

The WEST PARK CHRONICLE

The Community Newspaper for West Park

July-Sept 2007

This edition of the Chronicle covers the summer months, providing updates on recent issues.

Good News from Kepstorn Road

We understand from a next door neighbour that the house at 31 Kepstorn Road is now in family occupation again. This represents a successful outcome for all the Association members who fought against applications to turn this house into a block of flats. The new owners are busy hacking back the undergrowth of the garden. Perhaps we should now be organising a 'bring a pair of shears' garden party to welcome the new residents?



Other Planning News

Imminent Site Visit – Welburn Avenue Planning Appeal



This concerns the planning application to build a detached house in **Welburn Avenue** on the site of four single garages. The Appeal Inspector from Bristol is

to visit the site on **October 1st at 10.30 a.m.** If you submitted an objection and feel strongly about it then it's a good idea to attend the site meeting.

The Inspectors take into account the strength of feeling of local residents as indicated by letters of objection and the attendance at site meetings. The view of WPRA is that this kind of in-fill development is detrimental to the area.

New Application – Spensfield House

Spensfield House is in the grounds of the Village Hotel on Otley Road. A revised planning application (07/05313/LI) has been submitted to convert the house into five flats and build eight terraced houses behind the house. Detailed plans are available at Headingley library. Any objections need to be submitted as soon as possible.

Application in Progress – New Hall of Residence on Beckett Park

This planning application is still with the Plans Panel, awaiting further information from Leeds Metropolitan University. It is a complicated issue and it is good to see that the Panel is closely examining the whole issue.

Pavement Obstruction – Al Fresco, 91 Spens Lane

Despite the requirement stipulated by the planning authorities to clear the area in front of the Al Fresco premises, the decking enclosure still obstructs the pavement. Also other planning requirements have also not been met. Local councillors are aware of the situation.

The Leeds Metropolitan University Licence Application for the Acre

There were 139 objections from local residents and resident's associations to this application, and the Licensing Committee did not approve the extension to the licensing hours. The University has also withdrawn the application for the erection of temporary marquee event space on the Acre for 3 months each year.

New Parking Rules at LMU Affecting Local Streets

The new LMU car parking scheme started on the 1st August 2007. Staff can no longer park on the Headingley Campus unless they pay for a permit. Students are restricted to 170 spaces in the car park at the top of Churchwood Avenue at a daytime rate of 40p/hour. As expected by many residents this is resulting in increased parking in the nearby streets.

STEP (Supporting The Elderly People)

In addition to the weekly Drop-In coffee sessions at St Andrew's Church Hall, Butcher Hill (Thursdays 10:00 – 12:00), extra coffee sessions are being planned for Mondays in November. These will involve the use of the Access bus. More details will be available soon, or you can contact Mrs Wendy Moore (0113 2757988). The STEP *Christmas Fayre* is planned for December 1st at St Andrew's church.

Lawnswood School

Members of the School staff are now manning the Spen Road gate, and there have been staff around the Butcher Hill shops at lunchtimes. As a result there seem to be fewer pupils on local streets and so far there have been no reported incidents from individuals of anti-social behaviour. This seems a promising start; however it is still early in the school-year.



The Association is still pursuing matters with the Governing Body regarding school-related issues which affect the community.

The Association is aware that the school is examining other long term actions, and also appreciates that anti-social behaviour comes from a minority of pupils.

Let's hope that this year West Park will not be affected by the high levels of truancy and incidents that characterised the situation last year.

It is important that any incidents which do occur are reported to the School, the police if appropriate, and to WPRA. (See box). Informing WPRA helps us build up a picture of what's happening and is a big help when we make representations to the School.

How to Report an Incident

Phone Lawnswood School on 0113 2844020 and describe:

- What happened
- When and where it took place
- Appearance of the individuals, apparent age, type and colour of clothing, anything distinctive.

If you've already reported it to the police, give the School the police log number or incident number.

Ask the School for their reference number for your complaint.

Ring to inform WPRA.

The Association website

The WPRA website (westparkresidents.org.uk) has clocked up over 1,000 hits and it now shows up in Wikipedia and Google.

During the coming year we plan to set up a Bulletin Board facility for members. Any other suggestions for content or facilities will be most welcome.

The Next Issue

The next edition of *West Park Chronicle* is planned for October. Articles or letters from local residents would be most welcome.



Please contact the editor Doug Kemp on