



HIGHFIELD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

www.highfieldresidents.org.uk

Newsletter – Spring 2014

Committee 13/14

Chairman: Roger Brown
Vice Chairman: Jerry Gillen
Secretary: Jill Baston
Minutes Secretary: Chris Klewe
Treasurer: Headley Rossell
Membership Secretary: Nicolla Martin
Planning and Licensing: Shared
Website: Nadine Johnson
Social Events: Bryan Wakely
Common Sense: Simon Hill
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Steve Connolly
Julia Brooking
Keith Reed
Alison Shelley
John Bradshaw

CONTENTS

- Chairman's Report
- Building Bridges
- Common Sense
- HRA Needs Your Help
- Peter Knight
- Ulrich Pfiefer
- The Underpass
- Church Lane Garden
- Community Safety Christmas Fayre
- Mayor Visits New Care Home
- A New Website For HRA
- Local Property Market
- Baan Mai
- The Grazing Goat

STOP PRESS

Crofton Close - unauthorised HMO - 3rd Appeal fails - bringing 8 year long campaign to an end.

HRA 38th AGM

THURSDAY 24TH APRIL 2014 – 7.30pm
HIGHFIELD HOUSE HOTEL

Panel of Speakers: Sergeant Stewart Chandler, Sergeant for Highfield and Hampton Park, Hampshire Constabulary • Professor Judith Petts CBE, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research and Enterprise, University of Southampton • Councillor Jacqui Rayment, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, Southampton City Council.

The Panel will be invited to answer questions put by members. Please submit questions at least two weeks in advance to thesecretary@highfieldresidents.org.uk or dropping them in at Highfield News.

The formal meeting will be followed by a social gathering and complimentary drinks.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am delighted to report on another busy year for HRA.

There have been a number of changes in the Committee, to be confirmed at the AGM. Jill Baston has succeeded Caroline Knight as the Secretary, and Chris Klewe has succeeded Jill as Minutes Secretary. We shall be marking Caroline's service to HRA with a presentation at the AGM. Nadine Johnson has become the Communications Officer. I should like to express my gratitude for the work that these officers do, together with the Vice-Chair, Jerry Gillen, the Treasurer, Headley Rossell, the Membership Secretary, Nicolla Martin, and the other Committee members and the Street Representatives. Finally, we were very sorry to lose our longest serving member, Peggy Augier, who stood down in January.

Our main focus continues to be planning and licensing matters, especially HMOs (Houses in Multiple Occupation). We have made some progress this year with a number of favourable appeal judgements by independent Planning Inspectors. We welcomed the City Council's decision to establish a Scrutiny Panel to enquire into how planning can be used to create balanced neighbourhoods. We presented detailed evidence to the Panel on the need to adopt a more restrictive approach to new HMOs as well as tightening up on enforcement.

We are lobbying Government Ministers over the need for Temporary Stop Orders to be available for unauthorised domestic development. In this and other matters we work closely with other residents' associations both locally and nationally, including through the North Southampton Community Forum, of which Jerry Gillen is Chair. Our prominent role in the City was recognised by the fact that we were invited to make a submission to the Scrutiny Panel on behalf of all the residents' associations in the City.

Another positive development is the joint awareness raising campaign for students and others to crime and safety issues, Building Bridges, described elsewhere in this Newsletter. We were successful in winning funding for this project and some other activities from the Big Lottery Awards for All Fund, special thanks to Keith Reed and Jerry Gillen for their hard work on this.

Last summer and this winter the benefits of the clearance work undertaken on the Little Common over the past five years have really been noticeable and appreciated: as seen by the many users, the well worn path through the opened up area and the many positive comments made to me and other members of the Committee. There was a pause in working parties for much of last winter although four were held towards the end to clear and prepare the area for machine

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maintenance in the summer. More extensive work is planned for next winter including opening up parts of Lovers' Walk to make it feel safer. Our grateful thanks go to Simon Hill and his colleagues for all their work on this. One of the issues raised at the last AGM was whether to increase the subscription, which has remained at £3 for many years. This is not straightforward because we also

receive donations that produce nearly as much income. It will remain on the agenda.

Finally, a priority this year has been improving our communications. We now have an e-mail database and will be launching our new and improved website shortly. Special thanks go here to Nadine Johnson for the website and Caroline Knight for the email database.

Roger Brown

BUILDING BRIDGES. A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN HRA AND SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS UNION

Is this another national first for HRA, Students Union and University? What a great example of partnership working between stakeholders this could be. HRA is proud to announce it has been awarded a generous grant from the Awards for All Lottery Fund for a Southampton Student Outreach programme which is designed to encourage community engagement and cooperation between students and local residents in the Highfield and surrounding areas. Various activities over the year will incorporate a jointly-run awareness campaign targeted at both students and families to help prevent them becoming victims of crime. This will involve the production of campaign newsletters delivered to every household in the area, information and links on our websites plus a social media campaign. We will use some professionals to help us with these but there will also be project management and production opportunities for both student and resident volunteers.

We wish to plan a number of joint social events to encourage students and longer standing residents to be able to come together to build stronger, healthier relationships by creating a better understanding of the responsibilities of living in, and becoming part of, an existing community. Inevitably there are a number of challenges brought about by differing lifestyles and integrating into an established community for the first time, but by coming together it is hoped to foster a sense of common purpose and mutual understanding. These events will require volunteers to run and by working together it is hoped to facilitate this opportunity.

We also want to instigate an annual gardening competition to try and improve the area's street scene. We will hold some simple gardening demonstrations, with some materials available to plant for free and will have specific entries for student residents. Volunteers will also be asked to support those unable to undertake the work by themselves e.g. by lending tools and giving a helping hand. Our Building Bridges Project aims to strengthen relationships between neighbours, reduce the fear of crime and improve the look of our community whilst giving participants the opportunity to learn new skills.

This will promote student safety and responsibility plus participation in joint outreach activities. This application was supported by both the Police and Students Union and particular thanks are due to them both for their support, as well as HRA's Committee member Keith Reed who spent many hours in the preparation of this successful application. The project will run throughout the year and incorporate an inaugural event to be held at the University in March attended by the Mayor and Vice Chancellor as well as other local worthies. It is intended to hold a combined Residents/Student social get together in May plus an additional joint social event in September which

will focus on the student "Move In" period seeking to facilitate engagement with their neighbours and the wider community. During the year it is intended to run a number of joint volunteering activities such as improving The Common and Lovers' Walk.

Jerry Gillen



Building Bridges is an exciting new project between SUSU (University of Southampton Students' Union) Highfield Residents Association and the Police to increase community relations and tackle issues of safety. As an elected officer (VP Engagement) I feel privileged to be a part of this joint venture which will impact

not only our own students but the wider community. I am very excited to be launching this partnership work which will strive to increase awareness of safety issues, encourage the feeling of citizenship among students and encourage a neighbourly feeling between students and the local community. SUSU has been working hard this year to reach out to the local community by attending Residents Association meetings, setting up projects for Student Volunteering Week, including clearing the Little Common, working to increase student registration for the local elections and supporting schemes around recycling. This is a brilliant step in the right direction to build as many bridges as possible!

Claire Gilbert



I'm the Student Activities Co-ordinator (External Engagement) for SUSU. I am a full time, permanent member of staff for SUSU and so, unlike sabbatical officers, I can act as a long term contact. This year we are excited to be working closer with Residents' Associations in the area and hope to continue to expand our

communication about upcoming events and projects being run by students to benefit the local community. Coming up in the next few weeks / months we are running Student Volunteering Week on campus, promoting volunteering opportunities to all students. During this week we will launch some of our new Community Action Projects including one working with Highfield residents to conserve the Little Common. In March we are involved in planning Southampton's Sport Relief mile in the Guildhall Square and everyone is welcome to join in. We are always looking for new ideas to help students become a part of the community, so if you have an idea for a local project you think students might be interested in email action@susu.org.

Chris Nash

COMMON SENSE ON THE LITTLE COMMON

After five years of lobbying, planning, volunteer working parties, fund-raising and professional tree lopping, the part of the Little Common along Highfield Road is now largely restored to the predominantly open character that it had 30-40 years ago. Much of the dense under-storey vegetation and vigorously growing holly and sycamore trees, which had been encouraged by the active neglect of the previous ecology-dominated keepers of The Common to discourage public access, was removed by spring 2013. That included the tall and dense hawthorn hedge along Highfield Road planted in the early 1990s, using council taxpayers' money, despite direct conflict with the law on commons and strong opposition at the time from the HRA. The gradual nature of vegetation growth meant that the loss of openness and access promoted over the 1990s and 2000s happened by stealth and the extent of change not easily appreciated at the time. Now that it has been cleared many people are not only commenting how wonderful it looks but are also remembering that is how it used to be.

Over the summer of 2013 much of the cleared area re-grew its erstwhile grass ground cover. With adequate strimming and mowing, this should become more strongly re-established this summer.

After 5 years of sustained activity there was a break from work for most of this winter, although by the time you read this there will have been four working parties in February/March to clear opened up areas of any debris, fallen branches and roots that might damage mowing machinery. By then there will also have been a Southampton University student volunteer introductory session as a precursor to their future involvement.



There is much more to be done next year, including:

- completing some more vegetation removal around the central area, including restoring The Carriage Drive to grassland as intended in the Action Plans.
- restoring the historic openness of The Carriage Drive north of Highfield Road; and
- clearing recent growth along the edges of Lovers' Walk from Burgess Road to Blenheim Avenue to make it lighter, less forbidding and feel safer.

HRA is submitting bids for grants to cover the cost of professional tree services to remove stems too large to be tackled by hand, shredding the cuttings and stump-grinding to prepare cleared areas for machine maintenance.

A revised Common Sense Action Plan is (**see on Page 8**) to specify maintenance and clearance works planned over the next 5 years. This will form the basis for the grant submissions and volunteer work programmes. Please contact Simon Hill mail@southamptoncommon.org or 023 8055 5394 if you would like to comment on before it is finalised.

It is also vital that areas cleared are brought permanently into the Council's regime for machine maintenance, complemented by volunteer working groups dealing with tasks that can only practically be done by hand.

Simon Hill

HRA NEEDS YOUR HELP

As members will be aware, there is a very high proportion of HMOs in parts of the HRA area. The (lack of) management of some continues to cause serious problems to nearby residents. In any event they change the nature of the community and character of the area generally. HRA has sought to stem the growth of HMOs and has been a major influencer in the national and local legislation that now enables their control. The use of the controls depends on the policy of the City Council, part of which is the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on HMOs adopted in 2012.

The SPD states that in the HRA area - and Portswood, Basset and Swaythling wards as a whole - an application for conversion from a family dwelling to a HMO will be refused if 10% of the houses within 40m of the proposal are already in HMO use. This proportion is lower than in the rest of the City because of the very high numbers of HMOs in parts of those wards - 80/90% in some roads - already existing before the SPD was introduced. There are other parts of the city in the same position and policy consistency suggests they also should have the 10% limit. The City Council is in the process of considering a review of the SPD. HRA is concerned that the limit will be changed

to allow new HMOs within any defined radius within the city where less than 20% of dwellings are existing HMOs. If implemented to the full, together with the already much higher proportion of HMOs in some parts, it would make Southampton a city where over 40% of its population is living in accommodation with several other unrelated persons sharing basic facilities - a situation probably not seen since the immediate post-WWII housing crisis.

To enable an informed response to draft policy changes HRA wishes to compile an inventory of HMOs, family houses and flats in its area. This will enable an accurate assessment of the proportion of HMOs by street and by area, information that presently does not exist, and of the potential impact on numbers of HMOs of any proposed changes to policy.

Your help is therefore sought. We need at least one - preferably two - people from each road in the HRA area - to return an assessment of which houses are in family use or HMO use and which are bespoke flats or subdivisions of previously single houses. Please contact HRA via thesecretary@highfieldresidents.org.uk if you can help. We aim to get this completed by the end of March.

PETER KNIGHT - OBITUARY



I first met Peter some 20+ years ago now upon moving to Highfield and when HRA used to hold their monthly committee meetings in The Crown. They would all be seated at a long table on the left as one entered the pub via the car park entrance. I found that I knew one or two of the Committee. With Peter being the engaging and interesting fellow he was, we started to converse after the meetings over his several pints of Heineken Export! So it was not long before I was invited onto the Committee and eventually became Vice Chairman under Peter's Chairmanship. Regrettably at least two others on the committee at that time have also sadly passed away and it was a shock to me to learn of Peter's untimely demise. We had only spoken a month or so earlier about meeting up at Uli's (Manager of The Crown) funeral, but he was by then too ill to attend.

Peter was well known as an inventor and promoter of unusual and innovative ideas as well as being involved with the 14th Brookvale Road Scouts, Society of St James,

Phoenix Film Club, Art Asia and of course the community in which he lived. He also stood as an independent candidate in local elections.

As Chairman he was instrumental in achieving a number of successful results from which we all still benefit today. Of these I particularly remember his campaign for the pedestrian crossing where Lovers Walk crosses Highfield Lane, the retention of the old cottages in Highcrown Street, when the plan was to demolish them as part of the scheme to close off vehicular access to the school at that point. Peter was also instrumental in the campaign to rescue the trees, which were part of the original landscaping for University Road, for which he famously commissioned the song "I am the tree (Oh Save Me!)". It was also in his time that HRA held its first Children's Xmas Party at the Church Hall and a Summer Social at Residents' Gardens, both now firm favourites on an annual and biannual basis.

Dear old Peter, his love of Southampton and his commitment to Highfield was second-to-none. He will be sadly missed, both as an active member of our community and also for being such a good and amicable customer of The Crown.

Jerry Gillen and Ann Wardle

ULRICH PFIEFER – MANAGER OF THE CROWN INN

Most local people who are customers of The Crown Inn will of course know by now of the untimely passing of its long serving German Manager, Ulrich Pfiefer, but there may also be some, perhaps only occasional customers or who live or work away, who have yet to hear the sad news. Uli had been convalescing at the pub following an operation on his knee when he was struck down by a sudden and unrelated illness.

As a regular customer, and having myself spent many years in the Licensed Trade at a senior level, I was an admirer of Uli's managerial skills and he brought a degree of professionalism and organisation to the pub which was very evident.

Vanessa Beecham writes: "It is now six months since the sudden and untimely passing of Uli and for everyone associated with "The Crown " it still seems very unreal.

Uli was a man dedicated to his job who believed that everyone should always give of their best; he had high standards and would accept nothing less from the rest of us. Under his management the Crown was in very safe

hands.

Although he is no longer to be found standing by the fireplace in the Crown, his favorite spot for keeping an eye on things, his memory lives on in all of us who worked with him or were served by him. "

Uli had endeared himself to our local community in his few years here and he was a supporter of the Residents' Association and would always do his best to

accommodate us, however busy he or the pub was at the time, for which I and many of our members will I am sure always be most appreciative. He will be sadly missed.

Jerry Gillen



THE UNDERPASS

The proposal in the summer by Southampton City Council, under pressure from Natural England, to install a large pipe through The Avenue underpass met with strong objection from a variety of users. To their credit the engineers, who are up against severe cost constraints and the threat of a fine by NE if a scheme is not implemented by the end of March, rethought the proposals and have designed a pumped system that would require only a small bore pipe

that can be enclosed in a minimal casing or completely buried in the tarmac of the footway. Even that may not be needed, as recent tests of water flows (including a 'challenge' salting of The Avenue in good weather!) suggest that the clean water entering the existing pipe under The Avenue from the east comes out clean on the west. If that is confirmed there will be no need for an additional pipe at all.

CHURCH LANE GARDEN



Our house is on Church Lane and therefore loads of students and others go past each day on their way to and from the University making our front garden a very public place, especially as we have neither a fence nor a hedge next to the pavement. However, what we do have is a collection of Old English roses which look and smell wonderful in the summer months. It is a great pleasure to see people literally stopping to smell the roses, particularly when those people are either students heading towards their examinations or children walking home from nursery with their parents.

The bulk of the front garden had always been a boring lawn but that changed last autumn. At last year's New Forest Show we saw a beautiful display by Stewarts Garden

Centre (Christchurch) of a flowering summer meadow, which is designed to be a magnet for butterflies, bees and bumble bees, and we realised that this would be far more interesting than our boring lawn and such a meadow could help us to regain the title of "Best Wildlife Garden in Southampton" (Southampton in Bloom competition). We therefore decided to dig out the lawn, leaving only a narrow strip around the edge, and fill the hole with fresh soil. Then came the idea of how to extend the season of interest by under-planting the site with crocuses so that these plants would be finished and gone by the time that we needed to sow the seeds for the summer meadow. A quick calculation showed that we needed quite a few, 3,500! We had a good look through various bulk order catalogues and decided on 15 different varieties and ordered a 100 of each and each variety has been planted in its own block to create a concentrated display of that variety. We filled out the rest of the order with 2,000 mixed bulbs giving us no idea what varieties/colours those will be producing.

These started to flower in mid-January and should give an ever-changing display for the next two months.

As a centrepiece to the display we treated ourselves to a Himalayan White Birch (*Betula utilis jacquimontii*), from Landford Trees, for its stunningly white bark.

We would like this display to not only bring pleasure to those who see it but to benefit others by way of a collection box, screwed to the gate post, for Macmillan Cancer Care. We hope that seeing this display gives people reason to smile in these early months of the year.

Clive Marks & Mark Riley

COMMUNITY SAFETY CHRISTMAS FAYRE



Police Officers based in Portswood organised a Community Safety Christmas Fayre on the 7th December 2013 in Portswood. A generous donation was made by Hyde Housing which enabled them to purchase presents for the Santa's Grotto

and other Christmas activities. The Christmas Fayre was arranged to promote safety on the Broadway and also raise some money to put back into the local community for the residents and those that work and shop in the area. PCSO's and engagement officers from Portswood Police Station worked together with local businesses to provide a family day with lots of stalls to buy some Christmas gifts and, in conjunction with Southampton City Council, provided stalls to promote crime prevention and engage with local residents about a variety of topics.

Many local businesses from the Broadway such as Superdrug, Boots, Trago Lounge, The ski slope at the sports centre, Sainsburys, Portswood Cycles, New Look, Haskins, The Junction Pub, Jane's Barber shop, all donated a prize or two for the raffle.

Having started a shopwatch scheme on the Broadway this was a perfect way to raise much needed funds to help keep the scheme going and to raise money for further crime prevention projects.

Hundreds of local residents attended the event which lasted for six hours and many children left with huge smiles on their faces after seeing Father Christmas and being given a toy. It was a tremendous event which went very well. We will hopefully be organising it again for this year.

Helen Kemble



Heron on The Common – Simon Hill

MAYOR VISITS NEW £8M CARE HOME FOR SOUTHAMPTON

The Mayor of Southampton, Ivan White, enjoyed a ground-breaking experience at a new £8.4 million care home in Southampton, Hampshire on Thursday 30th January.

Mr White was the guest of honour at the official ceremony to mark the start of the foundation dig at Anchor's newest development, Mayflower Court, on Westwood Road.

He visited the site with Anchor's Chief Financial Officer, David Springthorpe, and Paul Strachan, from construction company Midas, to see how the site will be turned into a care home.

Mayflower Court will be a 72 bed care home over four floors which will also include a café, craft room and hair and beauty salon. The home will also provide specialist care for people living with dementia.

Midas, one of the UK's largest independent construction companies, won the coveted contract to build the development for Anchor, England's largest not-for-profit provider of housing and care to older people. Mayflower Court will open in the spring of 2015.

Anchor's Chief Financial Officer David Springthorpe said: "We are very excited that work has started on Mayflower Court. People will be able to make the most of living in a spectacular care home. Mayflower Court is another step forward in Anchor putting solutions in place that meet its customers' changing needs."

The project is the second major building scheme Anchor is working on with Midas in Hampshire, after beginning work earlier this year on Hampshire Lakes, a £37million retirement village, in Yateley. Hampshire Lakes will include over a hundred independent and assisted living apartments and a 36 bed care home. Other facilities include a restaurant, deli, juice bar, library, wellness centre and spa, fully equipped gym, craft room and treatment rooms, all in an idyllic lakeside setting in the Hampshire countryside.



Anchor team and the Mayor of Southampton at Mayflower Court ground breaking ceremony: L-R Paul Strachan, Rebecca McCarthy, David Springthorpe, Mayor of Southampton, Ivan White, and Dominic Hayes

Paul Strachan, divisional director for Midas Construction, Southern region, said: "We are delighted to be working with Anchor on another fantastic new project. A key element of our own business strategy is to focus on industry leading customer service and achieving sustainable growth through long term partnerships with our customers and supply chain. This is a major development project for Midas which provides another opportunity for local job creation as well as new apprenticeships, work placements and curriculum support for local colleges and schools."

Anchor is also building Bishopstoke Park retirement village in Eastleigh, Hampshire. The village will have over 170 independent and assisted living apartments giving the over 65's the opportunity to live independently and receive care by highly trained professionals should they need it. There will also be a 48 room care home on the site. Bishopstoke Park is due to open in the autumn of 2014.

A NEW WEBSITE FOR HRA

We will shortly be launching our new website. The new one has been given a major facelift to meet the ever increasing demands of today's internet users.

It has been designed by Elly Newman of ellewebdesign, who is our new Webmaster. We are pleased with the fresh and attractive approach that Elly has given to the website and the simplicity of design. We hope you like it too.

We have kept some of the existing elements and married these up with the new. For example, we have retained access to the City Council's Planning Portal for information on planning matters, but tried to make it simpler to use.

One of the new features is a 'Days Gone By' page which takes a trip through the history of Highfield and Portswood. This will be updated on a regular basis and we would like your help in bringing this local history page to life. We are looking for people who have lived in the area a long time or who used to, and who have a story to tell. Photographs of "Days Gone By" would also be much appreciated. If you would like to contribute an article or photographs, or be interviewed, do please let me know.

Another feature of the new website will be a News and Events Section. This page will feature regular News Bulletins to keep you updated on HRA matters and activities. To keep the site topical, we welcome contributions here on local news, information and events that are relevant to the Association and its aims. We will update items regularly but will retain an Archives section which will include key past items that readers might have missed.

The new website is managed by me, Nadine Johnson. However, this is your website and the more people who use it, the better it will be! So, please contribute articles, photos (in JPEG format please), ideas to improve it, and any other input as often as you can by emailing me via the Secretary at: thesecretary@highfieldresidents.org.uk You will be informed via the email database once the site goes live. I look forward to hearing from you.

Nadine Johnson

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LOCAL PROPERTY MARKET

With the positive sentiment permeating through the national media, Lee Turner, Sales Director for Pearsons Southampton, gives a local perspective on what's happening to the property market in Southampton.

Following the introduction of the government's second phase of the help to buy scheme there has undoubtedly been a significant upturn in demand for property across all price ranges and property types.

The market within Highfield has proved to be extremely resilient to market fluctuations and is once again enjoying positive growth both in demand and price appreciation; this is also true of the wider market throughout Southampton.

The real question is can it be sustained and is it based upon sound economic fundamentals?

There are many factors, which have historically affected the market within Highfield, and the introduction of the Article 4 Direction re HMOs by the city council should also be considered within that.

The reality is that in Highfield demand has always outstripped supply. In the most challenging market conditions and despite wider market forces, if there are prospective buyers ready, willing and able to buy then the market will determine the value.

Highfield has superb infrastructure, local facilities, travel communications and schooling, all the ingredients for a buoyant property market.

At present we are seeing superb prices being achieved for all property types in the area and specialist advice on how to achieve this is essential.

If you are considering a move or would simply like to establish the value of your home Pearsons would be pleased to provide with advice and guidance without obligation.

Pearsons – 023 80 233288

BAAN MAI, PORTSWOOD (PREVIOUSLY SARA'S)

Members may be unaware of the recent change in ownership of this excellent Thai restaurant which is situated adjacent to Lloyds Bank opposite Sainsbury's. However, I am pleased to report that all the staff remain the same, perhaps most importantly the Chef! They still do a wonderful range of Thai Tapas and all the usual main courses with a wide range of Curries; my personal favourites are the Dim Sum for starters and a beautiful medium curry, Chicken Panang as well as super Pad Thais,

a subtly flavoured Noodle dish. A major improvement is there is now more room for diners than previously as some tables have been removed a previous criticism was that table layout was uncomfortably close packed.

HRA members will still enjoy a 10% discount as before and they continue to do Takeaway. A definite "must try" if you have not been before.

Jerry Gillen

THE GRAZING GOAT

The Grazing Goat, formerly The Highfield Pub, is set to open on 21st February. The refurbishment which began in December has completely transformed the pub and it now has a stylish relaxed and comfortable interior. The menu features a range of restaurant quality dishes, as well as 'grazing' plates for more casual dining.

As a result around 20 new jobs have been created.

Jimmy Hajiantoni has returned to Highfield after many years. He attended Oakmount School, and then went on to open restaurants in Southampton, La Lupa and Oxfords. More recently he has been at the Kings Head in Hursley, but is very excited at the prospect of being back in Southampton.

He and his business partner, Hue Hars, who will be managing the day to day operations, are looking forward to the opening, and welcoming some old and new faces to the Grazing Goat.



STOP PRESS

HRA, in conjunction with other north So'ton residents groups, has prevailed upon all three of our MPs to meet with Government Ministers in an attempt to introduce Stop Orders for unauthorised development, particularly HMOs. Both Alan Whitehead and Caroline Nokes have recently attended residents' meetings on this and other related matters: watch this space...

OFFERS FOR MEMBERS

Ceno's Restaurant & Wine Bar	8055 4400
10% loyalty discount off food & drinks, when taken together (cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer)	
Gandhi's Restaurant	8055 3121
10% off food and drink, any day of the week	
Kohinoor Indian Restaurant	8058 2770
Kuti's, Oxford Street	8022 1585
Noorani, Fair Oak	8060 1901
The Pier Thai Restaurant	8033 9211
20% discount, on mid week, non anniversary days	
Baan Mai Thai Cuisine, 273 Portswood Road	8067 6063
10% off all meals, including Takeaway	
Mango Thai Tapas	8067 9977
10% on food.	
Highfield House Hotel	8055 4223
10% off published prices	
Lucy's Cakes	07796 953952
10% off	
Jack and Will Bakery	8058 4772
10% discount	
Sheila Tomlinson Yoga	07963 338923
First lesson free	

All the above offers are conditional upon production of a current HRA membership card at the time.

2nd updated Action Plan for Southampton Little Common

1a & b Maintain open corridors of mown grass 1m min. to sides of path, & around lights & historic wall

4a Remove laurel remnants. Manage semi-ancient woodland to maintain biodiversity & forest landscape appearance

1f Remove sapling & bramble regrowth; trim straggly hawthorns. Maintain as hawthorns with low ground cover.

3a Remove gorse within Carriage Drive (CD); remove saplings from eastern ditch sides and reduce gorse & brambles to allow inter-visibility with sub areas 2b a& 2c. Maintain grass CD & low gorse/brambles on sides.

3b Thin trees & understorey /remove all laurel) to promote heathland

2e Clear understorey to open up views under trees & save hawthorns. Maintain ground-cover as grass.

Area bounded by The Avenue, Oakmount and Highfield Avenues and Highfield Road
Land management priorities by zone



- 1 Security Landscape Townscape**
Restore open corridors
- 2 Security Recreation Landscape Townscape**
Restore parkland character
- 3 Biodiversity enhancement**
Restore heathland habitat
- 4 Biodiversity conservation**
Maintain Woodland

1c Remove saplings/holly to widen grassland edge to ped/cycleway. Improve ped/cycleway. Maintain as open grass

1d remove encroaching saplings from woodland edge/restore grassland. Improve ped/cycle-way. Maintain as close grass

2a & 2b Finish clearing adjacent to southern end of dead hedge & south of where tarmac paths join. Remove fallen oaks (storm 14/02/14). Reuse for log seats in any of 2 (or main Common). Prepare all cleared ground for summer mowing. Maintain as grass under mature oaks, hazel (coppiced periodic-

2a, 2b & 2c: road-side bank Cut back/remove hedge stumps ready for machine strimming/flailing. Maintain 2a & 2c as long grass bank; 2b closer strimmed as now.

2c Finish clearing holly & brambles/hazel from around birch, veteran oaks & hawthorns; retain/ promote heath islands of gorse, bracken & birch. Remove post WWII oaks/sycamores near road. Relocate sapling birch from 3b as successors to mature birch/replacement of roadside oaks/sycamores. Maintain as grass under hawthorns, birch &

2d Create open accessible welcoming entrance to Little Common on a main desire line of pedestrians and cyclists to underpass at highly visible point from Highfield Avenue/ Lane. Create road pedestrian table. Finish gravel path. Provide information board. Maintain attractive

Sub zone actions
 Action needed in red
 Future Maintenance in black

Dead hedge formed/proposed
 Foot/cycle paths/bus stops
 Existing/to be imp/restored

Common Sense

www.southamptoncommon.org

DRAFT February 2014

Base not to scale



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Whether you are buying, selling, letting or renting, contact Pearsons Estate Agents for specialist advice in the Highfield area

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I/We would like to join/renew membership of the Highfield Residents' Association and enclose the subscription of £3.00
 (One subscription covers all members of the household)

Name(s) of adults _____

Email _____

Postcode (please include) _____ Date _____

Address _____

Tel No. _____

This form, together with the subscription, should be sent to Membership Secretary, 5 Marlborough House, 2A Oakmount Ave, SO17 1BX (if by hand, before mid-day); or can be dropped into Highfield News; or can be brought to any HRA social event or meeting. Cheques should be made payable to Highfield Residents' Association. Please do not send cash through the post as it may get lost.

I enclose my membership fee of £ 3 : 00
 and a voluntary donation of £ : Thank you!

Newsletter Team: Jerry Gillen and Caroline Knight. Assistance from David Bothwell and Stephen Ashfield.
 Contributions welcome. Please send to thesecretary@highfieldresidents.co.uk in Microsoft Word format.
 The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of Highfield Residents' Association or its members.