

CRARA

Cranley Road Area Resident's Association

Newsletter: Spring 2011



We have pleasure in inviting you to our
Annual Social Evening
at Pit Farm Tennis Club in Hillier Road
on Wednesday 25th May 2011
starting at 7.30 pm

We are repeating last year's successful format:

7.30 - come for a glass of wine or soft drink with a few nibbles

8 o'clock - a short version of the AGM for the necessary business, including reports of any new planning applications or other important issues, with an opportunity to ask questions

And after that we shall carry on socialising — a chance to meet and discuss these matters with our ward councillors or just to talk to each other!



Drinks & Nibbles

7.30 pm

Welcome from Amanda Mullarkey, the current Chair

8.00 pm

- a) Updating CRARA
- b) AGM business and election of Committee

QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS !!

8.20 pm

With local elections providing an important opportunity to ask candidates of their plans for our area, and with the opportunity to ask questions of our local politicians at our annual meeting, here are some ideas for discussion:

In the CRARA area

- a) Are there any significant local planning applications?
- b) Parking meters proposed by Surrey County Council for our parking bays.
Do we want them?
- c) Squatters: is the law being changed to allow eviction?
- d) Potholes: any news on Tormead Road?

In and around Guildford

- a) Slyfield Area Regeneration Project — tower blocks along the River Wey? Should we press for new links on to the A3 funded by developer contributions?
- b) Station Area Redevelopment — what are the proposals? Do we need another bridge over the railway and can developer contributions pay for this?
- c) Businesses could write their own plans for the centre of Guildford.
Do we want this?

Finish 8.45 - 9.00 pm

More Drinks & Nibbles

After the meeting



CRARA IS MOVING INTO



THE ELECTRONIC AGE!

Next year we shall be celebrating our 20th anniversary and those of us who can remember back to 1992 will be aware of how much the world has changed since then!

Printed copies of our newsletters and announcements put through the door of every member are friendly and personal but inevitably take a great deal of time and organisation. Most of us lead very busy lives and we have decided that we need to adapt to reflect this!

As a great percentage of our Membership is on email we have made the decision to change over to electronic communication and to do this we need to ask as many of you as possible to give us your email addresses. We have a list of those already given to us, in confidence and never published, and if this applies to you a copy of yours is included on a slip inside this newsletter.

To help us in this fairly mammoth task please could you:

- a) email us to confirm this address is still valid or give us a more up-to-date version (please do this even if it's correct so that the committee can prepare a full list for the new arrangement)
OR
- b) if you have chosen not to give us your email address would you please reconsider so that we can include you in future mailings
OR
- c) if you do not have an email address we shall do our best to ensure you receive paper copies in the usual way

We will fully respect data protection issues and only use emails for CRARA messages

Our email address is: secretary.crara.org.uk



Fielders Green, Cranley Road

Why not join the CRARA team?

We are adapting the way CRARA works making it easier to get involved, make a difference and enjoy getting to know more local people, while ensuring no one gets burdened with an onerous role or dragged to endless meetings.

We are very fortunate that several residents have agreed to join the new CRARA team and we would like to invite more to get involved. No one will be a slave to the committee but we will be there to spread the word and speak out if there is a threat to (our area or an opportunity to make something good happen.

If you would like to find out more please contact us at secretary.crara.org.uk.

Perplexed?

On the one hand:

The new Localism Bill invites Residents' Associations to produce their own Neighbourhood Plans for areas such as ours.

- Gardens are no longer to be treated as brownfield sites' for development.
- Density targets that encouraged out of character, cramped developments have been scrapped.

On the other hand:

In the budget the Chancellor announced that 'From today . . . the default answer to development is YES!

- Where a Council does not have a Local Plan agreed for growth, development will be allowed unless on Green Belt.
- The new Localism Bill also invites businesses to write their own Neighbourhood Plans for town centres and business parks.

At a time of so much change, having a local Residents' Association will be more important than ever. The CRARA team hopes that by working closely and apolitically with our new Councillors, our MP, the Council and neighbouring residents' groups we can encourage good to come from all the changes that lie ahead