

SLEEPERS HILL ASSOCIATION – AGM REPORT – OCTOBER 2017

AGM: This year's AGM will be held on Sunday 19th November 2017 at 12 noon in the Stripe Theatre, University of Winchester, Sparkford Road. Parking is available on campus and we really hope that as many residents as possible will be able to attend. There will be several important issues on which we would wish to consult residents and your input would be greatly appreciated. As in previous years, there will be the opportunity to meet and socialise over drinks after the meeting.

COMMITTEE

Our thanks go to all the Committee members for their work on your behalf throughout the year. I shall be standing down as Chairman at this AGM after eight years in this role. I first advised the 2015 AGM of my intentions and agreed to stay on at last year's AGM until a suitable replacement was found. As there are no contenders from within the SHA Committee to replace me as Chairman, I have made enquiries of other residents but without success. I continue to seek applications of interest from all residents. I am reluctant to stand down with the position unfilled but regret I must now do so. It has been a privilege to be your Chairman.

Please get in touch with me if you are interested and I do hope that one of you feels able to contribute to this important and interesting role within the Sleepers Hill community.

ROAD MAINTENANCE

We now have in place a regular programme of clearing gulleys and soakaways. We again remind frontagers of the need to keep hedges and trees tidy along the Hill particularly around the street lighting and the gulleys free of leaves and debris outside of their properties.

A survey on the condition of the road surface has been carried out by our Road Consultant and some remedial work needs to be undertaken. A contractor had been appointed to carry out this work in September but this company has ceased trading and the work will now be re-tendered in spring/summer 2018.

SLEEPERS HILL HOUSE – GEORGE EYSTON DRIVE

Construction is now in the final phase with four of the six properties completed. Significant inconvenience, noise and unwanted parking by contractors have been experienced by residents in George Eyston Drive. We have written on several occasions to Alfred Homes and Planning Enforcement at the City Council, seeking compliance with the planning conditions, but with little success.

AH have recently confirmed their agreement to make a payment to the SHA of £8,000 for the wear and tear to the road and a further £2,000 for maintenance work on the amenity woodland area in George Eyston Drive, making a total contribution of £10,000.

CHINGRI KHAL

The developers originally gained approval to construct two detached houses fronting Sleepers Hill and two single storey "eco" houses to the rear of the site, despite a large number of objections from residents. Ownership of the building site has now changed hands and the new developer is Doswell Projects. They have recently advised us that the scheme for the two large executive houses fronting on to Sleepers Hill is no longer viable in the present property market and that they will be applying to vary the application. In place of the two large houses they will be applying to build two pairs of semi detached house (four units) and also retain the two "eco" houses at the rear. When the application has been registered with the Council, we will notify residents in case they wish to comment.

LITTLE SNAKEMOOR

We have recently been advised that a planning application has been submitted to replace Little Snakemoor with a new dwelling for use by the present owners. When the application has been registered by the Council, we will advise residents.

LOCAL AREA DESIGN STATEMENT FOR SLEEPERS HILL

This document was published in 2007 following lengthy consultations between the City Council and local residents. Amongst other subjects, the guidelines stated that there would be a limit on the number of new houses permitted to be built unless improvements were made to the road and to the junctions at either end of the Hill.

We have recently met our City Councillors and our new County Councillor to discuss the LADS and other issues currently of concern or interest to residents.

We are now looking for a way to update the LADS document to incorporate changes in central and local government policies and will be shortly meeting with the Principal Planning Officer and other City Council officials.

SPEED WARNING SIGN

The new speed warning sign has been welcomed by many residents and seems to be having an effect on reducing the speed of some vehicles. We are considering the purchase of a second sign (costing in the region of £2,000) to monitor the speed of vehicles being driven up the Hill and will seek the views of residents at the AGM.

SHA WEBSITE

Just to remind you, the new and improved Sleepers Hill Website went live in mid May and here is the link <http://www.sleepershill.org.uk>. Please let us know if there are any issues or ideas for improvement by posting a comment on the '*Residents Discussion*' section of the website. Amongst the information we are sharing are '*Trade Recommendations*', and please keep an eye on '*News and Events*'. The '*Residents*' Section can be accessed using the password '*SHA2016*' and please do not pass this on to non-residents.

ANNUAL PARTY

The SHA Summer Party was held on Sunday 9 July in the garden of Stephen and Chrissie Harte to whom we extend our thanks. It was a warm sunny day and a very good time was had by all. We are now looking for a venue for 2018 and if you are willing to offer your garden as a venue, please let me know.

Paul Barlow
Chairman