



NEWSLETTER 81
May 1992

YOUR NEW COMMITTEE

Following the elections at the annual general meeting, your committee now consists of:

Chairman	Roger Hinton	39 Regency Square
Secretary	Richard Pau	40 Regency Square
Treasurer	Harold Lawson	14 Chartwell Court
Members	Ros Boulden	Queensbury Mews
	Clive Buxton	Regency Square
	Diana Dunn	Clarence Gardens
	Joyce Evans	Regency Square
	Pat McCulloch	Queensbury Mews
	Dr Matte	Sussex Heights
	Pat Millson	Regency Square

Freda Rappaport who was elected to the committee at the meeting has had to stand down for personal reasons.

THANKS FOR THE AGM ...

to the Metropole Hotel for the use of the York Room ... to the Brighton and Hove French Circle for the loan of their projection equipment ... and to the members who helped prepare the buffet.

KEEP ON PHONING

Don't forget to phone the Council if you find rubbish dumped in the street. The free number to call is

0800 525573.

BENCH CLEANING

The Society has two benches at the top of Regency Square.

Can you spare an hour on Sunday 24 May to help given them their annual spring clean?

If so, meet at the top of the square at 11 am. All cleaning materials are provided by the Society but you might like to bring some old gloves to protect your hands.

Many hands make light work!

SUCSESSES IN CASTLE STREET

An application to convert 21 Castle Street into a social club has been refused. So too has an application by the Snooker Club to extend its opening hours to 2 am.

The Society had objected to both these applications in the grounds that they would be inappropriate in a residential area.

This is the third time we have had to oppose an attempt to extend the hours of the snooker club. The battle to protect Castle Street residents against late night disturbance is never ending, but it does seem that the Council is on our side.

NIMBYS AND NOT ASHAMED OF IT

When it comes to waste recycling, residents in this area are unashamedly NIMBYS ("not in my back yard").

The Council has announced its intention to locate a waste recycling centre in Regency Square. It has also asked the Society if it would be willing to help look after it.

At the AGM members discussed the idea. There is a lot of support for the idea of re-cycling. But it was not possible to identify a location in our area which would be acceptable.

Re-cycling centres, like the one in Norfolk Square, are unsightly: they attract litter and graffiti and can be noisy when glass bottles are dropped in and smash.

We have two centres reasonably close by: one in Norfolk Square and the other in Farm Yard off Churchill Square.

So our answer to the Council is "No thank you - not in our area."

IS THIS A SECOND CLASS AREA ?

Yes it is according to the Council, at least as far as road maintenance is concerned. Regency Square has recently been treated to the same "quick fix" re-surfacing job as Clarence and Russell Squares had some months ago.

As a result the surface now looks as if it is still due for re-surfacing and the gutters, pavements, and even hotel lobbies have been littered with loose grit for weeks.

The reason is simple: the Council cannot afford to do a first class job in this area.

The only local piece of road to be given a decent surface is the north side of Clarence Square. This is because of the amount of traffic, including delivery vehicles, which use it.

We have complained about the standard of work and suggested that Regency Square also carries a lot of traffic both to the car-park and the Metropole Exhibition Halls.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBSCRIPTION ?

Subscriptions were due for renewal in February. Are you up to date? If not, please send your subscription to the Treasurer using the form below:

To Harold Lawson, 14 Chartwell Court, Russell Square, Brighton.

I would like to re-new my membership of the Regency Square Area Society for the year 1992/93 in the category ticked below:

	£
Ordinary member	3.00
Family	3.50
Senior Citizen	2.50
Junior	1.00
Associate (non-resident)	2.50
Business (non-resident)	5.50

Name

Address

Cheques payable to the Regency Square Area Society please.

A PARKING REVOLUTION

It happened literally overnight. At the AGM members were complaining about the lack of adequate parking places for residents.

Within days the Council had brought about a huge increase in the number of places. All the parking spaces in Clarence Square, Russell Square and Queensbury Mews and most in Regency Square are now reserved for residents.

We cannot claim that the change is directly due to the Society's AGM, though our views, expressed on various occasions, have apparently been taken into account.

But is it all too much? Some business people in Russell and Regency Square have already expressed the view that there are now not enough voucher spaces. Some hotels have nowhere nearby where guests can park legally to unload luggage and check in.

And what about the double sided parking down the east side of Regency Square. While many people did not like the previous echelon arrangement, others have complained that the new scheme makes Regency Square look like a car-park rather than a piece of Brighton's heritage.

What do you think? The new scheme is experimental and objections can be made by writing to the Director of Corporate Support Services, Town Hall, Brighton BN1 1JA by 12 October 1992

The Society will be writing to the Council later in the year to express its views on the changes. Before then we would very much like to your views to help us decide what to say.

Please telephone or write to Roger Hinton, 39 Regency Square (tel 21794).

Brighton Little Theatre, Clarence Gardens

next production:
FEARS AND MISERIES OF THE THIRD REICH
by Berthold Brecht
16 - 23 May

Details: phone Brighton 205000

IT'S A CRIME!

Did you know that it is illegal to put domestic rubbish in the street? The only exception is when it is due to be collected.

Maybe you did know that. But did you also know that it is illegal to put it in or next to a litter bin?

We found this out when we issued a leaflet to local residents advising them of the correct day to put out their rubbish for collection. In the leaflet we asked people not to put rubbish out on non collection days. Then we suggested that if they had to do so because of lack of storage space, they should put it by a litter bin because they are emptied daily.

As a result we have had our knuckles rapped by the Council - famous for their meticulous concern for the cleanliness of our streets. They advised us that we should not encourage people to do something which is illegal.

Ever mindful of the need to obey the law we will ensure that our next leaflet avoids such seditious suggestions. We will be issuing it after the next bank holiday, when the regular collection day will stop moving around for a while.

But when oh when will the Council put its own house in order? The skip a day system for collections after public holidays still confuses people - including the Council themselves who collected from this area on the wrong day in Easter week.

And as for rubbish in the street, the Council, which is quick enough to stop us from publishing sensible but illegal advice, is apparently unable to do anything to prevent it.

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR SOME PELICANS

Western Road is not easy to cross when it is busy even for the able bodied adult. If you are dis-abled, elderly or have young children to look after, it can be a nightmare.

The Society supports the view that there should be at least two pelican crossings in the main shopping area of Western Rd.

On Saturday morning (May 2nd) members of local disabled action groups were in Churchill Square asking passers by to sign a petition to that effect. They received an excellent response.

Please sign the petition if you have not done so. Contact Kate Dessau (26184) or Roger Hinton (21794) who have copies.

CABLE IS COMING

Cable TV is already being installed in parts of Hove and work will start in Brighton next year.

Conservation groups in the town are concerned about the visual impact that the pavement junction boxes will have. There is also worry about whether cables will disfigure the fronts of listed buildings.

Members of the committee attended a meeting with representatives on Nynex, the company installing the cable.

The company has a licence from the Department of Trade and Industry allowing them to install the cable. However, they do have to agree the location of each junction box with the local planning officer.

These boxes will stand on the pavement like telephone junction boxes. They vary in size. A typical one for up to 70 households would be 3' x 3'9" x 14". It is possible that some could be up to 6' long.

The planning officer has agreed that the Society will be informed when decisions are going to be made about locating boxes in this area and we will be able to make comments.

Pavements will need to be dug up to lay the cables. Nynex say they will replace paving stones in one piece.

They are also aware of the problems of putting cables up the front of listed buildings. They have said that they will try to gain access from the rear.

At the meeting Nynex gave the impression that they were very concerned about the conservation aspect of their project. Nevertheless the Society is worried that once work starts it will be done very quickly and their good intentions may not be converted into reality.

In a way we are lucky that Hove is being cabled before Brighton. Through a contact in Brunswick Square we hope to have advance warning of how they will deal with our area.

SOCIETY CONTACTS

CHAIRMAN Roger Hinton: tel 21794
SECRETARY Richard Pau: tel 26711
TREASURER Harold Lawson tel 28203

DON'T FORGET!
Bench cleaning in Regency Square
11 am, Sunday 24 May