

Waterlines

The newsletter of the
Sovereign Harbour Residents Association



Issue 57

www.shra.co.uk

February, 2011

Huge Turnout at LDF Consultation



About thirty residents were already waiting at the Haven School on 22nd January for the doors to open on the Local Development Framework consultation event at 10:00am.

By the time the doors closed at 2:00pm, 462 residents had attended the event; the overwhelming majority opposing the council's continued support for Carillion's plan to further erode the fragile sustainability of the harbour community.

The planning officers coped admirably and professionally with the large numbers of angry residents. They were supported by the EBC Chief Executive, Robert Cottrill, who left with no doubt that there was serious opposition to the council's plans.

It was, however, very disappointing that the Senior Head of Planning, Jeff Collard, wasn't there, and that, although our County Councillor, Cllr. David Elkin, was there, not one of our ward Borough Councillors took the time to support the people who elected them.

As those who attended left, they were asked to comment on what they had seen and heard. The responses followed a number of common threads, but were overwhelmingly opposed to 'The Sovereign Vision', if it included further residential development at Sovereign Harbour. Significantly, a very large number of residents felt that they would rather forgo the social infrastructure than accept additional residential development.

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Many respondents expressed the view that, even though there was such widespread opposition, the views of harbour residents would again be ignored. A number of people quoted Cllr. Tutt's statement to the Eastbourne Herald that "the council is agreed on this position and stands on it". If this is the case, why is so much Council Tax payers' money being wasted on a useless exercise?

When asked by residents where the 150 homes would be built, the planning officers said this had not been decided. However, it seems too much of a coincidence that the "External Review of Sites with Residential and Employment Potential" on the EBC website identifies sites at Sovereign Harbour with the potential to deliver exactly 150 homes. What is of the greatest concern is that, despite the council's stated requirement for family homes, 149 of the homes are one or two bedroom flats. Before building a further 149 flats, it would seem wise to use the 300 flats that estate agents tell us are currently available.

There was widespread concern that Carillion would not stand by any legal agreement, and that the council would not take enforcement action should it fail to do so. Also of considerable concern was the cynical repositioning of the Neighbourhood 14 boundary to include the Kingsmere Estate.

However, most disturbing was the very large number of residents who expressed the view that the Sovereign Harbour development had suffered from

widespread corruption, and that this was still the case; this is not the SHRA view. Sadly, it seems that the current situation is the result of incompetence on a monumental scale.

We have always believed that the remaining business development land should be used to provide employment opportunities, and must be protected. All other land should be used to enhance Sovereign Harbour as a tourist destination that would benefit the whole town.

Above all, the problems of Sovereign Harbour have been the result of the Borough Council's abject failure to control the developers. It is now totally unacceptable that the council should be continuing with a policy of appeasement that will further damage any possibility of creating the sustainable mixed-use community that was originally conceived, and which Harbour residents bought into.

The original development plan promised a 'work-life' environment which, because of the council's failings, has still not been provided. Unless the council changes its policy, it seems unlikely it will ever come about. We have already paid over and over again, now we are being expected to pay again, and again there is absolutely no guarantee that anything will be provided.

Mr Cottrill and his people tell us we must forget the past and look to the future; how can we do that? Until the mistakes of the past are acknowledged, there is no guarantee that they will not be repeated. We accept that Carillion

The image is a promotional banner for Boatshed Sussex. It features a blue sky background with a white motorboat on the left and a dark sailboat on the right. The text is centered and includes the company name, a tagline, sales figures, contact numbers, and a website email address.

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is entitled to make a profit from the development of its land, but not that it should be allowed to maximise its return by riding roughshod over the aspiration of the community.

There is anecdotal evidence that Carillion has refused to enter into negotiation on the sale of some of remaining sites. Could this be because it has been given the expectation that it will be able to sell them in the future, with consent for residential development, at a much higher price?

Perhaps Mr Cottrill should ask Carillion to explain the bold statements made on the its website. For example, "Carillion provides sustainable solutions for the way we live. We will achieve this by turning our vision into reality by embedding sustainability into everything we do.

It says, "We are proud of our record on sustainable development and this website contains many examples and best practice from across the group."

We wonder where Sovereign Harbour fits into this philosophy.

After the 'No More Residential' motion was passed by the Borough Council, Carillion, through its agents, started a process of consultation with the council and the SHRA, the result of which was to be a new "Master Plan for the completion of the development".

It was so evident during the process that the only outcome acceptable to Carillion was the building of more flats on every available piece of land, that the SHRA withdrew from the process.

The evidence provided in the LDF report

clearly fails to make a substantial case for further residential development. In fact, the evidence it quotes often contradicts the conclusions it makes. Significantly, the new Master Plan has not been published and the council seems content with this situation.

The whole case for the adoption of 'Option Two' of the Spatial Development Strategy is so badly flawed that it makes a total mockery of the guidelines for the creation of a Local Development Framework that say:

The Local Development Framework must reflect the aspirations of the community and that it must be founded on credible evidence.

The Sovereign Harbour community has clearly demonstrated that its aspirations do not include further residential development and the cynical alterations of the neighbourhood boundaries to raise the Sovereign Harbour sustainability index is just one example that the evidence used is not credible

It is just not acceptable that Eastbourne Borough Council should continue to ignore the views of harbour residents. If you missed the opportunity to attend the Haven School event, you still have a chance to make you views known.

There will be a 'Borough Wide' Event on Monday 21st February 2011 at Eastbourne Town Hall, Grove Road, from 2:00pm - 6:00pm.

You can also have you say online at: www.eastbourne.gov.uk/eastbourneplan/

The Earth Moved for US - at last



After many years of campaigning, a number of disappointments and considerable unnecessary political interference, work has at last been started on the much needed Sovereign Harbour Health Centre.

The Project Coordinator for the Medical Centre, Peter Waugh, told the SHRA:

"I am delighted to be able to tell you that Dr Adoki has signed a contract with Construction Partnership Limited of Hamble, Hampshire to build a new medical centre at the corner of Pacific Drive.

Work began on 17th January to clear the large mounds of shingle and gravel from the site and the project itself will begin construction on 31st January 2011, with completion expected in the autumn of this year.

It will take several weeks for the building to appear out of the ground, followed

by a fairly rapid construction of the shell, followed by what can seem like a long time before the building is finally complete. Thanks again to Sovereign Harbour residents for your support throughout a lengthy process."

In a later update, Peter said; "It is not too soon to think and make plans for how every room in the building can best be used. Most of the space is for mainstream GP, practice nursing and community health activities. One downstairs room will be available to let to a private chiropody or physiotherapy practice.

Upstairs, there is a large room for use for health promotion and community child health. We will be getting in touch with health-related community groups and classes to work out the most effective use of this room."

Site Manager, Dave Thomas, will be issuing regular progress reports, which will be published on the SHRA website and in Waterlines.

We wish Dr Adoki and his team every success with this project and look forward to the provision of state-of-the-art care for all users of the new health centre.

Replenishment of Eastbourne's Beaches

Work will start at the end of January. Environmental restrictions mean that in order to avoid possible damage to Holywell Reef only recycled shingle can be used at the western end of the frontage. This means that shingle will be dug from existing beaches near the Wish Tower and delivered by dumptrucks to the groyne bays between the Wish Tower and Holywell.

Removing shingle in this way creates space into which sea dredged aggregates can be delivered. A temporary pipeline will first come ashore in the area of groyne 76, opposite Princes Park at

the eastern end of Royal Parade. It will subsequently be moved to near groyne 28 at the Wish Tower. The timing of this move, as with all work, is dependent on sea conditions prevailing at the time.

Eastbourne is no different to the rest of the English Channel coast in having to deal with rising sea levels, increased storminess and naturally eroding beaches. Shingle is no longer being brought ashore by the sea in sufficient quantity to naturally sustain the beach, and flint released from eroding chalk cliffs to the west is equally inadequate. In common with many other parts of the country, the level of protection afforded to Eastbourne is only maintained by directly adding shingle to the beach to

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replace material that is lost as it drifts eastward along the coast.

Both dredging and delivery operations are affected by rough seas, which at this time of the year are a distinct possibility, and inevitably mean delays. It is anticipated that work will be completed in eight weeks, although because it is being carried out at the end of winter some disruption to the work programme is to be expected.

Works will consist of two distinct operations; Recycling and Renourishment.

Recycling involves re-using shingle already on the beach. Material from groyne bays in surfeit is moved to others where there is a deficiency. Excavators load surplus beach into dump trucks, which then travel along the beach and tip the shingle where it is needed. Bulldozers then push the beach into its required position. Approximately 70,000 m³ of beach needs to be recycled.

Renourishment means importing shingle from elsewhere. In this case aggregate will be dredged from the sea bed and delivered to the beach by trailing suction hopper dredger Oranje.

She will collect material from a licensed dredge area known as Owers Bank, which is a little over 6 miles offshore from Littlehampton. Dredging is undertaken at low water so that Oranje can time her arrival at Eastbourne to coincide with high water.

About 1km offshore she will connect to the floating end of a temporary pipeline laid on the seabed. Her cargo will be mixed with sea water and then pumped ashore. Deliveries will be made every

high tide, seven days a week, until the necessary quantity has been delivered.

Excavators will load much of the delivered shingle into dump trucks so it can be moved to the precise groyne bays where it is needed. This reclamation will occur day and night and during weekends. The use of beach machines will be minimised during hours of darkness and on Sundays as far as is practicable. Delivery through the pipeline will create a degree of noise which cannot be avoided. Approximately 200,000 m³ of sea-dredged aggregate needs to be delivered.

It is interesting to see that this vital work is being financed from the public purse or, in other words, from our taxes.

So, not only are we paying through the nose for the sea defences at Sovereign Harbour, we are also contributing to the maintenance of the sea defences for the whole of the surrounding area. However, the residents of the surrounding area, although protected by the Sovereign Harbour sea defences, pay nothing towards them.

This is yet another example of the manner in which Eastbourne Borough Council has failed to protect the interests of harbour residents.

For more information about this project, contact the Council's Engineering Manager on;

amenities@eastbourne.gov.uk, or
01323-415235

Or, the Contractor's Representative on:
pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk,
or 01323-761202

Haven School Update (by Wendy Bray)

It's official

The Haven School is a 'good' school with some outstanding features.

"Three inspectors inspected the Haven School on the 8th and 9th December. The good grading the school received with a number of outstanding features is a testimony to the tremendous effort of the staff team over the past three years.

The staff and governors are proud that the inspectors recognised that the pastoral support, guidance and care the school provides for its pupils is outstanding. The inspectors stated that 'by the time pupils leave the school, they are mature and very thoughtful young people who make a very good contribution to the school and the local community'

The report confirms the considerable progress that has been made in developing the school since the previous inspection. Just as importantly, it affirms the direction in which the school is developing and its future potential, judging the school's capacity for sustained improvement as being outstanding.

The report highlights the 'good behaviour' of The Haven pupils stating that the 'pupils behave well in lessons and around the school and feel very safe, reflecting staff's high expectations and their extremely effective level of care and moral guidance'

The Headteacher, Mrs. Bray stated, "the staff team have worked extremely hard since the last inspection to drive up standards and improve the quality of provision." She added that "the comments made in the Ofsted report about the school's 'innovative approach' 'very effective teaching assistants' and our 'keen and enthusiastic team' of teachers 'who strongly encourage pupils in their learning' is an accolade to the determination and drive of the staff team.

The positive recognition the school has

received from Ofsted is a great source of encouragement to us all as we look to the possibility of expanding to two-form entry and taking the school forward on its journey to achieving our aspiration of being an outstanding school."

Harbour W.I. (by Judy Latter)

The 58 Members and six Visitors to January's meeting of the Harbour W.I. were told by Treasurer Jill Hughes that they had finished the year in good shape financially.

Social Secretary Gill Nokes went on to remind the Ladies about this month's outings - with a trip to Bluewater Shopping Centre on January 13th and the postponed Christmas Lunch to Cooden Beach Hotel on the 21st of this month. (Both very much enjoyed by all who took part!)



Future outings include a theatre trip to see 'Hairspray' at the Congress Theatre and a coffee morning at the Grand Hotel - both in February; followed by Afternoon Tea at the Langham Hotel in March. This is going to include a 'Bring and Buy' sale.

After the tea break Meads W.I. member Lorna Dakin showed the Ladies some of her collection of Patchwork and Quilting and told them how, with a background of a family interest in sewing and dressmaking, she became involved in the hobby about 30 years ago. So much so that she ended up teaching it and now has several of her pupils teaching! She had about 25-30 beautiful bedspreads, quilts, wall hangings and other items to

show. When you consider that they are all hand sewn and can take 300/400 hours for each one! – what a lot of work!!

Lorna travels all over the world getting ideas and sharing hers. She also exhibits and sells some of her items at various places here and abroad. A number of the Ladies went home inspired to start their own Patchwork Quilts with pieces of fabric with 'a story' behind them.

The Craft Club met on Monday, January 17th to make Lavender Bags under the instructions of Chris French. All the Ladies went home with at least one. They meet every third Monday of the month in Pevensey Bay Baptist Church Hall at 2pm and will be making Easter cards next month.

The Ten Pin Bowling Club meets at Lloyds Lanes on the 31st January.

The Harbour W.I. meets every 2nd Monday of the month in the Sovereign Suite of the Sovereign Yacht Club at 2pm. February's Meeting will be a talk by John Henty about 'Mabel Lucie Attwell'.

The Membership for The Harbour W.I. has reached a maximum for the premises where it is held, but there is a waiting list for anybody who wishes to join in the future.

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

For further information please contact Frances Harrap on 01323 472649

Harbour Friends
(by Bev Adams)

Hello all at Sovereign Harbour

My name is Bev Adams.

Six years ago I moved to this wonderful place in which we live,

But.....

I didn't know a soul. Looking out at the harbour I realised that nobody was going to knock on my apartment door - I had to do something about making a life for

myself here.

So.....

I put an advert in Waterlines to get anyone in a similar position to call me and decide what to do.

Guess what.....

Within the first week I had 12 lovely people call me, and we met that very week. It was the best thing I have ever done in my entire life, and the birth of Harbour Friends. I have made some wonderful friends and so have many others. A few have even made deep and meaningful friends, if you know what I mean (and NO we are not a dating club).

It's not easy.....

Making friends can be extremely hard when you retire, divorce or move to a new place. They don't just turn up on your doorstep. A little effort is needed on your part. Call or email me and arrange to come over one Sunday evening. Its just like going to the pub but everybody is more than happy to welcome you to join them and that's all it takes to start a new and exciting chapter of your life. We meet in the Yacht Club every Sunday night from around 7.30 onwards in the first floor bar; there is lift access. Come whatever time you like. Stay as long as you like (although they do like to close up and go home!!) I am more than happy, if you ask for my mobile, to come downstairs and meet you, if you feel a little intimidated at first. I was extremely proud to be nominated, by the lovely Jan Weeks, for an award for Harbour Friends in 2009, and I won!!!. One of my most wonderful moments in my life, thank you Jan.

We'll keep you busy.....

Once a month we like to put on an event such as Quizzes, Call My Bluff, Beetle Drive, Race Nights and so on (new ideas always welcome). They're a great way to get to know other members. some members have also organised Ten Pin Bowling, Skittles, Short Mat Bowls, trips to Windsor, Portsmouth, Rye and a wonderful trip to Bruges. We have an

excellent "Loafers that Lunch" which is hugely popular with the men, but need to revive a "Ladies that Lunch" as most of the originals have now gone back to work!! The only limit is your imagination.

It's great to see new people come and then at the end of the evening having made friends, particularly if they are new Harbour residents and didn't know anyone a few hours previously.

Go on.....

Make a change for the better. Come and see us and then decide if you would like to become a Harbour Friend. New members night is the last Sunday of the month but do feel free to come and see us any Sunday, and I look forward very much to hearing from you or seeing you. Website under reconstruction shortly but website is www.harbourfriends.co.uk to have a look historically.

Thank you,

Bev

bev@harbourfriends.co.uk

01323 479797

Birds of the Bay

(by Anton de Bairacli Levy)

As promised in the last issue a descriptive help on some of the more interesting and rarer visitors to our bay.

The Cormorant



One of the larger birds we see in the area. Not to be confused with the Shag which is slightly smaller and is a cliff dwelling bird. You can get a close up

view of the Cormorant when they are resting on the raft in the corner of the main harbor. Once a bird bred for the table and still used today to dive and catch fish for the pot. Easy to spot in the water as it swims very low and has a hooked tip to the upper bill. Out of the water it is mainly brown but on close inspection has an intricate pattern on the feathers not unlike the Starling, and often seen with wings spread out to dry.

The Grey Heron



The largest of the European Heron family; more often seen on fresh water but occasionally in the bay. It stands tall, mainly grey with long neck and black crest, often with its neck bent in an S shape. It has a long pointed bill and eats fish.

Little Egret



Also part of the heron family, a white bird with a white crest (not always raised), a long pointed black bill, black legs and yellow feet. Stands at the waters edge when the tide is out looking for fish. The Little Egret was considered quite rare until the start of the 1990s and is still on the amber list as a conservation concern.

Redshank



One of the smaller birds, again often seen at low tide, looking for insects, mollusks, and crustations. Mainly brown top and whitish under parts its prominent feature are the red legs though this can be hard to see when the bird is wading in the mud. Has a loud call when approached. In flight it has white bars on tail and wing trailing edges. This bird is also on the RSPB Amber List.

This is in no way an exclusive list and many other species visit us each year. If you see one you want to identify try and make a note of size of the bird, size and shape of bill. colour of legs, and of course any distinguishing features of the feathers or flight pattern. Then, with the aid of the RSPB bird identification site on the net (www.rspb.org.uk) you should be able to put a name to that bird!

Harbour Community Association (by Val Tinney)

Since the last Waterlines we are pleased to advise that the Exercise to Music (Zumba) Class has been very well received. Over 40 people turned up on the first week which was very encouraging. This class runs every



Friday 6.45pm – 7.45pm at the Haven School (term time only). £4.00 per session, pay as you go.

We will now be introducing “The Slim Gym” which will commence on Friday 11th February, 8pm – 9pm at The Haven School. Again £4.00 per session, pay on the day, no joining fee or contract. This is a real calorie busting fitness class led by a Level 3 Advanced Personal Trainer and Group exercise instructor. This is ideal for those who not only want to lose weight but also want to shape up.

The real appeal of the class is that regulars and beginners can be in the same class, doing the same exercise and each getting as much out of it as the other. It is very much a go at your own pace situation. There is no tricky choreography to follow so it doesn't matter if you have two left feet.

We have had a slight problem with storage facilities at the School as planning permission for the base is required - this unfortunately has not yet come through and until it does we are unable to put on any activities that require storage. We will let you know as soon as the problem has been resolved. We are still hopeful that the Indoor Bowls can commence in March although this, of course, is dependent on the storage. All the equipment is on order.

Once we are able to put on more events we will need to get people to join the Association. There will be no membership fee – just a form to fill in. The more people we can get on

board the more this will help support the Residents Association with their efforts for the provision of a Community Centre.

East Sussex WRAS update (by Trevor Weeks)

The Slim Gym (Keeping Fitness Fun)

The latest initiative of the HCA will take place on Friday evenings from 8:00pm to 9:00pm at The Haven School, Atlantic Drive, Eastbourne, starting on 11th February 2011

Run by Mesomorphia and described as 'a real calorie busting fitness class' the real appeal of this class is that regulars and beginners can be in the same class, doing the same exercises, each getting as much out of it as the other. It is very much a go at your own pace situation. There is no tricky choreography to follow so it doesn't matter if you have two left feet.

Led by a level three advanced Personal Trainer and Group exercise instructor, this is arguably one of the most effective and efficient calorie burning workouts used across the globe today. Ideal for those looking to not only lose weight but who also want to shape up.

In just one hour . . . you will:

- SWEAT
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- LAUGH with friends
- HUFF and puff
- ACHIEVE more than you thought possible
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- HAVE fun
- TONE and strengthen your muscles
- IMPROVE fitness of your heart and lungs
- SOCIALIZE
- BE a winner
- EARN a rest
- GET happy
- RELIEVE stress
- ENJOY exercise

£4 per session, pay on the day, bring some friends.

CALL: 07870 671985

EMAIL: mark@mesomorphia.com



We successfully ran our 'Introduction to Wildlife Rescue' course last week, which was well attended. We have set several more dates for courses. The course will be repeated in the future.

Also we will be running our Waterfowl Awareness Course which is a fun course to help members of the public, parks and garden staff and others interested in wildlife welfare to learn more about the behaviour and situations our waterfowl get themselves into and what you can do before the wildlife rescue attend on site.

The Waterfowl Awareness courses will be run on Thursday 17th and Tuesday 22nd February 6.30pm for a 6.45pm start finishing about 9.30pm. The Waterfowl courses are £10 per person and the Introduction to Wildlife Rescue course is £15 person.

Please book by e-mail trevor@wildlifeambulance.org or by dialling 01825-873003 Monday - Friday between 10am and 6pm only; please do not call this number for emergencies or casualties.

As those of you in Seaford will know, Seahaven FM has been recently granted a FM Community Radio Licence and I have been asked by presenter Martha Swift if I will join her once a month for a regular slot talking about wildlife, doing a review of that months rescues, seasonal incidents and advise on dealing with wildlife. My first live broadcast was on 28th January between 3pm and 5pm. You can listen on-line at www.wildlifeambulance.org.

seahavenfm.com or tune in to 96.3FM in the Seaford, Newhaven and Peacehaven area.

WRAS is having an Easter Fair this year at St John's Church Hall, High Street, Polegate on Saturday 9th April 2011. Doors will open at 9am close at 12noon. Tables are available for just a £5 donation to WRAS per table to other sellers wanting to join us, but please book in advance by contacting Sue on 07795432912. There will also be refreshments available.

Trevor Weeks
Founder
East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service (WRAS)

www.wildlifeambulance.org

24hr Rescue Line: 07815-078234

Sovereign Harbour Bus Gate



Following talks in mid-January between all the interested parties, the long awaited bus link between the North and South Harbours seems to be getting closer to reality. All parties recognised the strong desire for a cross-harbour bus connection and the benefits it will deliver.

Because previously suggested routes for the connection are no longer feasible, the meeting identified a workable alternative that in principle appears acceptable to all parties. If this is confirmed we hope that a firm timetable can be quickly established for delivery of the link.

Stagecoach is very supportive of the project and in response to a letter from

the SHRA, Stagecoach Commercial Director, Jeremy Cooper, wrote, "It is a matter of some frustration that positive progress has not been made, although we are aware of at least some of the issues facing ESCC.

Positive support for this scheme from the SHRA would be gratefully appreciated. At present, Sovereign Harbour is difficult to access by bus and consequently the limited service is not well used. During November I altered the time table on route 5/5A so that as soon as the gate is completed we can extend the operation and the additional journeys that you specifically refer to in your letter are a statement of good faith and intent on our part.

If the gate is not completed and if there is a decline in bus revenues we cannot guarantee the continued operation of the existing services."

Considering that funding for this scheme has been available for many years, it really is time that ESCC pulled out all the stops to get the bus gate operational.

Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour



After dinner at the meeting of the Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour on 25th January 2011, the members were entertained by a very amusing and interesting talk by safety expert Angelo Errigo.

Angelo told the members about his early life in the New Forest as the son of a WW2 Italian PoW who had been put to work in his trade as a baker during the war, and stayed in the country afterwards. His father, he said, being

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able to work and support his family, had been allowed to bring them over to England to join him, leading to Angelo's birth.

Angelo went on to tell of his experiences as a working fire fighter in London, and as a senior fire officer around the country. He explained how fire fighters cope with the stresses and traumas of their job, and the way in which they use their own peculiar brand of humour to help them. He had the members rolling in their seats as he demonstrated how fire fighters wearing breathing apparatus search smoke filled rooms using a technique known as the "BA shuffle".

Angelo then told of his experiences, and related some amusing incidents, surrounding his current job as a safety consultant for the Borough Council's events. He finished his talk by showing members his personal collection of fire fighters equipment, including a number of helmets from an intricate brass helmet to the high impact resistant plastic helmet currently in use. Members then had great fun trying them on.



Club President, Don Perman, thanked Angelo on behalf of the members who responded with a huge round of applause.

The Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour meets every Tuesday at 7:00pm in Simply Italian at the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront; new members are always welcome.

For more information call Don Perman, on 01323-479713 or visit the Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour website: www.sovharbour.rotaryweb.org

In the December issue of Waterlines we told you about a sponsored walk around Sovereign Harbour in March in support of the 'Help for Heroes' charity. Unfortunately, it has been necessary to postpone this for a short time.

The likely new date, still to be confirmed, will be Sunday 17th April. Please check the SHRA website for updates and look out for an article in the Eastbourne Herald, the media sponsor for the event.

Corporate sponsorship to cover the incidental expenses will be provided by; PRUPIM, the owners of the Crumbles Retail Park, Carillion plc, Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd., Sterling Automotive, the Local MG Rover dealer, and the SHRA. Safety advice is being provided by Errigosafety. More sponsors would still be welcome and their names will be published on the registration documents and also in the Eastbourne Herald.

www.shra.co.uk

The SHRA website is a mine of useful information about Sovereign Harbour and the events taking place in and around the area. It keeps very much up to date with local news and current affairs.

Visits to the site have been increasing month on month and are currently running at over 7,000 per month.

You can take out SHRA membership online from the website through our PayPal account, or you can download and print our application form for postal applications.

Why not make www.shra.co.uk your homepage so that you are always kept abreast of harbour issues.

SH Neighbourhood Panel News

by Jan Weeks

At the SHNP meeting held on 16th December, chairman Jan Weeks reported on the meeting of all Neighbourhood Panel chairs held 3rd November. Full report is included in the minutes of the last meeting. www.shnp.org

PS Ripley presented the crime report for Sovereign harbour and Langney point.

In October 2010 Sovereign Harbour and Langney Point suffered an increase in theft from and theft of motor vehicles. In November a reduction was seen compared with November 2009. A single group is believed to be operating in the area. Any information from the public will be gratefully received.

Violent Crime includes incidents of Domestic Violence. The number of these incidents is unknown. They include assaults on security guards at retail premises and assaults on the police, etc. P.S. Ripley commented that the figures are low and that he considers Sovereign Ward a safe place to live.

Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood Panel's three priorities for some time have remained the same; anti-social Behaviour, Dog Fouling, Inconsiderate driving and speeding. It has now been decided to change these.

P.S. Ripley proposed that in future, instead of focusing on negative issues as NP priorities, as historically had been the case, it may be better to focus on the positive such as Quality Street Meetings. These were run as 'multi-agency' meetings held in a public place and normally got a good turnout from the relevant agencies.

During the bad weather just before Christmas the parking situation around the harbour changed. Cars normally parked on the roads suddenly parked undercover.

We had hoped this would become the norm, parking is a problem that is resolved by using your allocated parking spaces.

Community Police Update

by PC Ed Faulkner



PC Ed Faulkner and PCSO Martin Hylands

We have had a busy time over the last couple of months. The main incident has of course been the major fire at the Crumbles retail park.

We were on duty that evening and were one of the first units to arrive at the scene. The fire proved very destructive, although luckily there were no injuries.

We have worked hard informing local businesses and groups about the need to keep rubbish and wood stored safely rather than at the back of buildings. Most local businesses have been visited and we continue to remain vigilant to this constant danger.

We have also recently had an incident where a bike was set fire to in the underground car park area of Macquarie Quay. Again, happily there were no injuries, but there was damage.

The potential consequences of a fire in such a vicinity does not bear thinking about and therefore we, alongside East Sussex Fire and Rescue, ask everyone to keep the underground car parks tidy, clear of rubbish and litter, and report anything suspicious to the Police or Fire Brigade quickly.

PCSO Martin Hylands has also had success in identifying anti-social youths who were causing some problems in the Madeira Way part of South Harbour.

Generally however it has been a positive start to the year which we hope to continue into the future. As ever if there is anything you would like to talk to us about please contact us.

Harbour Clubs and Groups

For more information on any of these groups, call the number given, or visit the 'Harbour Clubs' 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 Road on 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

You might also like to visit the Art Group's page of the SHRA website.

www.shra.co.uk/artgroup.htm

Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club

New members welcome. You don't need to own a boat - social members also welcome.

Enjoy the friendly clubhouse, good food and great fun. Open Tuesday-Thursday 17:00-22:30, Friday-Saturday 12:00-23:00 and Sundays 12:00-22:30.

Call in anytime or contact Alison, membership secretary, on 479429 for more information

Strollers and Toners

Get fit, tone up, make friends, feel better Mondays at 2:30 - 3:30pm. Cost £2.50

Thursdays at 9:15 - 10:15am

Everyone is welcome and the sessions often run on with drinks on the harbour.

Please call Mari-Anne (fully qualified and insured) on 01323-479280, or visit: www.strollersandtoners.co.uk

Vet's Football

The Vets Football Team has now been running successfully for over three years, but more players are welcome to join, from the ages of 32 to 60, to play Sunday mornings on a casual basis.

All abilities and fitness levels welcome. For more information, contact Frank: vetsfooty@hotmail.com www.shra.co.uk/vetsfootball.htm

Harbour Friends

Whether you are new to the Harbour or have lived here for sometime, joining Harbour Friends is a great way to meet new people. Harbour Friends is a social group for Harbour residents of all ages, whether single or a couple. The group meets every Sunday at 7:15pm in the first floor bar at the Yacht Club.

If you are interested in joining, as long as you are a Harbour Resident, come along to our New Members evening which is held on the last Sunday of every month.

For more information visit our website at www.harbourfriends.co.uk.

Or, ring Bev on 01323-479797 or e-mail her at bev@harbourfriends.co.uk

The Harbour Women's Institute

The Harbour branch of the W.I. 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 Freda Stalker on: 01323-471798. www.shra.co.uk/wi

Sovereign Singers

Sovereign Singers is an all female choir that performs in aid of the Eastbourne Blind Society. New members are welcome.

For more information, call 01323 470445 or email: musictime@uwclub.net

Sovereign Harbour Social Club

The Sovereign Harbour Social Club meets every Wednesday from 10:00am to 11:30am in Seamoor's at the Waterfront for coffee.

Each month, there will be one outing; lunch, theatre, places of interest.

All are welcome. For further details contact Sam Sweiry on 01323-479111.

www.harbourseniors.co.uk

Sovereign Harbour Residents Association Membership Application/Renewal 2010-2011

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

For SHRA use only.

Membership number:

Alternatively, go to www.shra.co.uk/join to join or renew using your credit card through **PayPal**

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It's that time of the year again

As we approach the end of another membership year, it's time once again to ask you to dig into your pockets.

Apart from helping to fund SHRA activities, and produce Waterlines and the website, your membership card can be used to get worthwhile discounts from a number of local businesses, including several of the Waterfront restaurants. See the SHRA website www.shra.co.uk for further details.

As with last year, you now have the opportunity to take out or renew your membership online. By taking advantage of this option, you not only make life easier for our Treasurer, but also for yourself.

Online renewal sets an automatic renewal process in place so, **if you have already either joined SHRA or renewed via this PayPal system, and not cancelled automatic rebilling, you do NOT need to renew online again as the system will automatically re-bill you annually.**

Don't worry, you can easily cancel this if you leave the harbour or change your mind in the future."

One of the major advantages of the online system is that, as you might have seen, we have introduced new membership cards that can be printed with your name and the date on which your membership expires. This means that we are no longer tied to a fixed renewal date at the end of March and, in time, the renewal process will be spread over a much wider period.

It would, as always, be very helpful if current members could renew their membership early, which greatly staggers the workload of our Membership Secretary. Memberships renewed before the current expiry date will be valid until 31st March 2012.

Our strength is our collective voice. Your continued support is vital, please take the time to (re)join the SHRA.