

LONGDOWN LODGE ESTATE



Residents' Association



CHRISTMAS NEWS LETTER

1, Orchard Gate.
December 1986.

Dear Member

We are again pleased to bring you up to date with your Associations activities and work carried out since the issue of the Spring News Letter.

Another well attended AGM took place in June with the Officers and Committee elected as follows. Chairman, David Markby, 22 Beech Ride. Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Sue O'Sullivan, 32 Beech Ride. Hon. Secretary, Howard Cole, 1 Orchard Gate. Ass. Secretary, Mel Calvert, 24 Broom Acres. Hon. Treasurer, Harry Wood, 17 Primrose Way. Social Secretary, Mrs. Barbara Cutler, 18 Beech Ride. Committee, Mrs. Brenda Gulliford, 29 Broom Acres, Doug Hammond, 11 Broom Acres, Mrs. Linda Mather, 2 Greenways, Mrs. Jill Last, 30 Beech Ride, David Hamblin, 8 Beech Ride, Dr. Stephen Thomas, 3 Kings Keep, and finally a warm welcome to a new member on the Committee, Richard Foster, 13 Spring Woods.

Once again, another successful Cheese and Wine Party was held during the Summer, our thanks again go to Mrs. Barbara Cutler for organising this event. It is the Associations 25th Anniversary next year, in view of this, we are arranging to hold a street party on the evening of the 27th June, 1987. For this event, success depends on the Social Secretary receiving adequate support, we are sure that Mrs. Cutler will receive the assistance when required.

We wish to thank Messrs. Palombo, Calvert, Markby, Cutler and Cole for their effort in maintaining the Island to its usual high standard. The Notice Board was removed during the Summer to undergo renovation. Our sincere thanks go to Bill Jarvis and Bob Eddendon for undertaking this task and making an excellent job. Additional bulbs have been planted around the Estate and should produce a good show next Spring.

Our request for replacement kerbs and footpath repairs are now being carried out. Pressure has been brought to bear on the Head Post-Master to improve the delivery and collection of mail, initially there has been an improvement but the situation will need to be monitored. A request was made for road markings at the In/Out roads, this has now been agreed and carried out.

With regard to the Link Road, the County Council feasibility study is not yet finalised and possibly be presented to the Environment Committee in March '87. The County Council will request observations from our members. 60 acres of woodland at the rear of Spring Woods has been sold. Owners are now executors of Mr. S.J. Lewis's estate. No land will be sold until the Link Road routing has been finalised. A blanket tree preservation order is being pursued for the area adjacent to the back of Spring Woods.

A new aluminium ladder and fertiliser spreader is now being purchased. The rotoscythe now has a new home near to the Island. Our grateful thanks to Mr. T. Robinson of 5, Greenways. We were rather disappointed at the lack of volunteers to cut the grass and hope that the mower now residing close to the Island, will attract a flush of volunteers for next year.

Property Valuations. There is a continuous demand for properties in our Estate. Basic original properties with all mod. cons. Bungalows £78/82,000. Houses £88/92,000. These are only guide prices.

Our Neighbourhood Watch Scheme is now accepted by the Thames Valley Police. Information packs are now being circulated and we would appreciate members to pass them on as quickly as possible in order that everyone is informed. It is with regret that two break-ins took place during October around midnight. We strongly recommend lights are left on during absence. Where Neighbourhood Watch Schemes operate, it is understood that some insurance firms will give 5% reduction on household insurance.

There is still a tendency for heavy vehicles to use our entrance as a turning point. The vigilance of Mr. Bill Knight of Orchard Gate who observed a rock being displaced by a vehicle on the Out Road, noted the registration number. A request for £20 compensation from the Company was granted and this has been received. We urge all members to be vigilant in the interests of our area.

Numerous complaints have been received regarding vehicles being parked on the footpaths. We strongly urge all members where possible, as requested on numerous occasions, to park vehicles in their drives or garages for the following reasons:- complaints from County Council of footpath surfaces being broken up, complaints from District Council who are unable to sweep gutters and complaints from pedestrians particularly mothers with prams. There have been incidents where louts have walked over cars and parts have been stolen. This practice of parking on footpaths overnight greatly affects the standard of our area. There have been several requests to refrain from parking close to junctions in the interest of safety. It is not our intention to pursue the matter further and feel sure we will have members co-operation.

We wish to congratulate the members of Primrose Way and Kings Keep for their efforts associated with matters in connection with the gypsies. Letters have been sent to the police for their outstanding co-operation. Mr. Andrew McKay M.P. was thanked for raising the matter at the House of Commons.

We are again extremely grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Butcher, 25 Eroom Acres, for printing this News Letter.

Finally we take this opportunity of wishing you all A Very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely,

HOWARD COLE, Hon. Secretary.