



FOCUS

On Merley & Bearwood

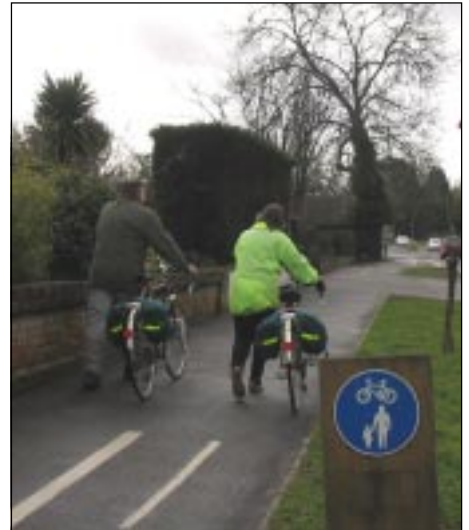
OAKLEY HILL - Danger to Road Users - Call for Action

Speeding cars and cyclists are causing problems for pedestrians and residents living around Oakley Hill.

People exiting their drives on the east side cannot see passing cyclists and vice versa. Often cars do not give cyclists using the road a wide enough berth and the pedestrian refuge pinch point exacerbates this. The mixture also makes life harder for pedestrians.

Cllr Jane James has requested the speedwise sign and asked the Council to carry out spot checks.

The bridge across the river is due for major works in the coming financial year and will be closed to traffic. 'This will bring respite from speeding cars, which will have to find other ways into Wimborne during this time.' says Cllr Jane James



Cyclists dismount on Oakley Hill

Support Merley Youth Club

The problems around rent levels and tenancy at the Merley Youth Club just before Christmas have focused attention on the state of the building again. Money for any new build in youth work is very limited. The Borough will meet basic maintenance and health and safety standards, but this does not address the problem of minimal insulation. We need a better building to give the Youth Club and Preschool more space for more activities and improved storage. We need your help to raise funds. *"Most of all Merley Youth Club needs a couple of dynamic supporters in this area to raise awareness of the work the Club does for the community,"* says Cllr Jane James

Our children and young people need worthwhile activities, if you can help in any way please contact Cllr Jane James

HERE TO HELP!

Please send us feedback about any local problems that need dealing with or issues raised in this focus. Your Lib Dem councillor and MP will do their best to help.

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Concern

Scooter Solutions

Residents reliant on scooters to get around should find accessing Magna Road Post Office and Stores easier soon. Leslie Legg found a resident unable to get her buggy through the barriers put up to prevent motorbikes using it as a shortcut to Runnymede Ave. The transportation unit was called and has now measured the problem barriers and found that the ones at the Magna Road end were several inches too close together. Thanks to Leslie this is now being remedied so buggies can use that route safely.



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GREEN BELT UNDER PRESSURE

Proposals for the South West suggest a large increase in the number of houses that will have to be built in Poole over the next 10 to 15 years. Some of these can be accommodated on Poole's regeneration sites around the town centre. However such brownfield sites are limited in number and it is likely there will eventually be significant pressure on the Green Belt land around Bearwood, Merley and Oakley. Unfortunately, at a recent Council meeting the Conservatives refused to support a Lib Dem motion that would have ensured greater protection for our Green Belt. Your local Lib Dem Councillors will continue to fight to protect our open spaces for the benefit of residents.



View of the Green Belt at Magna Road

Community Centre

The Bearwood Community Centre has won financial support from Poole Council following the setting up last April of a committee for the Community Association drawn from various user groups and residents. The Council has awarded a grant to replace heating equipment which had fallen into disrepair and was no longer viable. In addition to this, a number of minor improvements have already been made including redecorations and an office for the new Community Development Worker appointed last October. The appointment is being funded by Dorset Community Action.

The new committee is actively seeking grant funding for a range of projects to refurbish the Centre to provide better facilities and more activities for local residents.

As an example of the potential that exists, the Moviola group recently showed the acclaimed award winning Wallace & Gromit film 'The Curse of the Were-Rabbit' and more film sessions are planned. A new dance class has been running for several weeks along with the established regular activities. We congratulate the new committee on the progress being made which has received cross party support from the Council and helpful advice from its officers. The association's committee would like to hear from anyone in the local community who would like to get involved

Contact us

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LICENSING ISSUES

Changes in the Licensing Laws have allowed Poole Borough Council's Leisure Services to apply for entertainment licences for all Poole's Open Spaces, including Fenner's field.

Such a licence will permit a variety of activities, including live music, to take place until 11pm. Boxing & Wrestling were also included in the application. Residents have expressed concerns that the licence will increase the risk of anti social behaviour as well as cause possible public nuisance from increased noise. Unfortunately the Council is ignoring our representations, so we will have to monitor the situation very carefully. The Council claims that its 'Events Policy' will allow it to control activities allowed.