

# CRARA

## Cranley Road Area Residents' Association

Newsletter: December 2009



The credit crunch has depressed building activity in the UK and planning applications in our area are down, but that's not to say that everything is quiet!

### **12 Watford Close**

A Planning Application has been submitted to demolish the existing bungalow and build a pair of semi-detached houses. This site has a long history and planning consent already exists to build a block of four apartments on this site, which was fought against by street residents and CRARA, and turned down by the Guildford Planning Department, but nevertheless passed on appeal in June 2007. Nothing has happened since, however, and it was felt by all immediately concerned that this new proposal was preferable and has been supported by local residents and CRARA.

### **17a Pit Farm Road**

Another site with a long history. After several refused applications for what many considered to be over-ambitious proposals to demolish the existing

house and build a larger one, consent was finally given (08/P/01103) to demolish and build a new 2½ storey house. A new application has now been submitted to add an additional basement to the currently approved design. Immediate neighbours feel this is a step too far and contravenes the conditions for the previous consent. The CRARA Committee is supporting the neighbours in opposing this application but the tortuous issues involved make the outcome far from clear.

## **Pit Farm Tennis Club**

Pit Farm Tennis club currently has three floodlit courts and are seeking planning permission to extend the possibility of evening play to secure the continued success of the Club, but extra floodlighting comes up against local planning constraints as well as potentially impinging upon local residents' amenity. The Club makes a positive contribution to the area, but is it appropriate that it should expand its activities via more floodlighting? This is not a clear-cut issue and discussions are taking place between the Club, Guildford Planning Department, local residents and CRARA Committee members.



## **The Clavadel Hotel**

Negotiations have restarted to convert the Clavadel Hotel into a post-operative nursing home. This project collapsed two years ago because of the looming financial crisis. The new proposal is to demolish the existing building and rebuild it, as it currently looks, but with improved internal dimensions and a more modern specification. The end result would be almost identical to the previous proposal welcomed by local residents. We wish all parties well in the negotiations.



## **The South East Plan**

This gargantuan process, much opposed by local residents principally for its proposal to build some 10,000 homes in the Guildford area, is currently frozen due to a legal challenge by Guildford Borough Council.

Their website states (5/10/09) the following:

*“We have heard from the Secretary of State’s legal team that they no longer intend to resist the Council’s challenge to the South East Plan. They agree that the Sustainability Appraisal failed to take into account reasonable alternatives to the release of the Green Belt. Until we see the draft order we do not know what position the Secretary of State will take and what this will mean for the South East Plan, Guildford Borough or the Guildford Development Framework but are pleased at least that our defence of proper lawful process in planning for the future development of the borough was successful.”*

This is excellent news and is in large part due to the extensive lobbying by residents’ associations such as CRARA and voluntary environmental groups. We hope the process is kicked into the long grass until after the coming General Election and that then some sense may prevail.



## CRARA Chairman

It is with regret that Doug Scott, our current Chairman, has asked to step down due to pressure of work in his business. He will remain on the CRARA Committee. We shall operate on a rotating chairmanship basis for the foreseeable future as follows:

Mike Wade: now to mid-January

Mike Newell: mid-January to mid-April

Amanda Mullarkey: mid-April to AGM (May/June)

Committee members are contactable via e-mail as listed below

OR e-mail [secretary@crara.org.uk](mailto:secretary@crara.org.uk)

**That just leaves us to say a very Merry Christmas  
to all CRARA members from the Committee:**

Adrian Abbott	<a href="mailto:adrian.abbott@ntlworld.com"><u>adrian.abbott@ntlworld.com</u></a>
Amanda Mullarkey	<a href="mailto:amanda@pajm.co.uk"><u>amanda@pajm.co.uk</u></a>
Dee Wade	<a href="mailto:mewade@ntlworld.com"><u>mewade@ntlworld.com</u></a>
Diana Cummings	<a href="mailto:john-diana.cummings@ntlworld.com"><u>john-diana.cummings@ntlworld.com</u></a>
Doug Scott	<a href="mailto:doug.scott@dsal.co.uk"><u>doug.scott@dsal.co.uk</u></a>
Mike Newell	<a href="mailto:mike.newell@ntlworld.com"><u>mike.newell@ntlworld.com</u></a>
Mike Wade	<a href="mailto:mewade@ntlworld.com"><u>mewade@ntlworld.com</u></a>