

1. SOCIAL EVENT: "Swinging '1960's Evening" on Friday 5 October 1984 at Booker Memorial Hall- Booker Common. 8pm-11.30pm. Including Supper, Bisco and Licensed Bar.
 - Tickets: £2.50 Adults; £6.00 Family (2 Adults & 2 children): £1.50 each additional child. Available from: Mrs Lyn Pearce, "Brilyn", Booker Common, or from any committee member.
 - Fish & Chip Supper is included in the price, but available only in exchange for a ticket. Suppers need to be ordered a week ahead of the event, so if you haven't bought your ticket by 27 September we cannot provide you with supper.
 - The Memorial Hall is licensed, and therefore insured, for 120 people only. It follows that tickets must be limited to that number, so please buy your ticket quickly to avoid disappointment.
2. PRESENTATION: During the social evening the Vice-Chairman of Wycombe District Council, Councillor Mrs A. S Moore, will present a certificate recording the grant made from the Lotteries Fund towards the cost of the Amenity works recently installed by the Society.
3. PUBLIC SAFETY & AMENITY WORKS ON THE COMMON & ITS WOODLANDS-(Modifications & Additions)
 - a) REVIEW OF RECENT WORKS

The Society publicised the works recently installed, with various reminders, during the course of a full year before installation. No objections were raised until the installation work had actually commenced, after which a Petition was circulated.

Wycombe Council & Smith-Woolley, on behalf of Sir Francis Dashwood, jointly addressed a letter to the Petitioners in reply. They offered to reduce the height of the Bollards by the cricket pitch from 1 metre to 2metre, and not painted white. Their joint letter also explained that:-

 - Wycombe Council encouraged the works on two grounds. i) to contain vehicles to the accepted route and, ii) to prevent vehicles from being able to enter the woodland and thereby dump rubbish and abandon vehicles, both of which are costly to recover.
 - From the Estate's point of view, the works were supported in order to prevent further encroachment on the common and woods, in addition to the Council's point of view.

The Society for its part distributed invitations to a meeting on May 15 1984 to 400 households in the local community. Approx 130 people attended that meeting.

 - The consensus of opinion at the meeting was as follows:-
 - i)-The proposal to reduce the height of bollards by the cricket pitch was accepted by the Society, but not by the cricket club nor by some local residents.
 - ii)-Bollards/Gates etc were doing a good job in the woodland areas.
 - iii)-Additional bollards etc should be installed at certain other vulnerable points at other places in the woodlands.
 - iv)-The Bollards recently installed alongside the cricket pitch should be replaced by benches and trees similar to those as already exist.

The above recommendations from the meeting were sent to the appropriate authorities. Sir Francis Dashwood has approved the plan to replace the bollards beside the cricket pitch with benches and further trees, subject to obtaining planning consent from the Council.
 - b) THE NEW PROPOSALS

Subsequently, representatives from Booker Cricket Club; Booker Memorial Hall and this Society held a joint planning meeting on-site on the common, from which the following proposals emerged:

 - a) Newly planted trees should follow the line of the old trees which had been felled along the eastern and northern edge of the grassland. (8 new trees)
 - b) The old tree stumps should be removed.
 - c) Trim back the undergrowth at the edge of the woodland (at the north/east edge of the grassland) to encourage growth of some naturally regenerating trees.
 - d) Move the existing Notice near the junction of Bridleway 106 and Willow Avenue to a point further northwards and closer to the woodland.
 - e) Install two additional benches.
 - f) Leave 7 1/2 metre minimum gap between seats/trees for the grass cutters to get between.
 - g) Leave approx 25 metre gap in line with the wickets in an easterly direction to allow unobstructed sight for the cricketers. (If they can't see the ball they can't play cricket properly or in reasonable safety).

A sketch plan is given overleaf. Also the proposed sites have been groundmarked with brown crosses to enable everybody to see for themselves.

3. c) Horns Lane/Lane Road areas: (Transfer of Bollards from the cricket pitch area)
 The installations are proposed only at those places where rubbish is habitually dumped and where vehicles have penetrated into the woodlands. (see sketch plan 2. below)

4. OBJECTIONS to the above TWO PROJECTS: The trees should be planted Oct/November period to ensure best possible results. However it is right that the community should have 3 months from the date of this Newsletter to lodge objections. Please write with reasons for any objections and suggestions for practicable alternatives by December 31 1984. to: Booker Common & Woods Protection Society: c/o Orchard House, 6 Barbers Wood Close Booker, High Wycombe HP12 4EW.

The detailed proposals for both projects will require Sir Francis Dashwood's approval prior to application to Wycombe Council for planning consent.

5. DONATIONS towards cost of materials already received for the two projects are gratefully acknowledged. But more donations are needed - no amount is too small, it all adds up. (cheques payable to the Society please.) Receipts for donations will be issued with future Newsletters.

