

# Waterlines

The newsletter of the  
Sovereign Harbour Residents Association



**Issue 21**

[www.shra.co.uk](http://www.shra.co.uk)

**February, 2007**

## **A Victory for Common Sense?**

On 7th February, three months after the momentous Five Sites planning committee meeting at the Town Hall, the deadline for Sovereign Harbour Ltd. to lodge appeals against the committee's

decisions slipped quietly by.

We have been assured by consultants working for Carillion that no appeals were lodged, and we have no reason to doubt that this is the case.

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### ***Public Consultation Meeting at the Haven School, Atlantic Drive***

***Saturday 24th February, 2007  
From 11:30am to 2:30pm***

***All welcome***

*Come along to discuss your ideas on the future of the 'Five Sites', and all of the other remaining harbour development land, with the SHRA committee and members of the Borough Council.*

*Continued from page 1.*

We were very encouraged when SHL dropped the appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the B&Q warehouse, but it was always felt that this was unlikely to be successful. If confirmed, and we have no reason to believe that it won't be, SHL's decision opens the way, for the first time, for really meaningful discussion to take place on the final stages of the harbour development and, hopefully, the provision of the social infrastructure that is so sadly lacking in the Marina Village.

For the first time in over two years, harbour residents are not embroiled in a major dispute with the land-owners and developers.

Work is already in progress to set up a meeting between elected members and officers of EBC, Carillion, and members

of the SHRA committee to discuss the way forward.

Please make time to come along to the meeting advertised on the front page. Your views are extremely important and we would like to hear them before this meeting takes place.

It will also be an opportunity for new members to join the SHRA, and for existing members to renew their membership ready for 2007/2008.

It should be noted that, without the full, cross-party support of the Borough Council and the relationship that has been established between the SHRA and the EBC cabinet, it is unlikely that this position would have been reached

Look out for updates in the March issue of Waterlines and on the website.

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## **Adopting the Harbour** (by Alison Attwood)

For most Harbour residents, adopting the roads and walkways seems like a never-ending problem, but hopefully not for too much longer. SHRA has had detailed discussions with Officers from the County and Borough Councils, and now receives regular updates from Graham Kemp, Eastbourne's Highways Manager. We are hopeful of substantial progress in 2007.

### **How does adoption work?**

There are basically four key stages to the process: Firstly the developers enter into a Section 38 agreement that sets out their intention to make the roads available for adoption. Once most of the basic work is completed, the Council issues a Part 1 certificate, followed by a Part 2 certificate when all aspects - road surfacing, drainage, lighting etc. - are up to the agreed standard. At this point, the highways are put "on maintenance", usually for 12 months, but can be less, with the developers responsible for any remedial repairs before the road is finally adopted by the Council.

### **What stage are we at?**

The latest issue of EBC's status report, which gives details for every Harbour development, is now available on the SHRA website, and will be updated regularly. Here's a brief overview:

In South Harbour, only Atlantic Drive and the roads to the west (Boston, Portland etc.) are adopted. Out of the twelve individual development sites, seven have adoption agreements and are progressing satisfactorily. With regard to the remaining five sites, Graham Kemp tells us that things have been getting better since Persimmon took over, and the Council is more confident of progress this year.

In North Harbour, most of the developments already have Part 2 certificates, and the Officers are confident that the remaining developments will soon catch up. The main delay has been to Pacific Drive, due to continuing heavy construction traffic and waiting for EdF to complete essential lighting works, but all that is due to change. We expect a

Part 2 certificate to be issued for Pacific Drive in the near future, enabling many of the developments to be adopted quickly, subject to final remedial works being carried out.

### **What about the marina walkways?**

Almost all the walkways will be adopted along with the development inner roads. The exceptions are the footpaths in front of the Waterfront shops and cafes and around the lock gates, which will remain the property of Sovereign Harbour Ltd. Adoption means the council will take responsibility for weeds, litter and dog mess as is the case with all other highway areas.

### **What about management fees?**

The council will take over the maintenance of roads, pavements and grass verges between the two, plus street lighting and cleansing. They will not adopt the various landscaped gardens, courtyards, fountains and private car parks, and residents will still be responsible for these. Many developments now have their own resident associations and have taken steps to improve management arrangements locally.

### **Can parking restrictions still be enforced?**

When the roads are adopted they become public highways and there can be no private parking/clamping schemes for on-road parking. Individual developments can still run private arrangements for their off-road parking areas.

Where necessary the council will put parking restrictions in place and will consider any traffic calming requirements. We anticipate yellow lines will remain along some parts of Pacific Drive to ensure safe access for buses and emergency vehicles.

### **What powers do the police have?**

The police have limited powers on unadopted roads but, as soon the Part 2 certificate is issued and the road becomes a highway forever open to the public, the police have their normal powers of enforcement available to them with minor exceptions. Speed traps are already deployed along Atlantic Drive, and the Council has plans to monitor speeds along Pacific Drive.

Please check out the latest information at <http://www.shra.co.uk>, and contact a member of the committee if you have any further questions or concerns.

### **Members Surgeries**

The next members' surgery will be held at Simply Italian on the Waterfront on:

Saturday 3rd March, 2007  
Saturday 7th April, 2007  
Saturday 5th May, 2007

From 10:30am to 11:30am

You don't need to have a problem, why not come along for a chat and let us know your views

### **Marina Mums**

The next gathering for Harbour mums is on Thursday 8th March at 10.45am at Simply Italian.

It will be hosted by Mari-Anne Elder who also runs Strollers & Toners (an exercise class for mums with their babies). Mari-Anne hopes to continue the good work started by Sam who is moving on to pastures new in Whitstable. Best of luck to Sam & her family.

Please contact Mari-Anne on 01323 479280 or e-mail [marinamums@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:marinamums@yahoo.co.uk)

# R&N PHOTOGRAPHY

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## **Sovereign Harbour Community Council?**

You may have read recently that the Government has published a White Paper on local government reforms. In this, town and county councils are encouraged, wherever possible, to devolve some power to local communities through the formation of 'Community Councils'. These councils would operate in a similar manner to existing Parish Councils, but with updated processes and procedures. Because of its very well defined boundaries, Sovereign Harbour is well placed to take advantage of the changes.

The SHRA Committee has discussed the concept and feel that it is of real interest and worthy of detailed examination, to determine if the formation of such a body could be of benefit to harbour residents. Research is already underway and, when a clearer understanding of the responsibilities and legal implications has been reached, the results will be reported to residents through a presentation and open discussion, within the next twelve months.

Meanwhile if you have any initial views on this, please send them to:

Waterlines  
PO Box 124  
Eastbourne BN24 9AW  
[waterlines@shra.co.uk](mailto:waterlines@shra.co.uk)

## **MVS Fun weekend**

The Marine Voluntary Service (MVS) will

again be staging the 'World Championship Pantomime Horse Racing' event at their Fun Weekend on the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront on 9th and 10th June.

Only one team from the harbour took part last year (SHRA committee members Jane Gochin and Carol Golder); it would be nice to see a few more this year. You have plenty of time to sort out a costume and a partner, so there's no excuse!

Full details will be published as soon as they become available.

## **Harbour Friends** (by Bev Adams)

Last month was a milestone for Harbour Friends: It was our second birthday and some 70 members attended. It's amazing to think that two short years ago there were just six of us and now we number more than 100, and growing every time we meet. We are now meeting every Sunday evening at the Yacht Club from 7:00pm for fully paid up members (£12 per year per person). Our new members evening is on the last Sunday of the month, so come and see if you like us. Recently we had a very successful evening Ten Pin Bowling and a Sunday cycle ride, and everyone had a really good time. We have Safari Suppers planned this month, and intend to have three or four a year as they are great fun and a great way to get to know other members. WE ARE NOT A DATING CLUB. Everyone is welcome: young, old, married, single. We also try to hold child-friendly activities when the weather permits. Please check out

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our website [www.harbourfriends.co.uk](http://www.harbourfriends.co.uk).  
Hope to see you one Sunday.

E-mail Bev at [bev@harbourfriends.co.uk](mailto:bev@harbourfriends.co.uk) or call her on 479797 or just turn up on the last Sunday of the month.

## **Sovereign Harbour Racing Club**

Following the successful outings last summer, SHRC will be established this year as a constituted club with a board of directors who will stand annually for election.

Membership will be offered either on a social basis, or on a racehorse ownership (syndicate) basis. For more information, or to join SHRC, contact Linus Gunning on (01323)-470757.

Look out on the website and in the next issue of Waterlines for the list of proposed outings for the coming year.

## **Sovereign Harbour Investors Club**

The Sovereign Harbour Investors Club is now 'up and running', and opportunities still exist for new members to get on board. For more information, please visit the 'Social Activities' page of the SHRA website, or e-mail [shinvestclub@aol.com](mailto:shinvestclub@aol.com).

## **Progress with the Health Centre**

Now that the NHS Primary Care Trust has given its 'approval in principle' to the building of a Health Centre at the Sovereign Harbour, The Harbour Medical Practice has commissioned a land survey company to carry out a survey of the proposed site (Site 5).

This would, at some stage, entail the drilling of some bore holes to assess the nature of the ground below surface. This information would be vital to all parties concerned (the Environment Agency, the Planning Authority and the Harbour Medical Practice) and needs to be obtained before proceeding to the next stage.

## **Surface water drainage**

Please take a look at your Southern Water invoice for waste water removal. If there is a charge for the removal of surface water, you are being overcharged and are entitled to a refund.

The good news is that, following concerted pressure from the SHRA and the Eastbourne Herald, Southern Water has agreed to refund this money to all harbour residents.

This good news gets even better: once your details have been registered by Southern Water, you will *never* be charged again.

This is yet another victory for people power so, when you get your £22 refund, we hope that you will invest £10 of it on joining the SHRA, or renewing your membership. (Application form on the back page). Look out for an update on the website and in the March issue of Waterlines.

On the subject of water, South East Water have, at last, removed the hose-pipe and sprinkler ban that has been in force for almost two years.

# Natural Fitness Centre

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## Farewell to weeds?

Alison and Ian from the SHRA committee have been working closely with Graham Kemp, Eastbourne Borough Council's Highway Manager, regarding the dreadful state of the marina walkways. We are delighted to report some good news: Graham has reached agreement with all the developers for the Council to clear the weeds on a recharge basis until the walkways are fully adopted.

The work will be carried out in three phases: The first task, to be carried out immediately, is to remove the worst of the longer weeds which will improve the appearance straightaway. The second visit will involve spraying the weeds as soon as the growing season starts, probably towards the end of March. The third will be to return to site once the weed killer has done its job to remove all of the remaining, hopefully dead, weeds. We hope this will prevent further weed growth until after adoption has taken place, when normal maintenance will apply. Should adoption be delayed for any reason, the Council will apply a similar approach again and recharge the work to the respective developers.

We are discussing with Graham whether a recharge arrangement could also be put in place for the regular removal of litter and dog mess, to give the marina walkways the same attention as the rest of Eastbourne's promenade. We'll keep you advised of progress - meanwhile don't let your maintenance company off the hook. They are responsible for

cleansing, and you are paying for the service.

## Support your local team!

Our local Sussex League team, Eastbourne United, managed by harbour resident Brian Dennis, is always keen to welcome new supporters. There are several harbour residents on the playing and coaching staff of the club which is always on the look-out for new players and support staff, at every level.

Planned fixtures include:

Sat. 17th Feb.(H) Arundel  
Kick-off 3:00pm

Tue. 20th Feb.(A) Chichester  
RUR Cup Semi-final  
At Shoreham FC Kick-off 7:45pm

Sat. 24th Feb.(A) Worthing  
Kick-off 3:00pm

Tue. 27th Feb.(H) Three Bridges  
Kick-off 7:45pm

All home games are played at 'The Oval' in Channel View Road. See the SHRA website for more information.

## North Harbour Bridge Closure

We have been advised that the North Harbour bridge will be raised between 19th - 23rd February to allow new safety barriers to be fitted.

## New look Waterlines

You cannot have failed to notice that the format of Waterlines has changed. This will allow us much more flexibility when creating content. Please let us have your virvs



# Temple Bird - Solicitors

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Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN23 5UZ*

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## **It's that time again**

As the very successful 2006/2007 SHRA membership year draws to a close, the time has come to ask all our members to think about renewing their membership.

It's also a great time for all of you who have not joined us, or who have 'just not had the time to get round to it', to consider doing so.

Although we have made considerable progress in the past year, there is still a huge amount of work to do. We will continue to do our utmost to ensure that the remaining development land is used to provide the social infrastructure so necessary for the completion of the Marina Village for which the land owners were given planning consent. At the same time, we will continue our fervent opposition to any further residential development.

The new membership year begins on 1st April, but it would be very helpful if as many of you as possible could renew your membership early. With about 800 members, it is a very big job.

For those of you who are considering joining us, any new application received before the end of the current membership year will run until the end of March 2008. So, there's no need to wait, do it now!

Sovereign Harbour is a great place to live and, hopefully, the coming year will see less conflict and allow more time for positive action to make it even better.

It is the size of the membership that gives the SHRA committee the necessary authority to negotiate on the behalf of harbour residents.

Your continued support is essential if this is to continue. By joining us, you add to the strength of our voice.

### **Eastbourne Half-marathon**

The Eastbourne half-marathon will be run on Sunday 25th February, starting at 10:00am and, as in previous years, the route will take the runners towards Beachy Head and around the Meads before coming back along the seafront and through Sovereign Harbour.

The race starts and finishes in Princes Park and full details can be found on [www.eastttbourne-half.co.uk](http://www.eastttbourne-half.co.uk)

Please turn out to give the runners a very warm harbour welcome.

### **Interested in joining the Yacht Club?**

Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club is having an Open Day for new members on Saturday 3rd March between 12.00 noon and 4:00pm.

Feel free to go along to view the facilities and talk to the board about joining; you don't need to have a boat as social members are welcome.

# Sovereign Harbour Residents Association Membership Application/Renewal 2007/2008

Title:

First name:

Last name:

Address:

Sovereign Harbour North / South \*delete as applicable

Postcode: BN23

Telephone:  -

E-mail:

*I apply for membership of the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association and understand that the information supplied above will be stored on a computer system. I also understand that this information will not be disclosed to, or shared with, any other person or organisation.*

Signature:

This form, with a cheque for £10.00, payable to 'SHRA', should be sent to:

The Secretary,  
Sovereign Harbour Residents Association  
PO Box 124,  
Eastbourne,  
East Sussex BN24 9AW

## For SHRA use only.

Date processed:

Membership number:

## Annual General Meeting

The SHRA AGM will be held on Saturday 21st April, 2007 at the Haven School, Atlantic Drive, starting at 12:00 noon

This meeting is for members only, More details in the March issue of Waterlines