



Emsworth Residents Forum

ERF NEWSLETTER NO 4 SEPTEMBER 2023

Welcome to the ERF Newsletter. A link to this publication will be sent by email to all ERF members at the beginning of each month. The purpose of the publication is to inform members about the work of the ERF and to update you on news items which have occurred since The Ems was last published. The Newsletter and back copies of The Ems are available online at: <https://issuu.com/theems>

If you would like a copy of this newsletter in Word, please contact the editor.

Email: editortheemsnoutlook.com

Emsworth Show was a great success

There were big crowds at the One Church grounds, Thorney Road for the Emsworth Show which was held on Monday 28 August. A very effective marketing campaign drew people to the show from a wide area. Traffic issues which had dogged previous shows were overcome due to the banning of parking on Thorney Road on the day of the show.

Development and Planning

New entrance lobby for Brookfield Hotel

The new owners have submitted a planning application APP/23/00630 to re-model the front of the hotel. The application lists remodelling of the existing entrance lobby, front extension, alterations to the front facade, external works to provide an outdoor seating area to the front including decking and associated landscaping, reconfiguration of the car park layout, and minor alterations to the rear elevation.

The remodelling will result in a loss of parking spaces from 59 down to 40 but will increase the size of the hotel from 1,200 sq. mt. to 1,250 sq. mts. The applicant describes this re-modelling as part of a substantial investment in the property. The new owners are believed to be an investment company operating from an accommodation address in Southampton.

Shutting the Pontoon gate

It was during the summer of 2022 that The Ems first reported that Chichester Harbour Conservancy (CHC) were gating the harbour pontoon which prevented members of the public accessing this area which was very popular with children. In Jan 2023 CHC submitted a new planning application APP/23/00085 to install a gate at the pontoon. This proved to be very unpopular with around 170 objections being received. Whilst HBC were still pondering over this application, CHC submitted a new application APP/23/00525 for a Certificate of Lawfulness. The crux of this new application was that under the Act of Parliament which created CHC, the Chichester Harbour Conservancy Act 1971, they were entitled to put up the gate as a permitted development. HBC lawyers concurred and the Council swiftly approved the application. Under permitted development rights there is no requirement to undertake any kind of community consultation.

ERF chair Dwynwen Stepien arranged a meeting with CHC Chief Executive Matt Briers to express the ERF's disappointment at this action. CHC were adamant that the gate will remain locked. ERF have also questioned CHC about pollution in the harbour, unfair harbour dues levies on manually propelled craft and the need for ERF to be represented on the CHC Advisory Committee.

Massive housing development planned for Waterlooville

Application APP/23/00488 for mixed use residential development comprising 628 dwellings, community centre, allotments, public open space including play areas, new junction to College Road, related internal access road, footways and cycleways, pumping station and drainage basins has been submitted to HBC by Dandara, a Southampton based property developer. The site is south of Southdowns College, west of the A3(M) and east of College Road. It is in Purbr000k ward and is known as Campdown and has featured in previous HBC Local Plans as a major development site.

Highgrove Farm, Bosham

The proposed development by Barratts at Highgrove Farm in Bosham is re appearing. The developers are challenging CDC for 'non determination' of their response due to it not being issued within the 'specified time'. This specified time was during Covid when, as with the rest of the country, CDC were following the rules. The arguments against this development remain the same such as:

- Obliteration of Grade 1 agricultural land against all the recommendations for protecting the nation's food security.
- Over capacity already declared at Apuldram Treatment Works contributing to the pollution of the AONB seas.
- Building within the buffer zone' of the AONB.
- Additional traffic congestion adding to the pressures on the A259

The Appeal **will** be held as before at the Baptist Church, North Street, Emsworth on: Tuesday 3 October — Thursday 5 October and Tuesday 10 October - Thursday 12 October. The time is 10am for Tuesday 3 October and for all the following days it will be 9.30 am. It would be enormously appreciated by all who live along the east-west corridor to express their concerns at this public meeting. Please forward this on to as many people as possible. Thank *You*. (*Article supplied by SOSCA*)

Hotel gets go ahead

The application APP/23/00249 to convert the former doctors' surgery in North St to a hotel and cafe was approved by HBC. The former surgery closed in July 2021 when it moved across the road to the old hospital site. The developers are BG Doodles who own Powder Monkey Brewery and tap house in Gosport.

Community

RNLI quayside sales washed out

The vagaries of the English weather meant that the annual RNLI quayside sale was washed out but many people enjoyed the hospitality of the Emsworth Slipper Sailing Club who provided refreshments for visitors. There were a few craft stalls inside and the event was visited by the Mayor of Havant Cllr Rosy Raines and her husband, Graham who is the mayor's consort. . She met with Chris Hallam (ERF committee member and chair of Emsworth RNLI) Cllr Raines represents Hayling East on HBC and her chosen charity is the RNLI who have a station at Hayling. With the help of many supporters in

what was an awful day weather wise the Branch made £1828.95? A huge thank you to everyone.

Southern seeks passengers' views on West Coastway timetable redesign

Train company Southern is launching a public engagement programme seeking the views of West Sussex and Hampshire passengers about plans to improve the counties' rail services. If taken forward, the proposed changes on routes between Brighton and Southampton, and between the Hampshire ports and London via Gatwick Airport, would be introduced in a redesigned timetable next year.

The programme is open for comments until Wednesday 27 September.

Full details of all the proposed changes are available via the Southern website: www.southernrailway.com/westcoastway and feedback can be sent to gtr.timetableconsultation@gtrailway.com

Environment

Havant Borough Council constrained in addressing Mill Pond and sea wall concerns

Following in-depth dialogues with organisations including Natural England, Chichester Harbour Conservancy and the Environment Agency, Havant Borough Council's commitment to saving the sea wall between Langstone Mill and Wade Lane remains at odds with national policy severely limiting the options available to maintain the structure and protect the popular Mill Pond.

Business

New barber in town

Clean Shave Barbers are opening soon at 8 West St, Emsworth. The shop was previously occupied by Tint Hair Lounge who closed in June. Men in Emsworth now have a choice of five barbers: Ginos, Barbers Arch, Top Style, Jonathan Ditton Barbers and Clean Shave. Ladies have six salons: Charter, Hairmonious, Crew, Damar, Jonathan Ditton Salon and Cabelos.

Dates for your Diary

Emsworth Beer, Cider and Wine Festival.

This annual event will be held from Friday 22 - Sunday 24 September at Emsworth Community [Centre. www.wemsfest.com](http://www.wemsfest.com)

ERF Public Meeting

Mon 23 Oct 2023 7pm - 9pm. *"Working with the community for the community"*

Consultation workshop to review the community priorities set out in the Neighbourhood Plan. All welcome, admission free.

The Ems

The Autumn edition of The Ems will be distributed from 12 October onwards.

Deadline for commissioned articles is 29 September. To read back numbers of The Ems go to: <https://issuu.com/theems>