



www.worlds-end.com

Keymer Tile Works

A planning application is due to be made by March 31st by Croudace Homes Ltd, to develop 475 houses.

Your Association has attended meetings with the developers arranged by Burgess Hill Town Council, who are closely monitoring all aspects of the proposal.

A big issue for everyone in Worlds End will be the six years of construction traffic and where this will be routed. Whatever is decided, it will have an impact on Worlds End and surrounding roads. All this, whilst construction of 500 units gets under way at St. George's Retreat.

Mast Moved - back

Led by resident Jim Watkins, objectors have been successful in compelling the re-siting of the Hutchinson mobile phone mast to the position stipulated in the planning application. It is a pity that the field where the mast is located - off Manor Road - is being considered for housing development.

Worlds End Drainage

This problem has reached WSCC Cabinet level but land ownership is still disputed, which is slowing progress towards a solution. If settled £40,000 could be spent on a survey by consultants. The Worlds End Association has been putting forward enough information over the years that shows clearly where the problem lies. See our website for the full story, also the Flood Risk Assessment for Worlds End from the Environment Agency.. (You guessed - right where the new houses will be built!)

Newsletter

February 2005

Leylands Road traffic calming due to begin and will last six weeks to be completed by mid-Summer

Worlds End Rec. Ground toilets will NOT be closed - relief all round!

Following representations from The Worlds End Association and work by BHTC councillors, the Chief Executive of MSDC has announced that although District wide closures of public toilets will be proceeded with, Worlds End Recreation Ground toilets will remain open.

The District Council is anxious that BHTC take over the responsibility of maintaining them as they cost £6,000 per year to run; not counting repairs due to vandalism. MSDC are expecting them to pay for it out of the Town budget! Bit of a sharp way to save money, we say.

Worlds End Store Improvements

Owner Vijay Patel, tells us that he was given a vote of confidence by Royal Mail when they backed his plans with a like for like grant. This will enable him to install a new shopfront with double doors with wheelchair access and a new Post Office service counter.

Vijay says : "this shows that they (Royal Mail) are willing to support the branch rather than earmarking it for closure" which has happened to so many other local post offices.

Not generally known, is if you are a TSB, Barclays or Alliance & Leicester customer, you can do basic banking at the Worlds End Store.

The Worlds End Association supports the planning application for these changes.

As part of a traffic calming scheme, road alterations are to be made which includes two mini-roundabouts, new road markings and anti-skid surfaces.

Nobody would listen.

Disappointingly, the scheme does not include any measure at the junction of Leylands Road and Mill Road which your Association has been pressing for over some period of time.

Despite our own survey of opinion and one by WSCC Highways, which show conclusively that residents want either a mini-roundabout or traffic lights, it has been refused on technical grounds.

Your Association was not supported by Burgess Hill Town Council. Our proposal that there should be a comprehensive traffic management scheme for the whole of Leylands Road - from Janes Lane to London Road, also went unsupported. We think there is a case to be made for a roundabout at the junction of Valebridge Road and Janes Lane as well as solving the Gladstone Road 'rat run'.

Whilst we appreciated being asked to participate in the 'walkthrough' of Leylands Road with BHTC and WSCC Highways, it was frustrating that none of our suggestions were taken up, even though we were contributing valuable local knowledge, based on every day use of Leylands Road.

We will continue to lobby for a roundabout or traffic lights at the Mill Road junction with Leylands Road.

Full details and maps of the road works can be found on the Association website:
www.worlds-end.com

Mid-Sussex Christian Centre Parking Problem

We also asked for something to be done about the parking outside the Mid-Sussex Christian Centre, which is a permanent hazard. The question of whether to extend the double yellow lines is with the Town Council Planning Committee, so we await their view with interest.

Your Chairman has had a meeting with the Rev Christy Smith at the Centre - after letters in The Mid Sussex Times. Whilst he doesn't see the problem the same way as most residents, he has stated a willingness to make some alterations if WSCC Highways will help.

South East Plan Launched

Access to the Plan can be made via the Planning page on the Association website but the caveats inserted by the Assembly themselves are a bit worrying:

The Assembly agrees to publish this initial draft of the South East Plan for public consultation subject to the following caveats:

a The draft South East Plan has been developed in little more than a year to a timescale set down by the Government.

As a result serious doubts remain over the robustness of the data that underpins much of the technical work on which this draft South East Plan is based and, indeed, over aspects of the technical work itself.

b The timescale has left little opportunity to date for public involvement in the development of this draft South East Plan.

AGM

Wednesday 16th March, 8.00 pm

Manor Field School

Followed by a Wine and Cheese Social

New style AGM Less painful for participants!

Together with a change of venue - to Manor Field School - we have planned an AGM which will be less protracted than previous AGMs. The business of the meeting will take no more than 35 minutes which will be followed by a talk, lasting 45 mins. A wine and cheese social will conclude the evening.

Please note, that no propositions will be considered from the floor unless submitted by a proposer and seconder to the Secretary, 14 days in advance of the meeting.

The current committee are offering themselves for re-election except for one long serving member. Ideally, we need two new committee members.

Other changes

Along with the restructuring mentioned opposite, we are improving the way we communicate with members.

Future newsletters will be two pages, just like this one, and the plan is to distribute them four times a year. This will replace the four page newsletters previously distributed in March and October each year.

Where possible, newsletters will be distributed by email with the balance being posted or delivered, depending on the response we get to our request for help from members.

The result of these changes will mean we are able to communicate more often and more efficiently with members and at a lower cost than before.

The website is now quite large and regularly receives compliments on its topicality and value to residents. We would like more people to contribute ideas and keep sections up to date.

Do you have any old photographs of Worlds End and thereabouts? If so, we would like to put them on the website. Ring Denis Jones - tel no. opp but we would also like some of people and places today, for a new section.

**Subscriptions for 2005
These are now due
Please respond to the
renewal mailing**

Community Search and Rescue Team

A team is being formed in the Mid Sussex Area. There has been one such team operating very effectively in the West Downs Division, which was set up several years ago following the Sarah Payne murder and recently gave considerable assistance in and around Horsted Keynes in the search for a missing lady who was sadly later found hanged. At West Downs there are some 150 or so NHW people available on call to help. The search work can be quite arduous and may be over difficult terrain and possibly in adverse weather conditions. A resilient mental approach is required, as finds could be distressing. It does require volunteers who are accustomed to rough country walking etc - though urban searches can also arise - so fitness and commitment is important, as is availability, sometimes at short notice. Sussex Police provide training and assistance with equipment etc. If you wish to be considered you must be prepared to be security checked by Sussex Police and join NHW. Please call: Denis Jones on 235829.

Neighbourhood Does Matter

By Denis Jones, Chairman, Worlds End Association

Unusually for our newsletters or website, there is a by-line attached to this article. Normal practice is to concentrate on the delivery of information, not who wrote it. The convention is broken on this occasion because I would like to get a response from some of you, please.

Luckily, we live in a defined area with an unusual name - Worlds End, which has a whole range of housing stock, a small shopping centre, its own railway station, albeit with completely the wrong name in relation to location, easy road communication, a great primary school, a recreation ground, outstanding nature reserve and friendly people, access to the coast, to name the main attributes of the neighbourhood.

There's that word again, neighbourhood. With housing development pressing even more heavily on our lives, it is increasingly difficult to find somewhere to live that isn't lost in an urban sprawl. Worlds End is just such an oasis; granted it is not pretty but it does have a character of its own - a living, working community, a vibrant neighbourhood.

The Worlds End Association is in being to do what it can to protect the locality from indiscriminate development which makes unreasonable demands on the infrastructure of our roads, school and essential services. It also aims to foster a sense of neighbourhood amongst its residents by getting them to work together to enhance the neighbourhood and the value of their homes.

We are represented on the Burgess Hill in the Future project, have close ties with the local police and Town Council, and have a governor community representative at Manor Field Primary School and are involved in Mid-Sussex Neighbourhood Watch. These connections are important to have, as they help the Association track changes which will affect the way we live in Worlds End.

We plan to integrate NHW (Neighbourhood Watch) with the Worlds End Association as part of making the neighbourhood a more cohesive entity. With a membership which has trebled over the last four years, the Association needs a few more people to help us to keep ahead of the game. This does not mean you have to join the committee but you can, if you wish to put yourself forward and we will be very pleased to hear from you.

We are reorganising our structure and are looking for individuals to be responsible for small areas where they live - such as a few houses, a road or two or three streets. The idea behind this change, is to include more people which in turn makes The Association more representative of the neighbourhood but without demanding too much time in return. The present committee has undertaken to co-ordinate whilst looking after their own designated areas.

Activities would include newsletter distribution, running and developing specific sections on our website (we would like to have sports, history, gardening and hobby sections), letting us know what your neighbours are concerned about, gathering news items for the website and newsletter etc. Collectively this seems a lot, but individually, the time spent would not make much of a dent in your personal schedule. In this self-obsessed age, doing something worthwhile for nothing can be surprisingly liberating.

Now is a good time to involve yourself, as local and national government is increasingly consulting the community on more aspects of planning and services and providing opportunities to get things done where you live. Decide that neighbourhood matters, and do your bit too.

Thank you.

**You can contact me for an informal chat on:
235829 or email me at: denis.jones@btclick.com.**

Community Speedwatch Volunteers Wanted

The Association is working with NHW and local Police, to set up a community Speedwatch in Worlds End.

Manned by local people, it is intended to influence traffic speed through the area by regular speed monitoring. If you are interested call: Denis Jones 235829.