

Regency Square Area Society

NEWSLETTER 260  
April 2011

## The Regency Square Project

Plans were unveiled at the AGM last month for significant improvements to Regency Square.

Committee members, Duncan Cameron and Nigel Rose have been working hard for the past few weeks putting together ideas about how to “stop the rot” in the Regency Square gardens and make them something that we can all enjoy and be proud of.

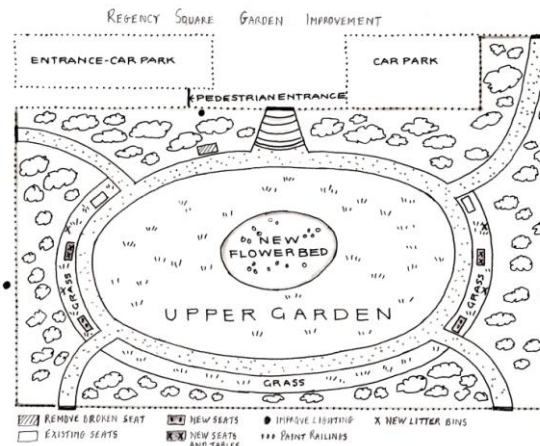
The ideas described below are just suggestions at present. We still need to get approval for them and then raise funds where necessary. However, we have already had very positive discussions with Council officers.

Members at the AGM made useful comments and were generally supportive of the plans. Now we would like to hear the views of other members: please let us know what you think. (Contact Roger Hinton ✉ [hinton@clara.net](mailto:hinton@clara.net).)

**What do you think?**

## The Upper Garden

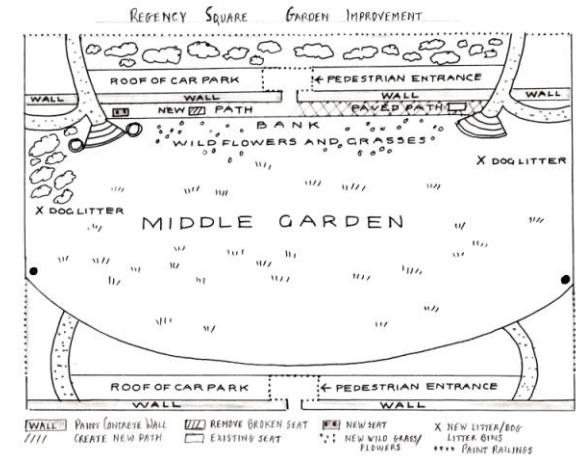
- A new flower bed for the centre of the green to add colour to the area and discourage football. The bed and its ongoing maintenance to be funded by local sponsorship.
- New and replacement benches, litter bins and possibly lighting. Picnic tables and chairs on the west and east sides. To be funded by local sponsorship or the Regency Square Improvement Fund..



- Railings to be painted in dark green or black, funded by the Council with work done by offenders on community service orders.

## The Middle Garden

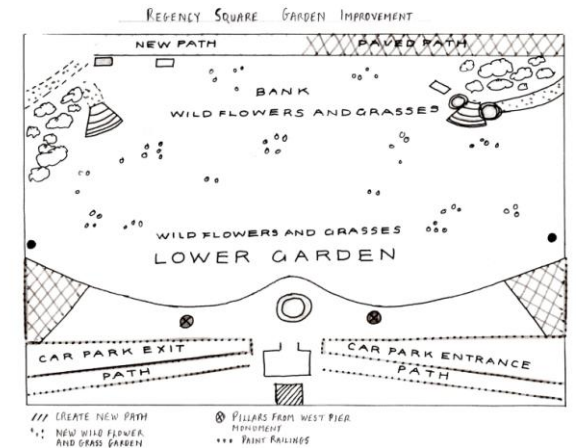
- Removal of dog waste bins – dog waste is now allowed in ordinary bins.
- A new paved path from the west side to the car park pedestrian entrance.
- Wild flowers and grasses to be planted on the sloping bank at the north side of the green, leaving the remaining area free for games.
- New benches, funded from local sponsorship or the Regency Square Improvement Fund.



- Concrete walls to be painted cream or green to create a more sympathetic appearance.

## The Lower Garden

- A new, paved path from the west side to the car park pedestrian entrance.
- A meadow of wild grasses and flowers to replace the existing turf.



- New benches, funded from local sponsorship or the Regency Square Improvement Fund.
- Iron pillars as a memorial to the West Pier.

Meet the manager of Boots: at our late spring social evening; 7:30 pm, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May - full details over page.

## Meet the manager of Boots

Boots by the Clock Tower is one of the largest shops in central Brighton. It includes a pharmacy, a cosmetics department, an opticians, a photo printing service etc. etc. etc.

Managing all this is the job of Alan Condon who will be our guest at a late spring social evening. He will tell us a bit about the store and his job and answer questions.

The date is Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May. The venue is the Alfresco café on the lower promenade opposite Bedford Towers. The time is from 7:30pm; the talk will start about 8pm.

There will be a cash bar serving, teas, coffees, wine, beer etc. If it's fine, look out for the sunset.

Admission is free. Bring your friends!

## No bus, no joke!

Bus number 11x used to run from Hove Town Hall, along the seafront to the Thistle Hotel and back every half hour. The service has been withdrawn from April 1<sup>st</sup> – no it's not a joke!

## Bobbi farewell!

PCSO Bobbi King has been our local police community support officer for quite some time and has kept in regular contact with the Society. She has now moved to other duties and we wish her well.

Her place has been taken by PCSO Aileen Norbury. If you want to talk to her you can contact her on:

✉ Aileen.Norbury@sussex.pnn.police.uk

or

☎ 0776 877 6813

For emergencies always dial 999. Non emergency incidents should be reported on 0845 60 70 999 to make sure they get recorded in the system.

## We're being ignored!

A while ago we presented a petition to the Council asking for various changes to parking in Regency Square. The main aim was to prevent the tail backs from the car park entrance on the west side.

A petition has also been presented by Councillor Jason Kitkat on behalf of residents in Clarence Square, asking for passes to allow residents to drive into the area via Western Road because of tail backs from the car park entrance in Cannon Place.

The Council has refused to consider either of these requests. These tail backs are a serious problem. They block the roads. They could result in delays to emergency vehicles. They do delay residents getting to and from their homes.

Why does the Council not even respond to reasonable requests from residents?

We are planning to raise these issues again after the local election in May. Perhaps by then we'll have a Council which is prepared to listen.

## Secret car park plans

Meanwhile, we have learnt that there are to be major improvements to the car park in Regency Square, similar to those completed recently in the Lanes.

This could be good news for car park users, but it could also increase usage, making the tail backs on the west side of the square even worse.

Why hasn't the Council consulted local people about these improvements?

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## Your New Committee

Following a successful AGM last month, the Society's committee is now as follows:

|                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Roger Hinton (Chair)    | Regency Square   |
| Paul Smith (Secretary)  | Russell Square   |
| Trix Webber (Treasurer) | Regency Square   |
| Margaret Brisley        | Sussex Heights   |
| Ros Boulden             | Kings Road       |
| Duncan Cameron          | Regency Square   |
| Diana Dunn              | Clarence Gardens |
| Rhidian Hughes          | Regency Square   |
| Nigel Rose              | Regency Square   |

Thanks were given to Sue Paskins as retiring treasurer, and to Tom Mckillop who was standing down from the committee.

## Thanks also to ...

- Geoff Mead for an interesting and entertaining talk;
- the Brighton and Hove French Circle for the loan of their projector and screen;
- all those who gave prizes for the raffle
- the Hilton Metropole Hotel for use of the room.

## ££££££££

Many thanks if you have renewed your subscriptions for 2011-12. If it's still due you will receive a reminder; please help the Society by renewing now.

The AGM approved an increase in membership subscriptions to take effect from March next year.

### Society Contacts:

Chairman: Roger Hinton:

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