

## RCV Newsletter June 2022

This newsletter comes to you a little later than scheduled for which please accept my apologies. Liz and I had a long holiday in the USA which became regrettably longer after we both contracted Covid. The upshot of this was that we sadly missed the party on June 5<sup>th</sup> and arrived home 6 days late.

### Party June 5<sup>th</sup>

The party committee of Flo Penfold, Hilary Lee, and Ali Penfold led by Andrew Vickers had worked hard for months on the organisation of the party in the park to celebrate HM The Queen's platinum anniversary and our hopeful final emergence from Covid. The band – Magpie and the Shiny Things – were great; Bath's own minor royal Lady Margaret arrived to perform a sparkling opening ceremony in her chauffeur-driven Bentley; there was a quiz, a raffle and a cake sale with prizes and cakes generously donated by residents and all who attended had a wonderful afternoon. £500 was raised for Bath Welcomes Refugees. Bath's new Mayor attended with the Mayoress and said a few well-chosen words and Bath's MP Wera Hobhouse - who is of course a local resident- enjoyed the afternoon along with many others. The great uncontrollable variable was of course the weather. A cool breeze and impending rain on the day probably deterred many who otherwise could have enjoyed this splendid and memorable afternoon. Many thanks are due to all those who organised and contributed to the day.

### Parking

With the adoption of Stothert Avenue by the Council, the future of parking there remains a major issue. You have made your views known and we have passed those we have received to the Council Official responsible for the final decision. Below is a digest of views received:

To reduce the number of parking spaces assigned to visitor parking would be unacceptable

To take away the Residents' Visitors Parking facility promised to each owner in the Riverside Community on purchase of their properties would be unjust and unfair.

There was a widespread wish to see the two trees in Stothert Ave to the west of the junction with Percy Terrace removed by Crest Nicholson replaced.

There were objections to the disturbance and pollution which would be caused by drivers from outside, daily entering the Riverside Neighbourhood in search of parking spaces should a public parking scheme be introduced.

A public meeting on the issue would be desirable

I have also raised the matter of *Liveable Neighbourhoods* in the context of this issue. At a time when so many areas are being invited to consider banning motor vehicles from entering their neighbourhoods, a new scheme for short term public parking would run counter to the aims of the Liveable Neighbourhoods scheme - and I might say this is the main aim of RCV: to develop a vibrant Liveable Neighbourhood in Bath Riverside.

There should be an onsite meeting with councillors and council officials soon. I will keep RCV members up to date.

### **Security**

At a recent meeting with Pinnacle we expressed our concern over 3 recent security incidents in the underground car park: the most serious being a smashed window, but also an unlocked car which was opened and searched through, but nothing apparently stolen, and a report of an individual male with baseball cap and track suit, wandering about examining cars – possibly it was felt, with intent.

To report a security issue at night the security guard can be phoned on 07856 430657. There is also the option of phoning the Police on 999 or 101, reporting the matter to the Pinnacle office in Riverside, or calling Martyn the chief caretaker on 07786 963818 or the office in Swindon on 01793 299030

More CCTV warning signage has been ordered for the car park and will be installed shortly.

### **Gulls**

One resident has complained recently of gull nuisance leading to possible health problems with loss of sleep. Pinnacle have confirmed that flights by birds of prey will continue during the Summer. Hopefully this will keep noise nuisance at a bearable level.

Councillor June Player has told us that there is now a council officer responsible for gulls who is shared with Worcester Council. His name is Gordan Dugan and you can contact him on 07917 592887, Email [Gordon.Dugan@worcsregservices.gov.uk](mailto:Gordon.Dugan@worcsregservices.gov.uk) You will be able to find June's original email with all the latest news on gulls (but little alleviation of the rules for dealing with nesting sites on domestic dwellings) on the RCV website soon.

### **Landscape improvements**

Many thanks to those of you who have sent ideas for landscape improvements. These suggestions have now been sent to the landscapers. The promised walk around with landscapers should take place before the end of June (possibly 29<sup>th</sup>).

### **Mural on Boundary wall of TA site**

We have received an email from Kim Moubray of B&NES who is heading up a project to paint a mural on the southern boundary wall of the Army Reserve centre (TA Site). This is the piece of wall which was cleared of graffiti at some expense recently and has now regrettably been once again vandalised.

As part of the Bath Riverline project Kim is looking for an artist (or artists) who could fill this space (10m x 3m) with a piece of contemporary high-quality artwork. Kim regards all Riverside residents as prime stakeholders in this project and is keen to know our views. You can contact her on [Kim\\_Moubray@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Kim_Moubray@bathnes.gov.uk).

### **Paddy Doyle**

Chair

Riverside Community Voice

17<sup>th</sup> June 2022