

DEEPDENE VALE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter August 2009

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Firstly we would like to **welcome** those residents who have moved into the Vale since our last Newsletter. Should you have any questions about the Vale or Dorking itself, you will find any member of the committee and the other residents very approachable and willing to help.

The **Deepdene Vale Property Owners Association** was formed in 1931 and indirectly owns the road itself and the verges alongside through Trustees who are residents of the road.

The Association is run by a committee consisting of those above, together with Howard Chick (24); Barbara Witts (59) and Alec Dewdney (25). We would welcome other new members – please contact the Secretary or Chairman if you are interested.

The committee concerns itself with matters affecting the residents as a whole such as road maintenance (including gritting when needed), speeding, parking, road lighting, planning applications affecting the area and the Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

The Trustees are Tom Smail, Dave Merrikin, Howard Chick and Dennis Strudwick (53).

Dangerous Driving in the Vale

Great concern has been expressed to the Committee about increased incidences of speeding and dangerous driving in the Vale. There are more young drivers living in and visiting the road although some of the more mature drivers have also been known to drive at a higher speed than is safe. With pedestrians, including young children, having to walk on the roadway in the absence of pavements, it is imperative that everyone is made fully aware of the dangers of driving too fast in our road.

State of the road

The road surface had held up quite well over the past year but it is likely that resurfacing might be required more frequently in future in view of the increased traffic using the road.

Annual Subscription

The **annual subscription** for 2009 will be £36. The subscriptions are used to build up a 'sinking fund' so that the next time the road needs to be resurfaced, there will be funds available. The fund is used for the maintenance of the road, including signage, etc., administrative costs and public liability insurance. The payment will be due by 30th September and will be requested shortly with a copy of the latest accounts.

Parking

Inconsiderate parking is still a problem. Please impress on **ALL** visitors and workmen that it is a continuing nuisance to the residents of the Vale and a danger to us all, if access for the emergency services and to private driveways, is blocked. The 'Turning Circle' at the bottom of the road and the area at the entrance to the road should be kept clear of parked cars.

Verges

Although the verges are owned collectively, each property owner is responsible for the upkeep of the grass verges and hedges/fences bordering their property. It is very important that they be kept clear for pedestrians (particularly children) as the traffic in the Vale is certainly not decreasing. The grass verges are an important part of the attraction of the Vale and any work involving alteration to the verges must be referred to the Trustees in advance of any such work being undertaken.

Skips

Please note that lights should be shown on builders' skips if they are left on the road or verge overnight as they can be a hazard to road users. This is a legal requirement and residents should ensure that skip users comply.

Neighbourhood Watch

The police have alerted us to an increased number of burglaries in the area and residents are asked to be especially vigilant and to report any suspicious behaviour.

Street Party

In view of the success of last year's party, it is hoped to organise another next June. Details and requests for help will be sent out nearer the time.

Dave Merrikin
(Secretary)