

Regency Square Area Society

NEWSLETTER 101
October 1994

Castle Street no longer Residential - Official !

The Brighton Planning Committee has granted permission for the Snooker Club in Castle Street to open until 2 am each morning.

This reverses a decision confirmed by the same committee on several occasions in the past and supported on appeal by the Department of the Environment Inspector.

What has changed to bring about this reversal of previous decisions and to justify denying the residents of the Castle Street peace and quiet late at night ? Nothing has changed.

The Snooker Club made its application as it has done every couple of years since it first opened. The Planning Officer advised the committee to refuse it. Local Councillor Nimrod Ping, who chairs the committee, suggested that a site visit would be appropriate before a decision was made.

After the visit the committee decided to allow the application on a trial basis for one year.

Balls are not the Problem

One member of the committee, who does not represent this area, was quoted in the Argus as suggesting that local neighbours were worried about being disturbed by the chink of snooker balls.

Nonsense ! It's not what goes on inside the club which is the problem. It's the noise caused by members leaving late at night.

Castle Street is a narrow street.. People leaving a club after an evening's sport do not have to be rowdy yobs to make a noise: car doors slamming, engines starting, friends bidding each other goodnight, taxis waiting, all these things are likely to wake people who may be sleeping just a few yards away.

A Year's Hard Slog Ahead

The permission is on a trial basis for one year. This means that residents who are disturbed will have to keep detailed diary notes of every event that disturbs them. They will then have to lobby and campaign when the decision comes up for review.

And all to get the peace and quiet that two years ago was apparently guaranteed them by the planners. Even then, what are the chances of the permission being withdrawn ?

A Mad Decision

The Planning Committee has made a mad decision which is inconsistent with the Council's previous policy of protecting Castle Street residents. It means that the Council no longer consider Castle Street to be residential. What will happen now if another business in the street applies to stay open late ?

This is a serious blow for the people who live in Castle Street. It is also very odd when the same Planning Committee recently gave permission for a new block of flats to be built in the street in place of a disused commercial building.

No Faith, No Trust

What faith can we have in a planning committee which makes such inconsistent decisions ?

What trust can we put in local councillors who show such little concern for those who live in their constituencies ?

No Appeal

What justice is there in a planning system that allows the snooker club to apply and appeal again and again but allows no appeal at all for neighbours against the arbitrary and inconsistent actions of a group of local councillors ?

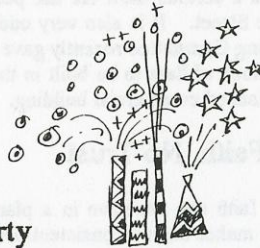
SOCIETY CONTACTS

CHAIRMAN Harold Lawson tel 328203
SECRETARY Richard Pau: tel 326711
TREASURER Brian Smith tel 325175
NEWSLETTER Roger Hinton tel 321794

The Rowdy Compass

The residents of Clarence Gardens have been suffering from the loud music in the Compass Pub especially during good weather when the doors are left open..

An environmental health officer from the Council visited them late one Saturday evening to hear the problem for himself. The Council will be applying for an order to keep the noise down and the doors shut.



Firework Party

7:30 pm, Saturday November 5th
Regency Square

We will be organising our annual firework party again on November the 5th.

The fireworks will start at 7:30 pm and will be followed by sparklers for the youngsters and refreshments.

Everyone is welcome so bring your friends and neighbours.

All fireworks will be under the control of Society committee members - please don't bring your own.

Help is needed with looking after the bonfire and serving the food. Call Roger Hinton (321794) if you can lend a hand.

Parking on the Beach

The water company has applied for permission to locate a ventilation shaft on the beach near to Regency Square. It's purpose is to provide ventilation for the new storm water storage system which is being built under the beach.

The rather worrying thing is that they have also asked for a parking space - presumably for maintenance engineer's vans.

Is this the start of a trend - if the water company can have a parking space on the beach, what about the other businesses that operate there ?

The Mystery Bin Men

A mystery bin lorry has been sighted recently on Sunday mornings in Regency square. It does not have any official markings on it and the two men who operate it are not wearing a Council or a Focsa uniform.

But they are doing what we have always said needs to be done - picking up plastic bags which have been dumped on the pavement between normal collection days.

Who are these people and who has asked them to clean our pavements ? Does any one have any ideas ?

Pre Christmas Social

We are trying to organise a get together before Christmas. The provisional date is Thursday 1 December at 7:30 pm.

Full details in the next news letter.

Keep Those Subs Coming !

If there is a cross in the box below it means that your membership subscription is overdue.

To Brian Smith, 45 Regency Square, Brighton.

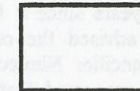
I would like to renew my membership of the Regency Square Area Society for the year 1994/95 in the category ticked below:

	£
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 cross in the box means your subscription is due !