

ELMER SANDS NEWS

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CLYMPING FOOTPATH PUBLIC ENQUIRY 18th SEPTEMBER

Many readers will be aware that the coastal path between Poole's Place (the "Guinness House") and Clymping is under great threat due to erosion and is a significant safety hazard at high tide in stormy conditions. A safer alternative, along the edge of the field was fenced off three years ago, despite this being shown as a footpath on the 1:25,000 Ordnance Survey Map. Attempts have been made to have an official public footpath added in the field margin. This was opposed by the farm and originally turned down by the County Council.

Following a successful appeal, this will now be the subject of a Local Public Inquiry headed by a Director of the Planning Inspectorate. This will be the last opportunity for the public to have their say.

It is important to try and secure a safe route to Clymping that is not being constantly eroded. If this is not successful, eventually the only pedestrian access to Clymping will be along the A259. A good turnout at the Enquiry is important to try and influence the decision. **Please try and make it to the Enquiry if you can. It will be held on Tuesday 18th September 2007 at 10:00a.m. in Clymping Village Hall.**

Please contact Dave Eastlake (Gendarshe, Manor Way/584614) for further information.

AGM FOR ELMER SANDS LTD

Sixty people attended the AGM for Elmer Sands Ltd held at the Jubilee Hall, Middleton-on-sea on 23rd April 2007. Mrs Louise McMurchie chaired the meeting in which, six Councillors were elected 'en bloc' five being new members, Mr David Hyde, Mrs Lucy Grout, Mr Adrian Wells, Mr Don Johnson and Mr Ian McCarthey. One further candidate, Mrs Shirley Brown, had been co-opted during the year.

Formal thanks were given to the retiring councillors: Mrs Pat Eager, Mr Bernie Moore, Mrs Ollie Burrows-Patrick, Mick Richards and Kevin Green, the latter having been Chairman for two years. Two former Directors were also commended for their continued contribution to the estate namely, Mr Geoff Matcham for his invaluable work on matters of Estate drainage and Linda Smith for her work on the estate gardens and the Elmer News newsletter. Thanks were also recorded for the time and effort of the Estate's maintenance team, managed during the year by Paula Puleston.

Various subjects were discussed including the use of a wheel clamping company to operate along the beach access points, the continued use of mobile patrols by SSG, company investments and the annual road survey which has now been completed. The new parking monitoring system was outlined – you can obtain the official parking

report form from the Secretary. Members were reminded of the importance of keeping the roads and verges clear for emergency access and to avoid damage to the drainage system and roadway.

There was then a general discussion in which Mr Geoff Matcham informed those present that on 3rd March there had been a pumping station problem at The Hard resulting in overflow of sewage into the road. The Chairman urged all residents to inform the Council if this type of incident occurred in the future.

Company Investments - Update
The Council being conscious of the need to keep membership subscriptions down, whilst investing funds for potential major capital expenditure in the future, had decided to take a cautious, flexible, long-term approach, allowing for access to money if required. Funds had therefore been re-invested in index-linked Treasury Stock, giving tax benefits to ESL and, for the first time, a sum of £20,000 had been invested on a low risk basis in the equity market. Since the current level of subscriptions did not meet estate expenditure, this investment should cover the short fall and reduce the need to draw on its contingency reserves or significantly raise subscriptions.

Diary Dates 2007

**Saturday 20th October
Beach Clean up 10.00am**

DISABILITIES

There are so many different forms of disability that to write them all down would probably take at least one edition of Elmer News. Disabilities can affect anyone and come in varying degrees. This article hopefully will show that no person needs to suffer alone and that there is practical and emotional help not far away, either at the end of a telephone, on the web, via email, or even with pen and paper through the postal system.

Most general practitioners have lists according to your needs, so why not make an appointment with your G.P. and discuss your difficulty? Social Services, despite the media's negative view, are very helpful; they are just like all of us and have feelings, but often have to work beneath bureaucracy. The GP and the social worker are the key people at the beginning of helping you to cope with your disability and helping you remain independent. Telephone 01243 642400

The Independent Living Association (ILA) will help you to receive daily help according to your individual needs Telephone 01903 219482

Through the Roof is a Christian Ministry that gives practical and spiritual help. Their patron is Joni Earickson Tada, who has been quadriplegic since a teenager. Joni dived into a lake and hit her head, which caused paralysis. She is now an international speaker, has made a film, written many books [using her teeth], and recorded and written songs. Through the Roof supplies wheelchairs to war-torn areas of the world and places of natural disasters. They arrange holidays in England and abroad and you will receive 24 hour assistance and have a lot of fun! There is a regional office in Surrey. Their address is Through the Roof, P.O. Box 353, Epsom,

Surrey, KT18 5WS. Telephone 01372 749955, e-mail info@throughtheroof.org

There are local agencies that are able to assist you if you need wheelchairs or any other help with making your life easier. Your contact with the Social Services will answer your queries.

I do hope that this article will help anyone who is experiencing difficulties. *Valerie Waller*

Tree Planting on ESL Verges

If at any time you would like to plant a tree on the verge outside your property, please remember to apply for a 'tree licence' (free of charge) from the Secretary together with a list of suitable species for planting. The licence relates to the future maintenance of the tree or

Moya Kendell Memorial Fund

Many of you will have noticed that the flowerbed outside 9 The Layne has been planted and is now looking very good. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who dug and weeded the bed or helped heave out the tree root, and finally Linda Smith and Frances Brown and their families for finishing the job. When the weather is damper it will be reseeded with grass.

After Moya died last year some of us thought it would be fitting to keep the bed outside her old home as she had tried to keep it for so many years. I wrote to all the people who had been invited to her funeral and received over one hundred pounds in donations. The

money has been spent on plants, two tons of bark, and removal and disposal of a very large tree root. I am sure Moya would have approved. Some of us have been amused that the egg and bacon plant she put in still persists in coming up! We miss her, but sitting on the seat alongside the new flowerbed it is good to think of all the things Moya did for the estate.

Shirley Brown

BEACH CLEAN-UP – 20th OCTOBER 2007

Those of you that saw the pile of rubbish collected by Elmer Sands volunteers after the Spring Beach Clean were no doubt surprised at just how much rubbish is either dropped on our beach or washed ashore. Keeping the beach tidy and removing safety hazards to children and animals relies heavily on volunteer effort.

Do please try and find a couple of hours for the Autumn Beach Clean Up – starting at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday 20th October 2007. Meet at the Kiosk.

Please bring stout shoes, warm clothing and gardening gloves. Rubbish sacks will be provided. A Land Rover and trailer will cart full sacks back to the Kiosk, where it will be collected by Arun District Council.

NON COMPLIANT PARKING - If residents want to keep the Estate safe, looking good and well maintained they need to report cases of non-compliance for follow up by the ESL Council. There is a form available on request for this purpose, together with details of the Estate rules on parking tel: 584900. All reports are kept confidential. We need to work together to keep the problems to a minimum.

A Short History of Elmer Sands cont.

...the course of time the works were completed.

On 24th November 1949, the Coast Protection Act came into force whereby certain duties of coastal protection were placed in the hands of various authorities, but it was not until 6th February 1957 that Chichester Rural District Council came to an arrangement with West Sussex River Board to take over the sea defences facing Elmer Sands estate.

Around about that time the Association purchased from its owners the field in the centre of the estate known as the Riding School - it had at one time been used as such but had fallen into disuse. For a while the field and the stable were let out and a small proportion was used as an estate yard, the idea at the time being to develop it later with tennis courts and a bowling green. Eventually, however, it was sold for development and is now the area known as Stablefield.

Over the years there have been regular instances of flooding in Elmer Sands, but in November 1984 and April 1985 fierce storms caused havoc along the south coast. It was the worst flooding that had ever occurred on the estate, many residents in Manor Way were forced out of their homes. It was apparent that a solution to this danger, other than just heaping more shingle on the sea wall, was needed. The National River Authority worked with Arun District Council to provide a solution. The scheme's most striking feature was eight rock islands built offshore to break up the pattern of waves hitting the beach. It cost £5.5 million and was finished in September 1993. Today ADC is responsible for Low Line areas of

defence and the Environment Agency High Line; i.e. sea walls. Since the formation of ESA a very successful Boating and Angling Club has been established; this greatly added to the amenities of the estate. As well as organising countless events on the sea, the Club also branched out into organising social events. They have organised old time dancing, club dinner dances, the putting green, Regattas, fetes, the hog roast, Guy Fawkes Night, and the Christmas festivity. In more modern times they have held a Halloween party. There are currently seventy-one families with membership taking approximately thirty boat berths. They still host a number of social events, but at the end of the day the Club centres on sailing and fishing activities.

Another amenity that has been added over the last few years is a toddlers and small children's playing area at the side of Three Decks, named Clancy's Garden after a resident's wife whose tree stands in the area. Volunteering residents carried out most of the work; i.e. the design, planning and hard labour. It was opened in 2001 along with the 'sports field', formerly the putting green. This area for older children contained a football pitch with goal posts and a basketball ring, the hard court being added later after one of the Council secured an award from the lottery fund.

The final jewel in the crown was the completion of the Jubilee Garden at the site known formerly as either the 'Kiosk' or the 'Weather shelter', which was opened to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee on 3rd June 2002. Again, volunteering residents did most of the hard work. In the early days of the estate a small shop selling tea, ice creams and food, with toilets either side, was

housed in the building. It had closed in the 70s due to costs and health and safety.

Since then our resident 'guerrilla gardeners' have been hard at work on the estate open spaces; we may employ a maintenance man to cut the grass, but volunteers plant trees and flowers and maintain them. Lately a new area on the left of the ramp to the sea has been planted and a new memorial garden for Miss Moya Kendall, a well-known local historian, has also been planted in front of the house she once occupied opposite The Layne entrance.

This year we celebrate 70 years of Elmer Sands Limited. The estate has gone through a lot since its inception, including hurricanes, droughts, flooding, and a World War. Many things have changed over the years; houses are bigger, there are more cars, and we are not a community of holiday homes anymore. We also now employ a Secretary and a Treasurer. But we still shape our own destiny; the estate is still run by fifteen elected residents; the subscriptions we pay, along with the help from volunteers, facilitate the upkeep of the open spaces, roads and drainage. All those men and women who have freely given their time throughout the years deserve our thanks - their work has ensured that Elmer Sands is the solvent, well maintained, and most of all, attractive place it is today!

Linda Smith 21st August 2007

Please contact me on Linda.smith@talktalk.net if you have any corrections or further information.

NEW WEBSITE

www.elmersands.co.uk

This short history can be found on Elmer Sands' new website live October 2007

The Company Secretary

Please route any queries through the Company Secretary, who can be contacted by telephone or in writing, at

23 Arundel Way, Elmer Sands
PO22 6JH 584900

Website:

www.elmersands.co.uk

live October 2007

NO house calls please.

NEW RESIDENTS- If you have not received your Welcome Pack please contact the Secretary.

Overdue Subscriptions

There are still a number of overdue subscriptions for this year despite several reminders being sent out. If you have not already done so, please arrange to pay your annual subscription without further delay. Thank you to all those members who always pay on time and reduce administration costs.

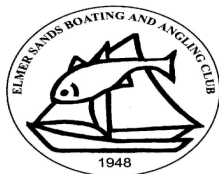
Please keep dogs under control



Many residents have expressed concern regarding the number of dogs running loose around the Estate. In the interests of general safety, please kindly keep dogs on leads when walking through the Estate and, of course, always carry a plastic bag!

It is a legal requirement to clear up dog fouling in nearly all public places in Arun, including beaches, highways, footpaths and grass verges. To report offences contact Arun's Dog Wardens on 01903 737679. Offenders can be fined up to £1000, or issued with a £25 fixed penalty ticket.

Thank you



Three cheers for ESBAC!

The sun shone on Elmer for the Fete/Hog Roast on the August bank holiday weekend. So many volunteers put in so much hardwork to make it a great success.

Thanks to the weather and the people who supported the event.

Fishing competition dates and full details are on the Boat Club notice boards, along with all the other dates for your diaries.

E.S. Boating and Angling Club

For further information on ESBAC please contact the Club Secretary,

Jude Williams on tel: 582265

Gas Works

It has been some time since the contractors completed the gas pipe replacement scheme on the Estate and residents will recall that the ESL Council promised to follow up on the reinstatement issues affecting the roads, verges and common areas throughout the Estate. A site meeting is being arranged between ESL and representatives from SGN in the coming weeks. ESL Directors have spent considerable time setting out reinstatement criteria and surveying the areas of concern. It is therefore expected that the reinstatement will be carried out to a high standard.

Road Repairs

A schedule of road repairs will commence in the next few weeks and ESL hopes that there will be minimal disruption to its members. Homeowners that do not hold membership to ESL should note that they could be liable for separate road charges (see your Title Deeds) and the ESL Council will follow up these cases where applicable. Homeowners wishing to register for membership should contact the Secretary – details at top of page.

BYE till next edition - LS & SB

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