



Issue 6

www.shra.co.uk

November 2005

General Meeting for MEMBERS ONLY

Haven School, Atlantic Drive,
24th November 2005, at 7:30pm

Guest presenter – Alan Everard will announce the winners of
the photographic competition

Exhibition of photo competition entries

Progress Report

Harbour issues

Adoption of developments, and more.

B&Q Application Rejected But the fight has to go on

At a special meeting of the EBC Planning Committee, held in the Floral Room of the Winter Gardens, almost 400 Eastbourne residents, most of them from Sovereign Harbour, listened to a heated debate on the application by B&Q and Sovereign Harbour Ltd to build a warehouse and builders yard on the land adjoining Pevensey Bay Road, known as 'Commercial Site One'.

Nigel Waterson our MP, Stephen Lloyd the LibDem spokesman, Clive Gross of the Green party, David Elkin the deputy leader of the council, David Tutt leader of the opposition and Martyn Relf, chairman of Churches Together for Eastbourne, all voiced their opposition to the application, as did members of the SHRA, 'No to B&Q' and many members of the public.

Support of the application by SEEDA, quoted as a firm prospect to acquire the remainder of Site One was conspicuous by its absence. This did not go unnoticed by the committee.

Also, members of the boating community might like to ask *their* representatives in the Berthholders Association, and the Yacht Club where they were.

They have just as much to lose by this development as the residents.

The four hour meeting, which ended at 8:30pm, culminated with the audience standing to applaud the unanimous decision of the committee to dismiss the application. Great news we thought, the bubbly flowed.

This result is the product of a huge amount of hard work by very many people, all of them volunteers, and we thank them all for their support, their time, and their efforts. We should also recognise that without the early intervention of the 'No to B&Q' group, this application could have easily been slipped, unchallenged, through the system; we should all be very grateful to them

Our elation was short lived. We now find that this is not the end of the road for this totally inappropriate application. B&Q and Sovereign Harbour Ltd, have stated that they will lodge an appeal, so that they can continue their quest for greater profits at the expense of the harbour residents, who invested in the concept of a 'marina village' that has already brought them massive returns. **We will fight on!**

The fight must go on (continued)

You might ask why, having had the application firmly rejected by the East Sussex County Council and the Eastbourne Borough Council, not once, but twice, and by the First Secretary of State, B&Q are still allowed to try to force this application through. It is because the planning laws are stacked against us and in favour of big business.

The SHRA committee is determined to contest this application to the bitter end. This will not be easy, but with your continued support, we will be successful. It is very likely, that at some time, we will need to take professional legal advice; that will not be inexpensive! In parallel with the B&Q application, there are a number of other pressing issues to be dealt with, not the least of which is the failure of the EBC to begin the adoption of completed developments. The greater our membership, the

greater are our prospects of success, please join us, there is strength in numbers. **We will win!!**

We understand that not everybody is in a position to give their time, but even a small amount, maybe to distribute newsletters etc., takes the pressure off of those who are more deeply involved.

We desperately need help from anybody with legal experience, or knowledge of the processes of local government, especially in the area of planning.

We have made enormous progress over the past few months, and our membership is increasing daily. Our influence is widening and we are being increasingly recognised as the only body that can represent the interests of **all** harbour residents.

Why not complete the form on the back page and return it to us **today**. Membership from now until the end of March 2006 is just £5.00

Waste water removal

In the September issue of Waterlines, we reported a failure in the foul water removal system which resulted in raw sewage 'backing-up' into residents' homes. We also suggested, at the time, that the system was inadequate to handle the volume of waste that was being fed into it. Sovereign Harbour Ltd. have assured us that this is not the case. Because the harbour is so low-lying, they say, it is necessary to *pump* waste into the main sewers and, in order to facilitate this, waste is passed through a 'masher' before it reaches the pumps.

Over the August Bank-Holiday weekend, there was a failure in the pumping system, and this was caused, we are told, because the 'masher' was completely clogged by disposable nappies and 'wet-wipes', which contain a high proportion of plastic. The instructions on the packaging clearly state that these items should not be flushed down the lavatory and, we have been informed, unless they are correctly disposed of, there is a likelihood of this situation being repeated. The situation was made worse because residents were unsure which authority was responsible for rectifying the problem.

The services run beneath the main highways through the harbour. On the South Harbour, because Atlantic Drive has been adopted, Southern Water are responsible. On the North Harbour, until the road is adopted, the sewers are still the responsibility of Sovereign Harbour Ltd. and, if a similar problem occurs, it should be reported to the Harbour Office. However, before reporting any problem of this type, residents should ensure that it is not local to their property. In this case, it is the owners responsibility to get the problem rectified at their own cost.

Outer Harbour wall repairs

We have been informed that, due to a greater than expected level of erosion, it is necessary for the walls of the outer harbour to be repaired.

This will be done by reinforcing the walls with large rocks, and the work will take place over the next few months. The rocks that will be used will be brought in by sea and stored on the spit at the harbour entrance. We are assured that every effort will be made to minimise disruption and inconvenience to residents. However, because the tides and weather are critical

factors, some work will, inevitably, take place outside of normal working hours and at weekends.

Harbour Footbridges

The Harbour Office has informed us that, for an experimental period, starting early next year, the harbour footbridges will be raised for ten minutes in every hour; the times will be published when the scheme comes into operation. It is expected that, in the long run, delays to pedestrians will be reduced and, in any case, will be limited to a maximum of ten minutes.

Members' surgeries.

Don't forget the monthly members' surgeries at Simply Italian on the Waterfront.

Future Surgeries from 10:30 to 11:30 on Saturday:

3rd December 2005

7th January 2006

4th February 2006

4th March 2006

The November surgery was very well attended and, unfortunately, some members who were kept waiting too long, left. We are very sorry that this happened and will take steps to ensure that it doesn't happen again. If those members would like to write to us at the address below, we will contact them to arrange a meeting at *their* convenience.

SHRA
PO BOX 124
Eastbourne BN24 9AW

Or, e-mail communications@shra.co.uk

Simply Italian will be hosting a series of themed **Live Music Events**. These will be non-smoking, ticket only events, in a closed restaurant. The price of all events includes a **Three Course Meal**.

Tues 29 th Nov	'Dean Martin'	£22.50 ph
Mon 5 th Dec	Jazz Band	£19.95 ph
Mon 12 th Dec	Opera	£25.00 ph
Thurs 15 th Dec	'Frank Sinatra'	£22.50 ph

Simply Italian are also available for your Christmas Party and offer a Three Course Party Menu at just £16.95 per head

Halloween Party

Both the children's and adult's Halloween parties at Simply Italian were very successful. There were some very innovative costumes and lots of fun and games. Thanks to all who supported the event.

Several raffle prizes were donated by local companies and the winners were:

White 24, Paul Chek's Swiss Balls Video

Unclaimed

White 39, 2, 'Ashprint' customised T-shirts

Unclaimed

White 72, Dinner for two at Simply Italian

Mr M Bloom

Green 25, Manicure by 'Amazing Nails'

Mrs O. Heasman

Green 38, Bottle of Vodka

Miss E. House

Brown 31, Bottle of Tattinger Champagne

Mr J. Burton

'Reliable Tradesmen'

As promised, below is our first list of tradesmen recommended by our members. Although we are happy to publish the names, the SHRA is unable to endorse the recommendations and would urge members to make their own checks.

We would appreciate your comments, good or bad, on the service you receive or, if you feel you would like to add a service to the list, please write to us at:

Waterlines

PO Box 124

Eastbourne

BN24 9AW

Or, e-mail waterlines@shra.co.uk

Bathroom installation & general plumbing

Carl McGreevy

01323-470773

07816-847658

Garden Maintenance

Dave Rhodes

01323-479141

07792-321983

otisrhodes@hotmail.com

Gas fitting and plumbing

JayDee

01323-507266

Interior design and creation, electrical installation, solar photovoltaic installation

Living Spaces by Julian R Caddy

01323-471112

07799-411712

jules@caddy.demon.co.uk

Milk and general groceries delivery

Dairy Crest Ltd

01323-727343

Window Cleaning

C-Thru Window Cleaning

01424-441564

07730-537227

www.c-thruwindowcleaning.co.uk

Asda trolleys

Asda management have informed us that they will soon be installing an 'electronic ring' around their site which will automatically apply a brake to the wheels of any trolley that crosses it. Hopefully, we should soon see a marked reduction in the number of abandoned trolleys.

Photographic competition, we have winners!!

After prolonged deliberations, our judge, Alan Everard, has managed to come to a decision on the winners of the photographic competition.

Because Alan felt the standard was so high, we have decided that an exhibition of the entries will be mounted at the members' meeting on 24th November. At this meeting, Alan will be giving a presentation on photography and, at the end of this, he will announce the winners.

There will be three prizes:

- Lunch for two, including wine, at the Dover Street Restaurant's wine bar, in London
- Dinner for two at Simply Italian
- A bottle of Vodka

If you entered the competition, please try to be at the meeting, you might be a winner.

Dog fouling and noise

We have been pressing the Borough Council to supply additional dog bins around the harbour, and have been assured that additional funding will be sought for this purpose. We are hopeful of progress, but are not holding our breath.

With any luck, dog owners will respond by making use of them.

Excessive dog noise is, unfortunately, still one of the most common causes of complaint. If you are suffering from this nuisance or, if you are able to identify the owners of dogs that are allowed to foul the harbour, you should contact the Dog Welfare Officer, Sue Criddle, on 01323-415380.

Christmas Carols

The festive season is fast approaching and we would like to organise a Carol singing evening around the harbour, in aid of local charities.

Ideally, we would like the singing to be accompanied by a small brass band. If you are a member of such a band, if you run a band, or are an individual musician, and would like to be involved, please contact us.

If you enjoy singing and would like to take part, we would like to hear from you too. This is a great opportunity to meet other harbour residents and, at the same time, help others who are in need at this season of goodwill.

We appreciate that we are starting later than would have been ideal, so we would appreciate a swift response. Write to us at:

Waterlines

PO Box 124

Eastbourne

BN24 9AW

Or, e-mail waterlines@shra.co.uk

