Neighbourhood Action Group

# *Great Hollands*

***24 July 2008***

**Priority**

***1 – Parking (BFBC Medium Term Objective Priorities 3&4)***
***2 – Environmental Matters (BFBC Medium Term Objective Priority 2)***

**Attendance:**

Michael Bentley (Chair), Graham Ellis (Bracknell Town Council), Joanna Simpkins (BFBC), Cllr Anne Shillcock (BFBC), PCSO Taylor Warmsley, PCSO Andy West, Mike Woolley (Resident)

**Apologies**

Ian Boswell (BFBC), Nicola Dimmock (Bracknell Forest Homes), Adrienne Jones (Bracknell Town Council), Mary Temperton (Bracknell Town Council)

**Dates of Future NAG**

4 December 2008, 11.20am, Room 6 Easthampstead Baptist Church

**Dates of Future Neighbourhood Forums**

Saturday 18 October 2008, 10am, Great Hollands Primary School

**Local Publications**

| Name: | Next publication deadline: | Contact: |
|---|---|---|
| Town and Country | December edition – Story ideas deadline 26 September<br><br>Copy deadline 2 weeks after idea deadline | Ben Funning – Communications Officer<br>ben.funning@bracknell-forest.gov.uk |
| Great Hollands Matters | | Michael Bentley – m.a.bentley@ntlworld.com<br>Keith Simons – keithsimons@onetel.com |

## 1. Notes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

Antisocial Behaviour

The level of reported anti-social behaviour incidents in Great Hollands had fallen and the area was considered to be no longer a priority for CCTV cameras.

## 2. Updates on Priorities

Parking

The Borough Council's Executive Member for Planning and Transportation was looking at the problem of parking in residential streets across the Borough and ward members had been asked to identify those roads were parking was a particular problem and make suggestions about how the situation might be alleviated. It was stressed that concreting over the verges was not the most appropriate way forward and that alternative solutions should be developed. It was suggested that parking was a particular problem in Holbeck, Highfield, Vandyke and Viking and it was agreed that any further suggestions would be forwarded to Anne Shillcock. **Action: All/Anne Shillcock**

It was stressed that care needed to be given to the way that roads were identified because two roads with identical layouts might have very different parking problems. In addition residents needed to be educated about using garages and parking spaces and walking short distances rather than driving across verges to park outside their homes.

A number of reports had been received of residents parking trade vans in the road and the Group were informed that if they were blocking roads then the police would issue tickets. Similarly if vehicles parked partly on the pavement prevented a wheelchair from passing then they could also be ticketed for obstruction. However, even if the vans were parked legally concern was expressed at the increasing number and size of them. It was hoped that the Borough Council would give urgent attention to see what could be done to restrict the number of trade vans being parked in residential areas.

Bracknell Forest Homes had a budget of £200,000 a year for five years that they would be using to smarten up landscaped and other public areas and walkabouts were underway in all neighbourhoods to identify areas that required attention. It was noted that the majority of Bracknell Forest Homes' staff had been employed by the Borough Council before the Housing Stock Transfer and it was expected that there would be good relationships and co-operation between the two organisations. It was agreed that Linda Wells, Head of Bracknell Forest Homes, would be invited to the Group's next meeting to discuss the work that was taking place to enhance the area. **Action: Michael Bentley**

It was agreed that many people did not appreciate what a nice place Bracknell was to live in and that an article would be written for inclusion in Great Hollands matters. **Action: Mike Woolley**

Environmental Matters

The Borough Council hoped to carry out regular deep cleans around Great Hollands shopping parade and dates of future operations would be circulated for information. **Action: Anne Shillcock**

Easthampstead Park School would be approached about raising awareness of the problems caused by littering in citizenship classes once the new academic year started in September. **Action: Anne Shillcock**

*Dog Fouling*

Leaflets warning dog owners of the consequences of not clearing up after their dogs had been approved and would be given out by PCSOs from August. Posters would also be displayed on the notice boards around Great Hollands Square.

Clarification would be sought from the Town Council about who had responsibility for the warning stickers on lampposts. **Action: Graham Ellis**

Dog fouling was a particular concern in the wooded area between Ardingley and Avebury and it was agreed that any actions should be targeted at this area however it was stressed that additional bins would be required and clarification would be sought over which authority was responsible for the upkeep of the area. **Action: Anne Shillcock**

**3. Mill Lane Footbridge**

All construction work had now been completed and the new footbridge had been officially opened. Although the majority of the landscaping work would not take place until the autumn, when conditions were more appropriate, a number of bushes had been planted along the boundary fence with Avebury.

It was clarified that the Borough Council did not consider the area around the Mill Lane footbridge to be a priority area for litter bins however they would be monitoring the situation and it was agreed that the NAG would monitor the situation as well. **Action: Anne Shillcock/Mike Woolley**

There had been significant littering of the wooded area and the nearby stream and it was agreed that the Borough Council would be asked to clear up the area. The appearance of an abandoned car in the area would be followed up by the Police. **Action: Anne Shillcock/Andy West**

**4. Neighbourhood Consultation**

It was reported that the October edition of Town and Country would contain details of the work carried out by NAGs across the Borough as well as a form asking for people to identify their main concerns so that each NAGs' priorities could be refreshed.

**5. Neighbourhood Forums**

The Neighbourhood Forum would take place on Saturday 18 October 2008 at 10am. The forum would have the same format as the one held in 2007 and posters publicising the meeting would be available at the beginning of September.

It was agreed that representatives from the Highways sections of the Borough Council would be sought to answer questions about the parking situation in the area. **Action: Katharine Simpson**

**6. Any Other Business**

Dog Warden

Responsibility for stay dogs now lay with the Council however following a recent incident with a stray dog in Great Hollands Primary School concern was raised over the apparent lack of official procedures for dealing with strays when the Council Dog Warden was unavailable and it was agreed that the matter would be followed up with the Council. **Action: Anne Shillcock**

**7. Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Great Hollands Neighbourhood Action Group was scheduled to take place on Thursday 4 December at 11.20am.