

NEWSLETTER 321 May 2018

Parking

The Society has campaigned for well over 10 years to have 13 parking spaces removed on the garden side of Regency Square opposite Nos 3-15. This was to prevent vehicles queuing for the car park blocking, mainly residents and deliveries to residents, the free flow of traffic around the square.

Alas, the City Council was persuaded by a small group of local people not to proceed. The result is not only continuing frustration for drivers but danger to pedestrians trying to cross outside the Regency Restaurant.

What is your opinion? Should those 13 spaces go or stay. Let us know via the website www.regencybrighton.com or speak to any officer of the Society.









On the whole, it is not the fault of the drivers that they are caught in the tailback situation. That is not true of the thoughtless motorcyclists who cause danger to pedestrians. The following series of photographs have been sent to the parks department and to the highways department.

So far the Society has received no satisfactory response.

If you see similar behaviour, do try to take motorbike numbers and report

them to the police or to a committee member of the Society.

Surely not ...

We might all wonder why anyone would need to park a car like this:



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Thank You

A big thanks to all members and friends who have subscribed to the Bicentenary Book. Subscriptions have raised over £800 – that is, nearly a quarter of the cost of publishing the book.

The book is now at proofreading stage and will be ready for printing in a month or so. It's a long process!

Drugs and anti-social behaviour

Recently a local resident (not a member of the Society) who wished to remain anonymous contacted the Society with an excellent list of details about a tent in Regency Square gardens as well as a list of car registration numbers seen to be regularly contacting the inhabitants of the tent. The Society forwarded these details to the police and received this very encouraging reply from PCSO Sharon Baker, who knows this are extremely well:

"Thank you for your email into Sussex Police. We are aware of the problems you and the residents of Regency Square are experiencing and would like to reassure you we have stepped up patrols in the area, but please ask your members to report any suspicious activity as it is happening so that we have a chance to catch these people.

If your members do report to you again, please ask them to give as much detail as possible and include the dates and times and any descriptions. The index numbers for the cars help enormously when trying to identify suspects, so thank you for these."

It is encouraging to know that any details you can pass to the police (via the Society if you wish) will be acted on. The non-urgent police number is simply 101

e-mail: 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Planning

Last month members were asked on their views about UPVC windows. The response was they were not acceptable. The Planning department clearly agrees as the retrospective application for a UPVC door in a property in Regency Square as just been refused.

20 Regency Square: An application to rather drastically change the layout of existing flats and to reinstate the side door has been refused on the ground that "the proposal fails to preserve, enhance and better reveal the historic and aesthetic significance of the listed building."

The Society had no opinion on the internal layout but would have liked to see the reinstating of the side door.

58 Preston Street: Following an objection by the Society and two neighbours of the property, permission was refused to permit a terrace and outdoor storage at the back on the property as it "would cause significant harm to the Grade II listed building" and that the proposed rear roof terrace would result in "significantly harmful overlooking to neighbouring properties".

It is good to know that the Planning authority recognises to key factors that the Society campaigns for:

- The preservation of the character of the area, taking into the account the need for commercial activity;
- The quality of life of residents and visitors.

BA i360: Despite objections from the Regency Society and the Regency Square Area Society, permission has been granted for the "Erection of a free standing wall underneath existing security canopy to provide a green screen backdrop for photo capture concessionaire"

Regeneration of Regency Square?

On 15 February this year, several members of the Society had a meeting with two very senior officer of the City Council. See Newsletter 319 (March 2018). At the end of last month, a long e-mail was received by the Society from Max Woodford who was at the meeting. In short, his message is: money will be available for improving Regency Square but:

- 1. there are other calls on the funds first:
- 2. the Council will be dealing directly with contractors but in liaison with the Regeneration Partnership of which the Society is a principal member
- 3. "There is also not yet any form of working group to oversee the s106 funding allocation as a whole"

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This last message came as a surprise to the Society volunteers who have been meeting, with a council officer, over the last two years.

The Committee of the Society is drawing up a considered reply to Mr Woodford.

A new member of the Society



Clarence the Pheasant took a liking to our area and was spotted in Clarence Gardens (pictured) and Regency Square before being taken into safe custody by the RSPCA.

Environmental Enforcement Officers

They wear a rather forbidding black uniform, but the City Council's Environmental Enforcement Officers are there to help us.

Lately you might have found that your local communal rubbish bin is overflowing. Often this is caused because businesses are off-loading their waste for free in these bins.

Businesses should be paying for their own commercial bins. The Officers have the unpleasant task of looking for evidence of commercial tipping. Several prosecutions have already been successfully taken by the Council.

