everyone working together.

If you wish to set up a new scheme in your area or become a community contact please let me know on the contact details shown below.

Anti-social behaviour is a problem in many local neighbourhoods. It accounts for a large number of calls made to the Police. We take reports of anti-social behaviour seriously and treat it as a policing priority as we understand that these issues affect local people on a daily basis. We review incidents of anti-social behaviour daily to ensure they are being addressed effectively.

In order to reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour in our neighbourhoods we aim to tackle the root cause of the problem, not just the symptoms. This means getting to the heart of the problem – asking why is the anti-social behaviour in this area? Who is causing it? Who is the victim? By carefully researching these issues we can normally come up with a solution that will prevent further anti-social behaviour. We will gather the necessary evidence and work in partnership with other agencies to provide a solution. In most cases we will not attend immediately as anti-social behaviour is not normally classed as an incident which requires an emergency response. Often the anti social behaviour has stopped before we arrive. This policy is adopted for most cases of anti-social behaviour e.g. playing football in the street. However, an officer will normally attend if specific offences are, or have been committed or where the issues require a longer term solution.

Local authorities and registered social landlords also need to take responsibility for acting against anti-social behaviour by their tenants and against their tenants. Social landlords need to ensure that they are taking the welfare of the whole community fully into account when making their decisions. Just as important, all these bodies need to be sharing information with each other to the fullest possible extent in order to act fairly and decisively against problems of anti-social behaviour. Some recent examples of solutions are gating alleyways, warning letters to parents when the children have been caught acting in an anti-social manner, joint visits by Police and housing officers to anti-social tenants, acceptable behaviour contracts where youths undertake to act in more responsible manner, support of projects to encourage use of local youth facilities referrals of offenders to drug and crime rehabilitation projects. In addition, anti-social behaviour orders (ASBO's) have been used successfully to reduce incidents and prevent offenders from acting in an anti-social manner.

As the range of activities is so broad, the right person to tackle the behaviour in the first instance is you. Your assistance in recording and monitoring the behaviour is crucial if we and our partner organisations are to take up the matter. Please consider the following:-
Keep a log of acts of anti-social behaviour, including times, dates and details of the activity. This can be sent to the organisation responsible for solving the problem and is one of the best ways of gathering evidence to support any proceedings. Contact your local Neighbourhood

Team on the below numbers who will discuss your concerns and if the issue cannot be resolved by the Police, they will link through to our partner agencies. You will see anti-social behaviour reporting forms in local shops, libraries, community centres and many other venues. These forms need to be returned to us giving details of the anti-social behaviour affecting you.

Lastly, thank you to all those residents who have assisted during the summer months with some local youths who have been anti-social on the Moorpool near to the pond area and also on The Circle. There is clearly a lot of work still to be done, but we hope through your continued support and that of Graingers that we will put some long term solutions into place.

The next Harborne Police consultative meeting attended by the Police Inspector and myself will be at 7pm on Monday 6th November at Harborne Junior and Infant School.

Top ten crime prevention tips for this autumn and winter

1. Keep hedges and trees trimmed back to let in light and prevent hiding places
2. Consider fitting sensor lighting at the front and rear of your property.
3. Invest in a timer switch so that a light will automatically come on in the evening
4. Chain up your tools and secure them in a locked shed. Use good quality locks.
5. Don't keep car keys in your hallway. Keep keys well away from doors and windows.
6. Never leave things in your car – the glove box is the first place a thief will look.
7. Avoid walking alone in the dark – remember there is safety in numbers.
8. Hide wallets, purses, jewellery, mp3 players and mobile phones when out and about.
9. Always chain your door before answering it.. Check the identity of every caller.
10. Report all suspicious behaviour to the Police as soon as possible on 999 or 0845 1135000.

Should you wish to contact the myself or the Harborne East Neighbourhood Policing Team, please call us at Rose Road Police Station on 0845 1135000 or e-mail on n.ogden@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk or visit our website on www.west-midlands.police.uk

Sgt Neil Ogden

(Don't forget that Sgt Ogden will be at the AGM and will be available after the meeting to talk to anyone with particular concerns. Ed.)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY “The Wedding Club” and “Louise Tugwell - Photography” The two shops adjoining “Moorpool News and Wines” have now been in business at the Circle for just over a year. The two separate businesses are run by two friends, local girls Louise Tugwell and Emma Clarke. Emma’s “Wedding Club” provides a fine range of quality bridal gowns including designer costumes by ‘Jenny Packham’. Louise specialises in wedding photography and childrens’ portraits and particularly likes to produce ‘natural’ rather than overposed likenesses.

After seeing the shops empty for long periods at a time it is good to see them well occupied. We wish them well. If you want to contact them ring 0121 426 1511 (Wedding Club) or 0121 426 1311 (Louise Tugwell Photography)

MOORPOOL PLAYERS

The group’s forthcoming production is a comedy by Simon Williams entitled ‘**LAYING THE GHOST**’ which runs from **Wednesday 22nd to Saturday 25th November** in the Moorpool Hall.

Margot Buchanan, a very witty ex-actress, is trying to forget her seventieth birthday. All around are intent on celebrating it. Margot and her ex-husband, Sir Leo Buchanan, were famous in the Fifties for their portrayal of Romeo and Juliet and for this reason Margot is visited by young Sadie Croft who is also to play Juliet. It transpires that Sadie is having an affair with Sir Leo and, with the arrival of Lady Judy Buchanan, Leo’s current wife, and Leo himself (in disguise) who is in hiding from a tabloid reporter, the scene is set for chaos and hilarity.

Because of the new licensing laws the group is restricted to four days for this production but will be offering a choice of five performances with the addition of a **SATURDAY MATINEE on Sat 25th**. There may well be quite a number of people for whom going out on a dark evening is not an option. The matinee will commence at 2.00pm with the doors opening at 1.30pm and the evening performances will commence at 7.30pm with the doors opening at 6.45pm when hot and cold refreshments and wine will be available at all performances. Tickets at £5.00 can be obtained from Moorpool News on the Circle, The Dove Bookshop in Vivian Road and the Box Office on 426 2134.

FINAL QUACK

Please do come to the AGM. It is very important if we as Residents are to have some say in our future that we get a good turn out.