



## Season's Greetings from the Longdown Lodge Estate Residents Association December 2016

Dear Resident

As Christmas is on the door step we would like to wish all our members a Very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year. Later in the newsletter you will see we are asking for your ideas on social events. Our quiz nights are popular and fun but sadly back in June our Street Party to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday was poorly attended despite offering a fancy dress competition for the children and a cake competition. Thank you to all those who braved the weather and came. We look forward to your ideas. Please let us know too if a builder on the estate near you makes a noise after 1pm on a Saturday through Sunday and if it's a Bank Holiday Monday, this contravenes Environmental Health recommendations and we can do something about it. Have a lovely Christmas. Sue O'Sullivan.

If you have moved into the estate since last year, "Hello and Welcome" we hope you will be very happy in your new home and we would love to meet you at one of our social events.



### A special welcome to Poppy



On the 30<sup>th</sup> of June, 4 weeks early weighing 5Lb 13 ounces a baby girl called Poppy was born. We would like to extend our congratulations to the proud Broom Acres parents Claire and Stuart and older Sisters Emily (8), Eloise (5) and of course Hugo their dog.

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### Become a speed watch volunteer

We are currently looking for residents to become speed watch volunteers to help us enforce the 20MPH limit. Speedwatch, involves volunteers snapping drivers using a Speed Indication Device to see if they are over the speed limit. As the vehicle approaches the device it monitors the speed and if it is under the speed limit the machine displays a smiley face. However if the car is travelling more than 10mph over the speed limit the volunteer can record the number plate and pass the information onto the police, which will result in a postal warning to the driver, but not prosecution. If you are interested in helping us please get in touch.



### AGM

This year the committee outnumbered residents at the AGM and it was possibly the lowest attendance we have ever had. The event unfortunately clashed with Wimbledon and the semi final of the European Champions League which may explain why we didn't get the expected turnout. We have paid closer attention to the sporting fixtures for next year and the AGM will be held at Eagle House School on Thursday 11<sup>TH</sup> May 2017, please save the date and look out for flyers and notices nearer the time.



### Meat and Seat BBQ or Drinks and Nibbles

For 2017 we are considering one of two social events. The return of the Drinks and Nibbles event which we ran in Little Moor in 2014 and 2015, Alternatively a new event a Meat and Seat BBQ where we will set up a number of communal BBQ's and invite people to bring along food to cook, drinks and seats etc. We are keen to hear what you would like so please get in touch.



### Remembrance Sunday

This year, The Royal British Legion asked the nation to *Rethink Remembrance* by recognising the sacrifices made not just by the Armed Forces of the past, but by today's generation too. As is tradition the Association attended the events at Sandhurst Memorial Park on Remembrance Sunday and Ian Harrison and his daughter Charlotte laid a wreath on behalf of the Association.

**Quiz** - After the success of this year's Quiz attended by 40 residents we plan on holding another on 17<sup>th</sup> March at Eagle House School. Save the date and look out for flyers nearer the time



**The annual subscription** - The annual subscription to the association is now £5 and it is collected annually between July and September. We do revisit houses several times but if we missed you and didn't collect from you this year please get in touch with Karen (details below) to pay your subscription.



**Noise from Construction/Demolition Sites** - There is a lot of development ongoing on the estate at the moment. Construction and demolition works are noisy by nature and it is often unavoidable that some disturbance will be caused to those living in close proximity to construction/demolition sites. That said, developers have a duty to minimise the impact on neighbours while the necessary works are carried out. If you wish to report noise from a construction site advice on how to go about doing so can be found here. <http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/noise>



### Sign Refurbishment

In 2017 we will look to get the Longdown Lodge Estate sign on the island refurbished

**Bonfires** - We have again had a number of complaints about bonfires and I have to admit I have had to apologise to my neighbours over the last 12 months once or twice. At the end of the day we should all be considerate to our neighbours and let them know we will be lighting a fire and choose an appropriate day and time. I looked up the latest guidelines. There are still no laws against having a bonfire, but there are laws for the nuisance they can cause and they seem to have got tougher over the last 12 months. The key points are as follows. You can't get rid of household waste if it will cause pollution or harm people's health. This includes burning it. You could be fined if you light a fire and you allow the smoke to drift across the road and it becomes a danger to traffic. If you cause a persistent nuisance the council can issue an 'abatement notice' and you can be fined up to £5,000 if you don't stick to it



**Could you be our next Street representative?** We need 2 New street representatives for Broom Acres. If you live in Broom Acres and are interested in getting involved please get in touch



### The new look website

The website has been re-launched and is now much easier to use on a mobile phone or tablet. On it you will find old brochures, newsletters, photos and meeting minutes. Please take a look and let us know what you think.



**Concern over Planning permission** - The estate is covered by very specific planning guidance to retain its character and we and many residents are becoming concerned that it is not being followed when planning applications are being approved. The guidance includes;

- Proposals must have a similar character to that which exists at present, because it would undermine the cohesiveness of the area.
- The same architectural approach should be taken and a similar materials palette used;
- Boundary treatments should be in keeping with the existing character.
- Roof extensions with dormers are unsuitable and a more suitable approach should be sought, for instance gables would be more appropriate;

We have raised the matter with the Head of Planning at BFBC and will let you know how we get on.

### Keeping you informed and keeping in touch



Visit the LLERA Website  
<http://www.llera.org.uk>



Email Us: We all share a joint email address: [committee@llera.org.uk](mailto:committee@llera.org.uk)



Visit the LLERA Facebook Page  
<https://www.facebook.com/llera.org.uk>



Sue O'Sullivan: 01344 774357  
Chris Mackie: 07942 901601  
Richard Bullock: 01344776547  
Ian and Karen Harrison: 01344 466035  
Robert and Wendy Miles: 01344 751 298  
Tracey Jones: 01344 773422  
Graham Ramsey: 07867900479

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.

**The LLERA Committee**

