

# IMPORTANT:THIS CONCERNS YOUR ROAD

## **FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER:** **A.G.M. REPORT & SUBSCRIPTION REQUEST**

Audited Accounts and Minutes of A.G.M's are available on request or on our website.

*The latest Minutes from Thursday 24/01/2019 and this Newsletter will be posted on the website [www.silverysands.org](http://www.silverysands.org).*

For the benefit of our new residents The Silvery Sands Residents Association is the body that has maintained your roadways for a number of years. The houses covered are:

Wheatsheaf Lane, numbers 80 to 110, Riverside Close. Thameside, 67 to 97

The Association came into being many years ago when there was no organised road maintenance being carried out on these private roads. At the time the very bad condition of Wheatsheaf Lane in particular caused Spelthorne Council to threaten to stop making refuse collections as they were concerned that their vehicles would suffer damage. More importantly the same restriction might have been applied to ambulances and other emergency services. Since then the Association has looked after road maintenance on your behalf with subscriptions raised from residents. You will appreciate that if the roadways do deteriorate to a state unacceptable to Spelthorne Council they will "adopt" the road and bring it up to standard. This will be at least a 5 figure cost to each household which makes the current subscription look like extremely good value.

You should also be aware that most of the local solicitors know of the existence of the Association and will contact us in the event of a house sale, as has happened very recently when a request for information from a solicitor was initially declined as the vendor had not paid their subscription. Subsequently the information was supplied by the Association on receipt of payment.

## A.G.M.

The 2019 AGM was held on 24<sup>th</sup> January, many thanks to the intrepid 35 souls who braved the freezing weather to attend.

***Our chairlady, Michele Gibson*** reported:-

- **Welcome** - We welcomed two new residents into our lovely neighbourhood; Rani and Buta Gill who have moved into 81 Thames Side and Mrs Mead, who moved into 102 Wheatsheaf Lane.
- **Social** - We enjoyed two jolly social functions, the 2018 Summer Party, organisation headed by Caroline Keyser, which was well attended and we look forward to the next one in 2019 where we are happy to retain our Fish and Chip dinner. We also enjoyed the happy Christmas Party at the Wheatsheaf & Pigeon organised by Sally Ann Ancora.
- **Neighborhood watch** managed by Gillian Kneale, which is a growing success but we all still need to be vigilant and report any incidents. Break-ins by opportunists is still a risk, particularly in summer.
- **SSRA Website** - We thanked Phil Berquist for all the efforts and hard work on our impressive SSRA Website, which is being utilised and will be a good central point of contact for those lucky enough to be 'on-line'. Others are communicated with by hand.
- **Speeding** remains a large concern. We all need to be conscious of our speed and inform any contractors / visitors of the 20mph speed limit. We continue to see speeders, if this continues, it will be a matter of time for an accident taking place.
- **Dog fouling** has improved, particularly with the increase of CCTV coverage on the two-path. We hope this trend continues.
- **Rubbish and fly tipping** – we ask residents to remain conscious that if they drop / leave articles and / rubbish on our road verges, it could be detrimental to vehicles using the road and is an ugly eyesore only collected by kind residents who like to see a clean environment. Please take responsibility for your rubbish and road verges.

Our residents Michael and Jackie Corp were eagle eyed enough to prevent a fly-tipping incident where a van attempted to offload rubbish on Wheatsheaf lane. Photographs were taken by Michael and the incident reported to the police by our Neighborhood watch team.

Please do not put yourselves at risk but we do need to keep an eye out for such possible incidents. Signage will be improved, and CCTV is being considered.

**Our Treasurer David Rowley** was pleased to report a record number of residents paying their subscriptions, 81 out of the possible 84. As a result our finances currently stand at over £29,000.00 and it will be possible to proceed with the comprehensive upgrading of Wheatsheaf Lane. The subscription for 2019 was agreed at £80.00 per household, an increase of £5.00 p.a. and the first increase since 2016. The Wheatsheaf Lane project will not completely empty our coffers and some patching work can be undertaken on the worst of the pot-holes in Thameside. We may also be able to get the Wheatsheaf Lane contractor to help out.

**Wheatsheaf Lane upgrade :** The Treasurer laid out details of the quotations that we have obtained for this project. The Committee recommended the cheaper of the two options. A discussion ensued regarding the respective merits of the two alternative treatments. At the end of the discussion a vote was taken which failed to produce a clear favourite and accordingly we have asked the Residents as a whole to provide their choice. Thank you to the 50 households who have responded to this request, the result of the poll is a clear majority (41 to 8 with 1 abstention) in favour of proceeding with the cheaper option. The contractors have given us an installation date of 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April. Further information will be circulated closer to this date.

**The Subscription for 2019** period is from 1st Jan thro' to 31st Dec so subs are due **NOW**. The amount is £80.00. Please make payment to Barclays Bank Account: Sort Code 20-45-45, account no.40671851. Please include somewhere in the "details" box your name or address. It would be of enormous help if you have paid electronically you could drop the Treasurer an email advising of the fact ([treasurer@silverysands.org](mailto:treasurer@silverysands.org)).

Alternatively your Treasurer will be pleased to accept cheques, made payable to '**SSRA**', at 7 Riverside Close.