

## **Newsletter No.2 - January 2007**

Firstly, thanks to all of you who've joined the Hill Top Road Residents' Association and for your ideas on the issues we should focus on. For those we didn't manage to talk to, you're still welcome to join – please drop your subs (£2 waged / £1 concessions, plus any donations) together with your name, address and email (if you have one) through the door of number 64. Remember the membership is per person (not per household) and residents are defined as anyone who lives in or owns a property in Hill Top Road. We will shortly be dropping off membership cards.

### **1. Warneford Meadow**

The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Mental Health Trust has submitted amendments to their original planning applications. The council has asked for responses from residents by 19<sup>th</sup> Jan. Friends of Warneford Meadow (FoWM) have distributed an information sheet to help people put together objections. It is also available to download on the HTRRA website. It is important that people write individually to express their views – and keep using the meadow!

HTRRA has joined with the other Residents' Associations in the Headington area (DRARA, Highfield area, Mileway Gardens and Little Oxford) to prepare a co-ordinated response and a briefing for councillors. The RAs and Friends of Warneford Meadow will give a joint presentation of their objections to the development at the North East Area Committee (to which the East Area Parliament councillors are invited) on Tuesday 23rd January at 6pm at Wood Farm Primary School, Titup Hall Drive.

The FoWM have organised a public meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January to discuss the implications of the revised planning applications. This is taking place at 7.30 in the Assembly Rooms at Cheney School.

Although not an HTRRA issue, an application has been made to register the Warneford Meadow as a town green. The application was submitted on 19<sup>th</sup> December and it is expected to be a long process. If successful, it would prevent any building on the meadow. The applicant is Paul deLuce and the application is supported by over 40 people in the neighbourhood who have used the meadow for open-air recreation for between 20–70 years!

### **2. Issues**

Not surprisingly, Warneford Meadow and the planning applications were at the top of most people's list of concerns. However, the

areas below were also highlighted. With most of these areas we're at a fact-finding / liaising with DRARA (where relevant) stage, but it would be helpful to hear from any residents with long memories who can add any knowledge about the history of these issues and how they have been approached in the past. Please feel free to contact any of us (contact details at the end of this newsletter).

### ***Parking problems and traffic***

HTRRA is consulting with the police and the Council to establish the permitted methods of improving parking and calming traffic (at both ends of HTR). This information will inform the options we will present to residents later in the year.

DRARA is also working in this area and is currently analysing the results of a traffic survey carried out last year. HTRRA will liaise with DRARA over parking and traffic, so that DRARA views can be accurately taken into account in HTRRA recommendations/actions. We need a volunteer to co-ordinate action. Please contact a member of the committee if you are interested to volunteer.

### **Burglary, anti-social behaviour and vandalism**

We've got a dormant Neighbourhood Watch which could be revived if it was felt worthwhile. We would like a volunteer to co-ordinate action and establish a view on whether it's a good idea to revive Neighbourhood Watch and take the project forward. Please contact a member of the committee if you are interested to volunteer.

HTRRA will talk to the police community liaison officer about how best to handle anti-social behaviour, and invite him / her to a future open house. (See 'Social activity' below.) There will be emergency phone numbers on the HTRRA membership card.

### ***Rubbish collection/recycling***

Residents have received a leaflet from the Council on the new recycling wheelie bins and the change to a fortnightly collection. This less frequent collection is of concern to many residents. There is still a certain amount of confusion regarding exactly what can be recycled (and how). HTRRA plans to invite a recycling expert a future open-house meeting to clarify areas of doubt and answer specific questions. In the meantime we have been in touch with the city council and have summarised the additional information they provided in the table below. This isn't exhaustive by any means and we'd be happy to check out any specific questions you may have.

We need a volunteer to co-ordinate action on rubbish collection and recycling. Please contact a member of the committee if you are interested to volunteer.

<b>Which Bin</b>	<b>What to put in</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Green Wheelie Bin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Everything you can't recycle</li> <li>▪ Kitchen waste</li> </ul>	
New Blue Box (or bin – if you order one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Plastic Bottles</li> <li>▪ Cans and tins</li> <li>▪ Directories and catalogues</li> <li>▪ Shiny paper, eg leaflets</li> <li>▪ Cards (eg xmas and birthday cards) and envelopes</li> <li>▪ Wrapping paper</li> <li>▪ Cardboard and card</li> </ul>	<p>Keep plastic lids on milk and squash bottles. No yogurt pots, etc. Rinse out. Not magazines – put in green box</p> <p>You don't need to take the plastic film off envelopes or other mixed packaging</p>
Old Green Box	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Glass bottles and jars</li> <li>▪ Newspapers and magazines</li> <li>▪ Office paper (any colour paper / ink)</li> </ul>	<p>Take the lids off and wash. No broken / sheet glass or light bulbs. Not shiny leaflets</p>

- The following cannot be recycled in these boxes or bins: tin foil, other plastics, eg plastic bags, or soft plastics covering foods. Tetra paks eg juice cartons can be taken to a collection point (eg Tesco) or Redbridge recycling centre. Plastic bags can be reused or taken back to supermarkets.
- All food containing bottles / jars / tins / cans that can be recycled (eg not yogurt pots, ready meal trays, etc) need to be washed.
- Bottles containing powder detergents don't need washing (but must be empty). Cleaning products in spray bottles need rinsing.
- Paper butter wrappers could be rinsed and put into the blue box, but make sure they have the recycling sign on them. Plastic butter packaging cannot be taken for recycling.
- No egg boxes (doesn't matter if they are plastic or cardboard). Cardboard egg boxes can be put into home composters.
- Textiles can be recycled in the red plastic bags (to order call Ox. 252900). They will take clothes, shoes, handbags, linen, duvets and soft toys (good quality only). They won't take dirty, unusable clothing, scraps or off-cuts.

- For information on waste reduction, eg home composting, stopping junk mail or real nappies, please contact Ox. 252900 or recycling@oxford.gov.uk

### ***Social activity***

We plan to have a series of 'open-house' afternoons to provide an informal opportunity, for example, for people to voice concerns, share information, enjoy social contact and develop the HTR history project. We can offer help in getting there to anyone with mobility difficulties. The date and venue of the first open-house will be announced in the next newsletter.

### **3. Hill Top Road website: [www.hilltoproad.org.uk](http://www.hilltoproad.org.uk)**

The website is up and running and is updated regularly. It provides information on the aims of the committee and its constitution, minutes of meetings and previous newsletters, documents relating to current issues, details of events of specific interest to HTR residents, information on how to join the HTRRA and contact the members. Please give us any feedback / suggestions.

### **4. Volunteers and dates**

We need volunteers to lead on the following issues: (1) parking and traffic; (2) Neighbourhood Watch and security issues; (3) rubbish collection and recycling. We'd also like to gather information on what has been done in these areas in the past and would be grateful if you could contact us with any help.

**18<sup>th</sup> January:** FoWM public meeting to discuss revised planning applications. 7.30 Assembly Rooms, Cheney School.

**19<sup>th</sup> January:** deadline for response to Council on amendments to planning applications

**23<sup>rd</sup> January:** Joint presentation by RAs and Friends of Warneford Meadow of their objections to the development at the North East Area Committee. 6pm Wood Farm Primary School, Titup Hall Drive.

#### **Committee members**

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