

Having Trouble Selling?

A number of solicitors acting for both buyers and sellers have contacted Chairperson Chris Burgess seeking some sort of written assurance that action is in hand to get the estate adopted. Without it, a number of sales would have very likely fallen through due to mortgage providers being reticent to lend money against property on an unadopted estate.

Following enquiries from Councillor Vaughan Clarke, Taylor Wimpey have volunteered to provide this written reassurance to anyone experiencing difficulties selling their home. Call Nigel Phillips on 01256 760606 and he will try to help resolve your problem.

Cycling Event Trouble Free

You probably didn't even notice the cycling event held at Churchers College on 12 Sep, which was in marked contrast to the parking chaos last year. Thanks largely to the efforts of Bursar Mr Robbins, competitors were directed elsewhere, with only one shame-faced individual found parking in Barentin Way. A huge improvement for good neighbourly relations, thank you!

Neighbourhood Watch



There is only one Neighbourhood Watch zone on the estate, but the signs are a very visible statement to opportunist criminals and trouble makers that we care about our safety and security and are willing to do something about it. Do you want to benefit from the added

security and reduced insurance premiums that Neighbourhood Watch can bring? It doesn't take much organising and certainly helps build a sense of community in your immediate area. So why not talk to your neighbours to see what they think and then contact Barry Kempster 263712, who can provide you with all the information you need to set up Neighbourhood Watch in your own small part of the estate.

Residents' Group Annual General Meeting – 30 November

The Ram's Residents' Group Annual General Meeting will take place at Churchers College at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 30th November. The official posts of Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor will need to be filled and whilst some of the post-holders are happy to put themselves up for re-election, Chris Burgess and Danny Owens will



be stepping down due to increasingly incompatible work and personal commitments. So, if you think you can make a positive contribution to your community and would like to help solve some of the big issues facing Ramshill residents, then please step forward and put yourself up for election.

Do You Pay a Sewage Charge?

Apparently some of us are paying a full sewage charge, some pay reduced charges due to rainwater run-off being channelled into a soak-away and some people are paying nothing at all! Whilst we would all like to be in the final category, concern has been raised that those in this situation could face sizeable accumulated costs if Southern Water should decide that they should actually be paying for their sewage to be taken away.

If you have anything to contribute to this discussion, or are concerned that you may be liable for a large bill, please come along to the Residents' Group meeting on 30th November to share your experience or offer your advice.

Useful Numbers

Community Support	101
Taylor Wimpey	01256 745 224
Greenbelt	0800 0281749

*Chris Hill @ Taylor Wimpey
re entrance sign.*

Ram's Residents' Group

Nov 2010 - Autumn Edition



Dear Residents,

This year has just flown by! We have our Annual General Meeting at the end of this month and we are inviting the council, developer, water suppliers and local Police Community Support Officer to visit Churchers College at 7.30pm on the 30th November, let's see who shows up!

I will be stepping down from the chairperson role at this meeting and it would be good if you could join us to contribute and have a sip of wine & some nibbles before either standing for the position yourself or voting in a new chairperson.

It has been an interesting year: BBQ's in the park, digging over wild patches of Ramshill's green areas and stirring up Petersfield with feral news articles!!

I would like to thank residents for your support and the other officers for the work they do and let's continue to push for the adoption in the new year!

Chris Burgess

Update on Estate Adoption Issues

It won't have escaped your attention that despite the optimism noted in our last newsletter in May, work still has not started on the foot / cycle path in Skinners Lane, which means that efforts are still ongoing to get the estate adopted by local authorities. Councillor Vaughan Clarke has kept residents up to date with progress and issues at the Residents' Group meetings held in May and September and explained that despite revised plans for Skinners Lane having been approved by East Hampshire District Council (EHDC), the planning authority, Hampshire County Council had refused to take responsibility for the final design as they did not consider that it provided sufficient protection from danger of masonry falling off the unstable boundary walls to the properties in Hoggarth Close. It also appeared that Southern Water had become reluctant to accept responsibility for the estate's drainage system from Taylor Wimpey, even though EHDC had finally approved the design.

Faced with this impenetrable stand-off between local authorities and the developer, the Rams Residents Group committee decided to bring the matter to the attention of Damian Hinds the recently elected MP for East Hampshire, having previously received assistance from his predecessor, Michael Mates. At a constituency surgery on 16 July, Chris Burgess, Dean Leverett and Gaile Gould sat down with Mr Hinds to explain the history of the situation and the detrimental effect that non-adoption is having on residents who are trying to sell their properties on the estate. The MP agreed to look into the matter to see if there is anything he can do to help bring about a solution and to date we have received the following updates on his progress:

7 Sep – Mr Hinds wrote to Mr A J Sturla, Managing Director of Taylor Wimpey: "I note the current impasse and wonder if you think it would be helpful for me to arrange a meeting with you and representatives of the County Council and Southern Water to try and find a way forward."

16 Sep – Mr Sturla replied: "we would be delighted if you could help to arbitrate in this matter I will ask Nigel Phillips to arrange a meeting so that all parties can attend."

(Sewage - adopted)

11 Nov – Mr Hinds assistant e-mailed Chris Burgess with: "I have just spoken on the telephone to Nigel Phillips who was charged with organising the proposed meeting. He tells me that, as soon as he suggested the meeting to Southern Water, they decided they could sign the necessary agreement with Taylor Woodrow and this is now being arranged through the respective legal departments. As soon as the agreement is signed, Mr. Phillips will be in touch with the County Council re the roads and Skinners Lane. Mr. Phillips has also promised to keep up the pressure if needed to get the agreement signed but hopes this will soon be done now. He is going to email Damian with any news. So, at the moment, it seems the meeting is not necessary but Damian has told Mr. Phillips to let him know if there is any hiccup with the signing or with the County Council so he can intervene to try to help further."

In parallel with this approach, given the recent focus regarding planning applications for four further new housing developments in Petersfield, it was decided to apply pressure through the local press and at planning consultations with the developers of the proposed new estates. On 21 July it was the lead story in the Petersfield Post, focussing on concerns over what would happen to Ramshill if Taylor Wimpey were to get into financial difficulty. Despite the alarmist headline, response to the article has been positive and it has helped remind local planning officials that developers' promises of environmentally friendly links with the town's transport networks do not necessarily materialise as planned and might not be good reasons to approve proposed plans.



If you have any views on the adoption situation, suggestions as to how you think it should be taken forward or particular skills or contacts that could help us find a way towards a timely solution, then please come along to the next Residents' Group meeting on 30 November and help make a positive contribution to your community.

Drum Grant £

Balance £176

Residents' Ads

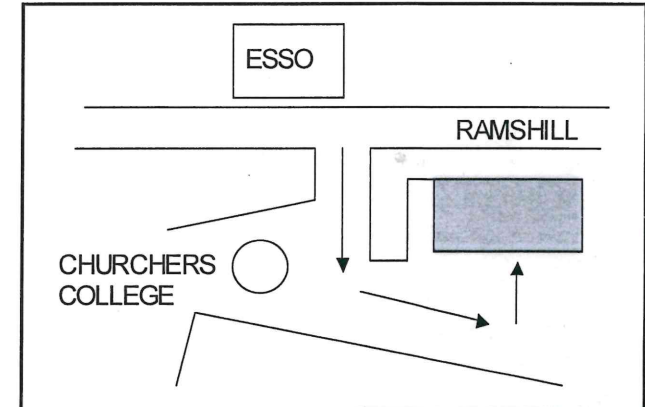
Jazz Bass Guitar
Johnny Brook
Tobacco Sunburst
VGC - £60
With bag and lead
Ring 710271

Set of 3 pre-cast stones
to create garden waterfall feature
Cost £200
Sell £45
Ring 233589

Private Ads - £2 Business Ads - £10

Next Group Meeting

Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 30th November 2010
7:30pm at Churchers College



Elected Officials

Chris Burgess – Chairperson...

Dean Leverett – Secretary...

Sue McBean – Treasurer...

Danny Owens – Editor...

...@ramsresidentsgroup.co.uk