

Spring comes to The Green (photo courtesy of John Bowyer)

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL

Please come along to our AGM

We're sorry that so much of this edition is taken up with the formalities of the AGM (see details on page 2), but organisations like ours require both proper management and the active involvement of as many of our members as possible on at least this one important occasion each year.

As usual, we'll be seeking new blood for the Management Committee, as both our able Secretary, John Bowyer, and John Jones-Pritchard who has served with equal distinction as Membership Secretary will, as our constitution requires, be standing down after three years.

We're also keen to fill the seat that's specifically reserved for someone under 39 at date of election, so that the Committee remains as representative of the population as possible.

If you're interested in joining the Committee whether or not in any of these positions, you're welcome to contact Chairman Jim Shapton (Tel: 678209, or email: chairman@cpraonline.org) for a no-obligation chat about what's involved. Alternatively, just come along on the day.

20 mph zone?

Some of our members feel that Curzon Park would benefit from most, if not all of it, becoming subject to a 20 mph speed limit. We have not included a proposal in this respect to be voted on at the AGM, but the Management Committee has agreed that following the formal business an opportunity will be given for proponents of the idea to set out their view and seek feedback from those present. If you have an opinion, on this issue, or would like to know more, please come along.

Coffee Morning 17 March

Another successful CPRA Coffee Morning took place at the Golf Club in March. 25 residents listened to Yvonne and Charles Foley's illustrated talk about the way in which Chinese seamen were treated after the Second World War. The Foleys spoke about their research, Yvonne's family history and the many contacts they still enjoy with the Chinese community in Liverpool.

We hope for another interesting coffee morning on **Monday 16 June**, when staff from Trading Standards will be giving a talk on matters relevant to all of us. Do come along and enjoy socialising over coffee before the talk. Lunch is available afterwards for those who would like to stay longer. More details to come on this.

CURZON PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting – Chester Golf Club 7.30pm on Monday 12 May 2014

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies
- 2. Minutes of AGM held 20 May 2013
- 3. Report on the Association's activities since 1 April 2013
 - Chairman's Introduction
 - Highways and Open Spaces
 - Community and Social
 - Community Safety
 - Newsletter
- 4. Presentation of the Association's Accounts for the 12 months ending 31 March 2014.
- 5. For the new Management Committee 2014-15*, the election of the following posts:

Committee Position	Current Holder	Constituency represented	Whether standing for re- election
Chair	Jim Shapton	1	Yes
Treasurer	Edward Shiu	1	Yes
Secretary	John Bowyer**	3	Vacancy
Ordinary member:1	Jane Mercer [Social WG]	3	Yes
Ordinary member:2	John Jones-Pritchard** [Membership]	2	Vacancy
Ordinary member:3	Amanda White [Newsletter]	3	Yes
Ordinary member:4	Alistair Jack [Highways WG]	1	Yes
Ordinary member:5	Diane Terry	2	Yes
Ordinary member:6	Vacant	Under 39 yrs	Vacancy

^{*}The Association's constitution requires that all Management Committee members stand down at each AGM and that all nine seats are subject to election. Of the six vacancies for ordinary members, one is required to be reserved for residents of each of the three geographical "constituencies" plus a fourth for a member who is under 39 years of age at date of election. **Members who have served three terms are ineligible for re-election

Constituency 1	Constituency 2	Constituency 3
Curzon Park North	Curzon Park South	Selkirk Road
Dingle Bank	Howe Road	Earlsway
Curzon Close	The Paddock	Park Road West
Westfield Close	Carrick Road	Northway
The Serpentine	Argyll Avenue	Greensway
	Rothesay Road	Mount Pleasant

6 Change to the Constitution: To consider the following proposed resolution: That in paragraph 4 of the Constitution ("Equal Opportunities Statement") the word "gender" be substituted for the word "sex".

N.B this resolution requires a majority of two-thirds of those present and voting.

- 7. To consider and if thought fit pass the following, proposed as an ordinary resolution:

 That the Management Committee be (unless and until otherwise determined) authorised at its discretion to oppose on behalf of the Association any planning application for the use of premises within Curzon Park for business activities and to take such steps as it deems appropriate to ensure that no activities for which planning consent is needed are carried on without such consent
- 8. Questions and comments from members

WALKING GROUPS

Weekend Walks

Saturday 3 May: Aldford

This walk starts at Eccleston ferry, follows the river bank and then crosses fields to reach Aldford.

There is one set of steps but otherwise the path is fairly easy, although it can be muddy. It will take about one hour to walk in each direction.

We plan to have lunch at the Grosvenor Arms in Aldford.

Saturday 14 June: Burwardsley

The walk will take about two hours and there are a few short climbs up to the Sandstone trail. There are good views across the Cheshire countryside.

Saturday 12 July: Llandudno

We will meet at the top of the Great Orme, at the tram station. This is a circular walk around the top of the Orme with amazing views across to Anglesey and then back down into the town. The walk lasts about two hours and not difficult as it is all downhill!

For further information, including starting times and car arrangements, contact Jenny Plunkett walking@cpraonline.org or 01244 683814

Everyone welcome: refreshment stops optional.



Mid-Week Walking Group

Tuesday 13 May: Duke's Drive and the Meadows A flat walk along the Duke's Drive and around the Meadows.

Thursday 26 June: Beeston Castle and the **Shropshire Union Canal**

A mostly flat route with a gentle climb towards the end up on to the sandstone ridge - looking out on to views of Beeston Castle and Peckforton Castle, perched on neighbouring wooded hills overlooking the Cheshire plain.

Tuesday 15 July: Loggerheads and Maeshafn

A varied walk through mixed woodland and open countryside with a moderate ascent to Moel Findeg, which has surprisingly extensive views for such a modest hill.

For further information, including starting times and car sharing arrangements, contact Roksana Fennell on 07765 404186 or email

midweekwalking@cpraonline.org

HIGHWAYS & OPEN SPACES

Saltney Acres

The planning application re-submitted by Chester Golf Club for a practice facility for members only (as reported in previous newsletter) was finally approved

by the City Planning Committee by a substantial majority. It was explained (by the Bio-diversity consultant to the Council) that experience has proved that careful management of the area would be more likely to enhance the natural vegetation and wild life, rather than abandon the site to the ravages of time. The Council vote was 10 members in favour, one member against.

Chester Racecourse Community Liaison Committee

At last there are indications that this committee might be getting off the ground, with the inaugural meeting taking place shortly after Easter. CPRA has been invited to join this committee and will be represented by a member of the Management committee.

This representation will give us the opportunity to express any concerns we may have regarding unsuitable events and activities and unacceptable noise levels, which always seem to accompany certain functions.

We are currently monitoring decibel levels at rock concerts and other events.

Grass verges

By the time you are reading this report, we do hope that the verges will have dried out sufficiently enough to have had their first Spring cut, which is well overdue. This would dramatically improve the appearance of the whole area. Vehicle damage in certain areas is an eyesore, mainly caused by building activities to properties in Curzon Park and contractors and delivery vehicles who will not accept any responsibility for the damage caused.

Maintenance to roads and footpaths

Due to a very restricted budget this year for highway maintenance, there will be a small amount of remedial work to roadways and footways in Curzon Park and we have been asked to highlight priority sites which could be included in next years' budget. Details of sites to be treated this year will be notified at the AGM on 12 May (7.30pm at the Golf Club) and reported in the next edition of the Newsletter.

Trees in Curzon Park



Trees in Curzon Park are, of course, one of the main attractive features of the area. We are hoping that some new trees and replacement trees will be planted year. They have been this promised.

In the event of a dry summer, watering these new plantings will be essential if they are to survive. Experience has shown that we cannot rely on the Council to carry out this simple task and would be grateful for any volunteers who happen to reside in close proximity to a new young tree planting to offer the occasional bucket of water.

Waste and Recycling



A reminder to older residents: if you are finding it difficult to 'put your bins out' by the kerbside, you can apply for an **assisted collections service**, either by telephone 0300 123 7026,

online via Cheshire West and Chester Council's website

<u>www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk</u> or email <u>enquiries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk</u>.

Following your request, a 'Confirmation of Request' letter will be sent out to you, which you should complete and return to the Waste Management Team. Once your application has been assessed, the Council will contact you to let you know the outcome and, if your application is approved, the assisted service should commence on the normal scheduled collection day, one week after the date of request. There is no charge for this service.

Calling all budding designers!

Could you help us come up with a refreshed new look for our newsletter template?

If you'd like to be in with a chance to win £50 of Amazon vouchers, email your suggested template design to newsletter@cpraonline.org by 10 May.

The prize will be awarded to the designer of any template the Management Committee decides shall be used for future editions and the winner acknowledged in the next newsletter.

Good luck!

New Rotary Club in Chester

Forget everything you thought about Rotary – this club is NEW Rotary, and members meet for a drink and chat on Wednesdays at 6.00 pm at The Handbridge Inn. Meetings last no more than an hour, and you can of course stay on to get to know new friends – which many people do. So if you are new to the area or simply looking for something new to do, pop in and find out more. The club is looking for more enthusiastic people to join. Ring Dee on 01244 300100 or 07581 035234 for more info.

COMMUNITY SAFETY



Update from PCSO Fox:

In general the start of the year has thankfully been quiet in terms of theft-related offences that can affect Curzon Park.

However, a common complaint I regularly receive from residents around Overleigh relates to driving

offences, such as motorists using a mobile phone whilst driving. Since December I have planned a number of operations on Hough Green aimed at

targeting drivers using their mobile phones whilst driving or motorists not wearing seat belts. On these operations approximately 50 drivers have been dealt with by the Fire Service for not wearing a seat belt and 24 motorists have been reported by the Police for mobile phone offences. Obviously the number of people found committing offences is disappointing. Please ensure that as a motorist you are complying with the laws in place to keep yourself and other road users safe.

Police and Councillor surgeries continue to take place on the first Saturday of every month in front of the Post Office on Chester Street, Saltney between 09.00 - 10.15 am and in front of Westminster Park shops between 10.30 - 11.45 am.

Chris Fox

(Local Officer for Curzon Park, Westminster Park and the Cheshire Side of Saltney)

CPRA Community Safety contact: Liz Neeves communitysafety@cpraonline.org or Tel 01244 679888.

Diary dates:

AGM: Monday 12 May at 7.30 pm at Chester Golf

Club

Weekend Walks: 3 May, 14 June, 12 July

Mid-week Walks: 13 May, 26 June, 15 July

Coffee Morning: Monday 16 June (Details TBC)

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Police <u>www.cheshire.police.uk</u>

Crime/Incident Reporting

Non-Emergency [new number] 101 Emergency [including culprits at the scene] 999

Cheshire West and Chester Council

www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Local Councillors

Cllr Razia Daniels 01244 312392 razia.daniels@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
Cllr Neil Sullivan 01244 671099 neil.sullivan@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

General enquiries 0300 123 8123 enquiries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Waste Collection, Litter 0300 123 7026 chester.waste@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk