

Waterlines

The newsletter of the
Sovereign Harbour Residents Association



Issue 35

www.shra.co.uk

April, 2008

Community Council - Now it's up to you



On Monday 31st March, the SHRA chairman, Rick Runalls presented a petition to Eastbourne Borough Council's Local Democracy Manager, David Robinson, requesting the formation of a Community Council for Sovereign Harbour.

The petition, containing the signatures of well in excess of the minimum 10% of the registered electorate, effectively triggers the process that should lead to the formation of a Community Council for Sovereign Harbour.

Since the campaign started things have moved on, and the new legislation that came into force in February made significant changes to the process and consequently to the SHRA strategy.

Under the old legislation, the Borough Council merely had an obligation to pass on the petition to the Secretary of State for Communities, who would decide if the council should be set up. Under this legislation, the Borough Council had the ability to delay the process, but very little opportunity to actually affect the outcome.

Under the new legislation, the Borough Council has an obligation to fairly evaluate the request, and to conduct whatever consultation it feels is required including, if necessary, a referendum. Under this legislation, having consulted the electorate, the Borough Council has the power to refuse the request.

Another factor contributing to our strategy was that at the start of the campaign we received assurances from the leaders of both political groups on the Borough Council that they would remain neutral in the process and wait to see what the people wanted, which is all we could have hoped for.

However, the negative campaign of misinformation by some prominent opponents of the initiative has undermined our confidence in the ability of the Borough Council to fairly assess the request.

The strength of residents' support, expressed through the petition, now puts the ball firmly in the Borough Council's court and we are sure that Sovereign Harbour residents will be watching carefully to see that the legal obligation to conduct a *fair and impartial evaluation* is fulfilled.

At the open meeting held at the Haven School, Rick Runalls indicated that there would be more meetings to further explore the implications before moving ahead, and that remains our firm intention. However, there is little point in doing so until we receive a response from the Borough Council and have an indication of how the evaluation will be conducted.

We believe that the SHRA has an important part to play in this process and have offered EBC our support. We hope this will be accepted in the spirit in which it is given.

It has always been the SHRA position that you, the residents of Sovereign Harbour, should decide. We hope you will participate fully in the consultation process and will share our view that a Community Council has a vital part to play in ensuring that Sovereign Harbour residents get the services that we deserve, and to which we are entitled.

If, on the other hand, you feel that a Sovereign Harbour Community Council is not the way forward, then so be it, but at least you will have been given the opportunity to express your views.

Whatever happens, you can be sure that there are interesting times ahead for the harbour. If you are interested in non-party political local democracy, we would be very interested to hear from you. Join us and become part of the solution to the problems caused by twenty years of political neglect.

Surgery planning consent extended

At their March meeting, the EBC Planning Committee granted a two year extension to the temporary consent that allows the Harbour Medical Practice to operate from a residential dwelling in Barrier Reef Way.

Local residents who opposed the extension told the committee members that a minority of surgery users, who refused to use the parking area off Pacific Drive opposite the entrance to Barrier Reef Way were causing serious problems by using local parking areas and

obstructing access to their property.

An SHRA representative who spoke in support of the application, although sympathising with the problems being experienced by residents, told the committee that plans for a new medical centre were at an advanced stage and assurances had been received from the PCT that this was a high priority project and funding was available. This was supported by the Borough Council's Development Control Manager.

Dr. Adoki, the GP who applied for the extension of consent, also confirmed that he was negotiating with Carillion for the purchase of the land for a medical centre and hoped to be bringing an application to the committee in the near future. In answer to a committee member's question, Dr. Adoki answered that of almost 4,000 people on his list, the vast majority were harbour residents.

In the event, the application was approved by a majority of just four votes to three, with one abstention; much too close for comfort.

We therefore ask all of you who benefit from this excellent practice to consider the comfort and safety of residents by using the parking facilities provided.

Yacht Club Open Day

There will be a warm welcome for all harbour residents at the yacht club's open day to be held on Saturday 19 April between 12 noon and 4pm. Please come along and enjoy a glass of wine, nibbles and a friendly chat. Membership fees will be reduced by 50% for the second half year, and there are special incentives for residents at the open day, including vouchers for a free meal in our popular galley. Planning a special event? The Royal Sovereign Suite on the top floor of the yacht club is a fantastic venue for wedding receptions and parties, with panoramic views across the north harbour. If you have something to celebrate, please come along to the open day and have a chat with our general manager. And remember, yacht club members enjoy preferential rates for functions.



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Available between 6pm and 8pm
(excluding Fridays and Saturdays)
only to residents of Sovereign Harbour
(Minimum spend £10)

01323 479988/479808

14-15 The Waterfront, Sovereign Harbour, Eastbourne, BN23 5UZ

***SHRA Annual General Meeting
at the
Haven School, Atlantic Drive***

Thursday 1st May, 2008

Starting at 7:30 pm

Doors open 7:00 pm

Members only

*Nominations for election to the committee should be sent,
in writing, to:*

The Secretary,

SHRA,

PO Box 124,

Eastbourne, BN24 9AW.

To arrive no later than 12:00 noon on 23rd April

In order to attend the AGM you will need to have a current (2008-2009) membership card. This is a white card with the details printed in red.

To avoid delays, and congestion at the entrance, we ask members to please renew their membership at least a

week before the meeting so that we can process the applications and deliver your card.

Please don't leave it to the evening of the meeting, but if that is not possible, please have a completed membership form and a cheque already prepared.

Social Clubs and Groups

For more information on any of these groups, call the number given, or visit the 'Social Activities' page of the SHRA website (www.shra.co.uk).

Sovereign Harbour Art Group

The Sovereign Harbour Art Group meets in the Christ The King Church Hall, Princes Park on Wednesdays 5pm - 8pm and Thursdays 9.30am - 12.30pm

Learn to paint with Acrylics, Oils and Pastels with an Experienced Art Tutor in a friendly, relaxed and enjoyable environment.

Phone Angela on 07914-884378 or e-mail acrylicart@hotmail.co.uk

Sovereign Harbour Investors Club

The Sovereign Harbour Investors Club meets on the last Tuesday of each month at the Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club, starting at 7:00pm. Membership is limited to twenty members.

Dates of meetings will be posted on the SHRA website.

To join the club, e-mail membership.inquiries@shiclub.co.uk or visit their website: www.shiclub.co.uk

Strollers and Toners

The Strollers and Toners group meets on Mondays from 2:30 until 3:30 and Thursdays from 9:15 until 10:15 outside Fitness First in the Crumbles Retail Park. The cost is £2.50 per session.

Everyone is welcome and the sessions usually run on afterwards with drinks and a chat on the harbour.

The Harbour Womens' Institute

The Harbour branch of the WI meets on the second Monday of the month at 2:00pm in the Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club.

If you are interested in taking part, please contact Mrs Heather Hyrapiet on: 01323-416263.

Vet's Football

The Vet's football team meets on Sunday mornings for a 'kick about'. Players can be 32- 102!!! and the purpose of the

team is to meet like minded lads who live on the harbour for exercise and a bit of fun (nothing too serious!!) All abilities and fitness levels welcome. Social events are held for players and partners and more are planned for the future.

For more information, contact Frank Milmoe on 07771-610158
frankmilmoe@btinternet.com

Sovereign Harbour Racing Club

The Sovereign Harbour Racing Club meets on a number of occasions through the year for excursions to local racecourses.

For more information, or to join the club, contact Linus Gunning on 01323-470757.

Harbour Friends

Harbour Friends is a social group for residents of Sovereign Harbour **ONLY**. The group meets on Sunday evenings from 7:15pm in the first floor bar in the Yacht Club.

New members are welcome on the LAST Sunday of the month.

More details can be found on their website: www.harbourfriends.co.uk

Call Bev on 479797, or e-mail Bev at bev@harbourfriends.co.uk

Sovereign Harbour Social Club

SHSC meets every Wednesday from 10am to 11:30am in the Harvester at the Waterfront for coffee.

Each month, there will be one outing, lunch, theatre, places of interest. On Tuesday 29th April the club will be going to Worthing and Holmbush (M&S) with Lynn's Travel, price £6.

Future outings: 21st May, Lavender Line, 25th June, Battle. All are welcome.

Contact Sam Sweiry on 01323 479111 for further details.



c/o St. Anthony's Church, 557a Seaside, Eastbourne (Opposite Lidl)

Quality childcare in fun, happy surroundings for children 2½ to 5 years
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Open daily, term time 9am to 1pm

Nursery Grants accepted

Waiting list now open for September intakes

For more information, please call Donna on 07821-490227

The Harbour WI (by Liz Beuzeval)

The Harbour WI is a new WI. We already have nearly 50 members and we are very excited about our future here at the harbour.

Treasures from the Past was the title of our March meeting, held on 10th March, the day that the south coast suffered gale force winds and, here at Sovereign Harbour, we witnessed that strange phenomenon – horizontal rain!

Nevertheless our intrepid speaker willingly braved the awful weather and travelled from Hastings to attend our meeting. She brought with her hundreds of examples of small items mainly from Victorian times that were in every day use in households all over the country – and now our members had to guess what some of them were actually used for! We were not always very good at this guessing game, but we were given a fascinating insight into what went on in households all those years ago.

Apart from our monthly meetings – held on the second Monday of every month at the Yacht Club (second floor) starting at 2 pm- we have an active social calendar and arrange outings or other social get-togethers each month. There are also plans to set up 'special interest' meetings on other dates during the month for such things as crafts, walks and any other topic that our members ask for.

We have a fabulous venue for our meetings and would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Yacht Club for affording us the privilege of using their premises.

If you would like to find out more about

what we do, why not come along as a guest to one of our meetings? If you would like further information please contact:

Liz Beuzeval (01323-470519) or
Heather Hyrapiet (01323-416263)

Community Police update (by PC Ed Faulkner)

We continue to make efforts in the Sovereign area with some real strides being made this month.

Firstly Operation Buoyant has been running for the whole of March. This operation was focusing high visibility patrol in the area, and also the use of a mobile speed camera at various locations. Hopefully many of you will have noticed the increased attention. Early statistics are showing that this appears to have made a difference with reported incidents falling. We have also noticed that the average speed seems to have dropped. However the work in this area will continue.

Secondly the first meeting of the Neighbourhood Panel has taken place. The priorities for the area set by the panel and these are licensing issues arising from the Waterfront area, Anti-social activities by younger people on the harbour, and also car crime. This will be the focus in the future. All together the area is still an important priority for the Neighbourhood Specialist Team. As always please feel free to get in touch if you have any issues for us.

Premier Bank Holiday Roadshow

On the first May Bank Holiday, 3rd to 5th May, Premier Marinas will be holding a yacht sales roadshow at the Sovereign

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Our privilege card is available to SHRA members. Ask in-store

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GUCCI & FENDI
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Harbour marina. Many of the on site tenants will also be taking part.

Premier Yacht Sales will be displaying the brand new Moody 45DS, the new Elan 450 and the Island Packet 485.

Power models from Four Winns, Lemas, Maxum, Sessa and Stingrays will also be on display; a great range of styles from 18 to 40 feet.

The RNLI will also be there, providing refreshments and giving advice on safety at sea.

For more information call Premier Marinas on 01489-885000 or visit the 'Calendar' page on the SHRA website

www.shra.co.uk

Haven School Clubs

Like most schools The Haven is looking at extended schools provision, which includes such items as Breakfast Clubs and After School Clubs.

The Head Teacher and Governors would like to know if there is a need in the local community for a Nursery for under school

age children. Families at the School have already filled in a questionnaire.

If there are other families in the area who would have an interest in making use of such a provision would they please contact The Head Teacher, Mrs. Wendy Bray at The Haven School, Atlantic Drive, Eastbourne BN23 5TB (Telephone: 01323 471781).

The outcome will depend on whether or not there is a sufficient need.

Art Group exhibition and sale

The East Dean and Friston Art Group will be holding their annual exhibition and sale of members' work at the East Dean Village Hall over the May Bank Holiday weekend.

Opening times:

Saturday	3rd May	14:00 to 18:00
Sunday	4th May	10:00 to 18:00
Monday	5th May	10:00 to 16:00

Free admission and parking.

Refreshments and Grand Raffle

Temple Bird

Solicitors

27/28, The Waterfront, Sovereign Harbour,
Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN23 5UZ

Tel: 01323 479888 Fax 479999 E-mail: info@templebirdlaw.co.uk

Pevensey Bay Country Market

The Pevensey Bay Country Market has just opened its doors again after the Christmas break. They have more cooks and vegetable producers and can now offer free range eggs. They also have a farmer interested in selling his local lamb.

The market is held in St. Wilfrid's Hall, Eastbourne Road, Pevensey Bay every Friday until Christmas from 10.15 until 11.30.

Seasonal locally produced fruit, veg and plants, cakes and savouries, jams and pickles, free range eggs, local honey and plenty of craft.

Refreshments available. Free entry and parking.

Further details from Fiona on 460178.

Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood Panel (by Josephine Roff)

On the 27th March 2008 a group of local residents got together with the support of the local Community Police to form a Neighbourhood Panel, (formerly known as a Local Action Team).

This panel is made up of volunteers and a representative of the SHRA. Invited participants included our Councillors and Neighbourhood Watch initially, but with your input we could expand invitations as and when necessary.

Our aim is to address issues raised by our local community, and, hopefully come to a resolution that keeps everyone happy and safe.

We are aware that we do not necessarily represent the entire population that

lives on the Harbour. We would therefore welcome input from anyone between the ages of 5 to 105!

Your suggestions for priorities and what is needed within our community is important for us all.

Whether you own your own home or are renting. Whether you are working, retired or in receipt of benefits of any kind. There is no barrier to anyone wishing to have a say in this new initiative, all members of our New Community have a valid voice.

Please also note that we are aiming to be completely neutral when it comes to politics. Any of our councillors who are present will be there at our request – they will not decide priorities, as this may have the effect of politicising an outcome.

You can make contact with us through:
Josephine Roff (interim chair).
Tel: 01323 471612, or

PC Ed Faulkner CF161.
Tel: 0845 60 70 999

SHRA membership renewal

We would like to thank the 300 plus of you who joined, or rejoined the SHRA before the end of the 2007/2008 membership year, it really helps us to stagger the huge amount of year end work.

If you have not yet renewed your membership, and intend to do so, it would be very helpful if you could do it before the AGM.

Remember the five sites. Without the support of SHRA members they would now be full of multi-storey apartments. The battle was won, but not the war.

Sovereign Harbour Residents Association Membership Application/Renewal 2008/2009

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 **per household**, 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:

To Sponsor Waterlines

07770-621368

waterlines@shra.co.uk