



May 13<sup>th</sup> 2008

**Welcome to the Beechwood Hall Newsletter.**

This newsletter is intended to keep you up to date with the activities at the Hall and also incorporate the regular Neighbourhood Watch.

If you have any comments or have content you would like to see included please contact Gail Locock (01622 721 324)

**The Hall.**

We now have an official home on the web for the hall which can be found at [www.beechwoodhall.org.uk](http://www.beechwoodhall.org.uk).

The current site is rather light on content but is intended to grow over time to include ;

- Updates on forthcoming events
- Community News
- Neighbourhood Watch Update

All we need now is the hall !

The Hall is still not available for use due to continuing delays with Persimmon in completing the work necessary to allow Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) to take it over and then pass control of it to the Hall management committee.

The committee are working very hard behind the scenes with MBC to get the required funding and charitable status for the Hall in place so that when it is finally handed over we are ready!

**Community Hall Usage**

There has been a lot of interest shown in the Hall. So far from a pre-school (mornings only), Tai Chi, Table Tennis Club, a Five Aside Football Club plus an association for retired persons. Nothing set in stone yet, but it gives you an idea.

Large gatherings such as parties and wedding receptions will not be allowed and probable opening times for the hall will be from 9am until 9 or 10pm.

Alcohol will not be permitted and all requests for the hall will be carefully vetted giving consideration at all times for the possible impact on residents. Any other ideas are welcome so please e-mail the website directly: [info@beechwoodhall.org.uk](mailto:info@beechwoodhall.org.uk)

### **Landscaping & Play Area**

The proposed play area and the landscaping of the area behind the hall are also no nearer to being completed because again, Persimmon cannot decide what to install or where to install it. Those in the immediate vicinity are no doubt still witness to vehicles using the area as a cut through.

### **Barriers across Tarragon Road.**

The installation of the bollards to close the rat-run from Queens Road through to Hermitage Lane has been completed! There are now four large wooden bollards across the road, two of these have been fitted with locks to allow access for emergency vehicles. However, the position regarding the planters promised to prevent the pavement used also as a cut through is still unclear. Discussions are ongoing with Persimmon and MBC to resolve this. In the meantime the temporary blocks currently in place will be used to close the pathway until it is resolved.

Further updates will be provided as soon as we have them.

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## Neighbourhood Watch update as at 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008

### **Street Lighting in Tarragon Road**

You may have noticed that at long last the street lights have been switched on which makes a big difference. If you notice any lights not working, please let me know.

### **Hermitage Lane end of Marigold Way by Doctors Surgery**

Persimmon have confirmed that the road here will be made up as soon as the surgery is completed (scheduled for the end of May).

### **Retail Outlets and surrounding area**

- > Due to complaints about cigarette ends outside Ladbrokes in particular, the letting agents requested Ladbrokes provide a suitable wall-mounted cigarette bin. This is now in place.
- > No further news as yet as to when the railings or bollards to stop vehicles parking on the pavement/ double yellow lines outside the shops will be put in place.
- > Although groups of youths still congregate on the corner and in front of the shops, if they become a nuisance the Police are generally called and the youths dispersed without too much bother I am informed. Also as previously informed, if residents do witness trouble or any behaviour that concerns you, please contact the Incident Room on **01622 690690 (ask for an incident number)**.
- > Just to remind residents about the "Bottle Watch" that is now in operation in the Tesco's store. If you do find any discarded bottles and they have a yellow sticker on the bottom please keep it and let me know when and where it was found.
- > One of the remaining retail outlets being occupied by the veterinary practice is being fitted out next week and the beauty salon is still on course to complete all the legal documentation next week also.
- > Management Agents for the area will be finalised next week. I have asked the letting agents, who are responsible for appointing the Management Agents along with Hyde Housing, if I may approach them to arrange a meeting in order to bring them up to date with residents concerns/comments. I have been told I can do this but not for 2 or 3 weeks. I will advise when this meeting is scheduled for

nearer the time in order that I may have up to date comments/complaints from residents to take to the table.

> Letting Agents confirm no further response from Persimmon in relation to outstanding issues on that particular part of the development. No surprises there for anybody.

### **General**

> I have received comments from a few residents that they believe it would make sense for the development to be looked after by only one single management company. Please forward your comments either in favour or otherwise.

> Reminder: Within the next 12 months, all residents will have 2 wheelie bins per household. This is part of the Government's recycling drive due the fact that all landfill sites in the next few years in England, will be full. The size of the extra bin will be determined by the size of the property.

> Reminder: Can all residents please endeavour to remove their bins from the outside areas on a Friday once the refuse collection has taken place. This is a potential hazard for residents with sight problems.

Please feel free to e-mail me with any concerns you have or if you would like me to investigate something on your behalf.

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