

Barden Residents Association Meeting - Tuesday 16th July 2019

In Attendance

Angela Clark (Vice-Chair), Lucy Athey (secretary), Megan LeGoubin, Meg Sargent, Matt Sargent, Greg Fox, Cathy Chadwick, Joff Brown, Sarah Brown, Fred Long, Frankie Brady, Claire O'Shea, Felix Wenzel

Approval of Minutes & Apologies

Angela Clark (Vice Chair) called the meeting to order and the previously circulated minutes from 22nd May were agreed. Apologies from Mark Hood (who was attending a local plan meeting as Councillor), Glynn Rees, Averil Langridge, Tracey Stanton-Salter, Charlotte Hanson, Fran Long, Warren Nel, Ross Butcher, Lesley Headdon and Jo Young

Matters arising from 22nd May; **Bins** – If we are to get additional waste bins in Barden, could any replacements be recycling bins? LA to pass on request to MH, as he was following this up. **Drytec** – Some residents are suffering from the smells emanating from there, anyone concerned should make sure that they continue to report to TMBC using this form <https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/do-it-online/report-forms/odour>

20mph Update

This is still scheduled for later this month and notices should be going up to confirm this. Exact dates still to be confirmed by council.



Barden Jumble Trail – Round Up & Review



LA updated all on the Jumble Trail held on 29th June. Over 60 stalls signed up and were included on the map and there were several others who joined in on the day. The extremely hot weather probably did reduce numbers of shoppers but many areas were busy. It was harder to get people to continue over the bridge to visit stalls on Audley Avenue and other streets, this was partly due to the hot conditions. We could also encourage residents in these streets to get involved with the marketing of the trail, perhaps helping make more banners to advertise their location. Thanks to helpers we leafletted every single house in Barden with a map; these were paid for by Tonbridge River Trips. Lucy thanked Claire from Barden Stores who did a fantastic job in promoting the trail to her customers while handing out posters and maps. In summary, as this was our first attempt at this it was felt that it was a success, and we should organise another around the same time of year in 2020 to build on this. Many have commented on the social aspect, of getting to know and socialising with their neighbours which ultimately is the reason we organised this. Next year we will also look at getting a local charity shop involved to collect any unwanted items, so that residents don't have to put them back in the loft or transport them to the charity shops themselves. AC thanked LA for all her hard work organising the trail.

Summer Social – Sunday 18th August 12pm

We will be holding this social occasion in the Racecourse Sportground, from 12pm. Anyone can come and join us, just bring a picnic and any games you may have. We will bring our gazebo along and also provide hot drinks, residents can donate cakes and we can ask for donations to help raise funds for the Residents' Association. Fran to bring along forms to encourage people to join the association.

Air Pollution in Barden

There is still no detailed monitoring equipment in the High Street, apparently there will be a replacement at some point – it was agreed this should be a priority for TMBC.

Restart a Heart & AGM

It was agreed that our Restart a Heart training should coincide with our AGM on Wednesday 25th September. Residents will be able to come to the AGM and hear about all that we have been up to, vote in any new officers and then in the second part of the evening learn life-saving skills. Greg is in talks to arrange to bring an ambulance to the training, and residents will also be able to look inside. Hopefully this will attract more people to the AGM and make it more of a social event.



River Lawn Update

KRLG have a new chair and they have committed to organise and pay for any legal fees needed, and have barristers providing pro bono advice and guidance. They have rebutted TMBC's objections to our Village Green application and are awaiting their response.

Barden in Bloom

Judging will take place on the 28th June, with a team of volunteers touring the streets to find the best hanging basket, planter or window box. Children can also enter by planting up a Wellington Boot. We have a prize of a Family Swim in Tonbridge Pool for the children's prize. It was agreed that we should approach local businesses to see if they can donate a prize for the other categories.

AOB

- Residents of Holford Street who live next to the new flats on Avebury Avenue have a major issue with sewage smell from the soakaway that links up to the main sewer adjacent to their house. They have tried to solve this themselves, but local councils are passing the blame along, and it is too late to liaise with the developers as the flats are more than a year old. The smell fluctuates but is so bad on occasion that they are unable to open their windows or dry clothing outside. It was agreed that they should get local borough councillors Mark Hood or April Clark to visit their house and then hopefully write a letter in support.
- Drug dealers on Danvers Road and Audley Avenue – Several residents reported seeing dealers in action in these streets. Currently police have been unable to do anything but anyone who observes them should ring the non-emergency police number 101 as the more reports are given the more ammunition they have.

- If anyone sees cars from Ford Hendy blocking the pavement (and forcing pedestrians onto the road) then they should take a photo and pass onto Jo Murphy who can then collate and pass on to their head office.
- Tonbridge Calling August 10th - if anyone can spare an hour to help steward this on the day please contact Fred Long. They have a huge emphasis on recycling this year and TMBC are bringing their Recycling Roadshow.
- Since more business permit parking has been moved to Barden Park Road this road next to the allotment has become a lot more dangerous, as cars are speeding but there is less space to manoeuvre. A discussion was had about making part of Nelson Avenue and Barden Park Road into a one-way loop which would reduce traffic and increase parking spaces. We are due to meet with TMBC parking officers at the end of the summer to discuss permit parking issues and we can certainly propose this to them.

Next Meetings

Meetings usually alternate on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8pm to enable as many people as possible to attend and are held at the Scout Hut in Lambert's Yard (unless advertised being elsewhere).

The next meetings are;

**AGM & Restart a Heart training –
Wednesday 25th September**

Tuesday 26th November