

SLEEPERS HILL ASSOCIATION REPORT - OCTOBER 2012

**ANNUAL MEETING – SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2011 AT 1200 NOON
AT THE JOHN STRIPE THEATRE WINCHESTER UNIVERSITY.**

AGM VENUE: We are grateful to Winchester University for allowing us to use their facilities for our AGM. 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 mingle over drinks and nibbles after the meeting.

COMMITTEE: We are grateful to all the Committee members for their work on your behalf throughout the year and in particular Christine Wallage and Don Midgley for their roles as Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer respectively.

FINANCE: We propose that subscriptions are maintained at £50 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. We are grateful to Sue Organ for agreeing to act as Hon Auditor and for examining the accounts.

ROAD MAINTENANCE: The road repairs which were carried out last October seem to be coping with the additional traffic of various construction vehicles serving a number of sites along the Hill. There are signs of distress to other parts of the road surface and advice will be taken on dealing with these. We are taking advice on possible improvements to storm water drainage on the Hill.

SNOW ON THE HILL Fortunately the weather was kinder last winter than in previous years. We used little salt to date and our reserves are sufficient for the time being.

TREES AND HEDGES AND STREET LIGHTING The new lamp posts were installed in the Spring at no cost to the residents. Frontagers are again requested to keep their frontages free of leave and other debris to help preserve the road surface and also to trim any trees and hedges which obstruct the footpaths and particularly where these may impinge upon the new street lighting. We have approached Hampton Tree Care who would be able to offer frontagers a cost effective rate if all the work is undertaken under one contract.

PREFERRED TRADERS As reported previously, we are running an experiment to evaluate whether it is feasible to keep a central “notice board” of contractors/trades people whom residents can recommend from personal experience. Inclusion of a name does not carry any implied endorsement by the SHA nor the Committee. If you would like to nominate a trader, please send details (Name/Service Provided/Contact details) to the Hon. Secretary. We will then prepare a schedule for inclusion on the SHA website.

DEER Several residents are concerned about the damage being caused to their gardens by deer, whilst others like to see such wildlife at close hand. We have raised residents' concerns with our City Councillors who report that, whilst sympathetic, deer are not classed as pests and therefore they are unable to assist. The following link from Natural England gives information on the steps individual residents can take to manage the problem. <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/30012?category=34017>

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON THE ROMSEY ROAD At the last AGM the question was raised of introducing a pedestrian crossing on the Romsey Road near the junction with Sleepers Hill. The Council's response is that the criteria for pedestrian flows have not been met. We have therefore started a petition and will meet again with our City Councillors to press for action. Those who wish to sign the petition may do so at the AGM or contact their neighbourhood representative.

VEHICLE CLAMPING The Act prohibiting the clamping of vehicles on private property came into effect on 1 October 2012. We are taking advice on the options available to us and an update will be given at the AGM.

ANNUAL PARTY: Our thanks to Michael and Nicolette Meyer of Pentargon for hosting the Summer Party, on one of the few sunny days of the summer. This was thoroughly enjoyed by the large number of residents who attended. We are looking for a suitable venue for the 2013 Summer Party we should be very grateful if any resident would offer their garden for this social event.

Paul Barlow – Chairman