

SLEEPERS HILL ASSOCIATION – FULL YEAR REPORT – OCTOBER 2014

AGM: This year's AGM will be held on Sunday 23rd November at 12 noon in the Stripe Theatre, University of Winchester, Sparkford Road. Parking is available on campus and it is hoped that as many residents as possible will be able to attend. As in previous years, there will be the opportunity to meet and socialise over drinks and nibbles after the meeting.

COMMITTEE: Our thanks go to all the Committee members for their work on your behalf throughout the year. We have asked Julian Grose-Hodge to join the Committee and he has also agreed to take on the role of Neighbourhood Watch coordinator.

FINANCE: As signalled at last year's AGM, we propose that subscriptions are increased by £5 to £55 per household for this year. We still need to build up our reserves to cover the cost of future repairs, including a possible resurfacing of the Hill when funds permit.

ROAD MAINTENANCE The road surface continues to bear up reasonably well despite the heavy construction traffic. We arrange for isolated areas to be patched as needed. Would frontagers please continue to keep hedges and trees tidy along the Hill particularly around the street lighting and keep soakaways and gulleys free from leaves.

ROAD DRAINAGE Our Road Consultant developed a scheme for installing a small number of soakaways along the Hill to help reduce the volume of storm water. We arranged for several trial holes to be dug to assess the feasibility and ground conditions. As a result the Committee has concluded (in conjunction with advice from our Consultant) that we should not proceed with the soakaways. We have, however, carried out a number of minor improvements to the drainage and there is one further small project to complete. It is disappointing not to be able to make significant and radical improvement to the drainage but the decision we have now taken is based on extensive research with advice from experts.

20MPH SPEED LIMIT The new speed limits has now come into force for Sleepers Hill and the necessary signage required under the Traffic Regulations has been installed. We shall see if this has any noticeable effect.

THE DAY HOUSE The construction works are progressing according to schedule and completion of the houses is scheduled for late spring 2015.

SLEEPERS HILL HOUSE Many of you attended the public meeting to hear of the plans by Alfred Homes to develop this site in George Eyston Drive. Following the initial consultation the scheme was revised with the intention of reducing the bulk and setting back the houses fronting GED. Although we have not been formally advised of the planning application, the full application has now appeared for consultation on the WCC website under reference 14/02189/FUL with a closing date of 12 November 2014. The Committee will now check this application to ensure that it complies with the Guideline set out in the Local Area Design Statement for Sleepers Hill.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT CHARIS HOLT On 26th March WCC issued outline planning consent for four units at Charis Holt, comprising two large houses and two smaller houses. A public meeting took place in early September and it is understood that the scheme has been revised to move the proposed development further away from the road. No application has yet been submitted for detailed planning consent.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON THE ROMSEY ROAD The petition containing over 200 signatures was handed in person to the County Council's Executive Member for Economy, Transport and the Environment. As a result a further pedestrian and traffic survey has been commissioned by the council to determine whether the volumes meet the criteria for a pedestrian crossing. We await the results.

UNAUTHORISED PARKING Unwanted and dangerous parking on the Hill continues to be a cause for concern. At the lower end, University students have started parking their cars and we have been working with the University's management to get this stopped. We will keep the situation under review report back if further more formal measure become necessary.

ANNUAL PARTY: We wish to continue the long tradition of holding the SHA summer party in one of the gardens on the Hill and we are looking for a suitable venue for the 2015 event. We should be very grateful if any resident would offer their garden for this most enjoyable social event.

Paul Barlow
Chairman