



Camelford Association of Residents

Issue No. 9

June 2007

Published by Eddie McCormick

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FANTASTIC FIREWORKS FUNDRAISER

Camelford Town Forum Fireworks Committee
presents

Bubbles & Berries

A Picnic

in aid of
Camelford Annual
Fireworks Display

to be held at
Trehaze, Trevia, Camelford
on

Saturday, 14th July 2007 at 7.00 pm



Ticket Price £12 - Raffle
Tickets available from A1Fruiterers 212424
or Clare Ireland at Timberlines 213527

Fireworks 2007

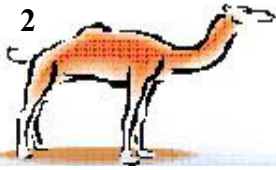
The Town Forum's Fireworks Committee has arranged a special event to be held on 14th July.

The menu for this summer spectacular includes starters, savoury nibbles, sandwiches, finger snacks, sumptuous sweets and many other delights too numerous to mention here !! The ticket price includes a welcoming glass of bubbly and drinks, both alcoholic and 'soft', will be available at a small additional cost.

Please bring a rug (or similar) to enjoy the picnic in the grounds but, should the weather turn nasty, a marquee will be available. (see poster for ticket availability)

The Fireworks Committee would like to extend their sincere thanks to Barbara & John Hough for agreeing to the use of their gorgeous garden at Trehaze, Trevia for this wonderful fund-raising community extravaganza.

FREE - Please take one - FREE



How to contact C.A.R.

You can get in touch by phone, post or e-mail as follows:-

Tel: (01840) 213527 (to Secretary Clare Ireland)

Post: CAR Secretary, Timberlines, Dark Lane, Camelford, PL32 9UQ

E-mail: clare@camres.org.uk

Looking forward is great -- but the past must not be forgotten

Recent Town Council meetings have indicated that many newly appointed Councillors want to see a line drawn under the difficulties the Town has experienced in the recent past. The sentiment may appear to be in the best interests of the community but there are several issues which cannot be ignored and which the new Council **must** address as a legacy of the actions taken by the previous Council.

1 - During an open public meeting the Town Clerk, Barry Jordan, called Councillor (now Mayor) Brian Lush a "liar" over a statement Cllr. Lush had made to the police in respect of the Clerk's allegation of assault by local greengrocer Julian Harman - this has **not** been resolved! Either Cllr. Lush or Mr. Jordan have lied to the police and/or the Council. An 'in camera' discussion of the matter is not the way forward and does nothing to dispel the aura of secrecy that the previous Council engendered. An accusation made in public should be investigated or a public apology should be given.

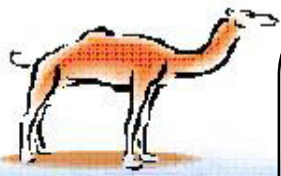
2 - The 'Parks for People' project has been portrayed as a possible boon to the town. Charles Whitehead, the project manager, is being paid **£150 per day** by the Council (i.e. from your council tax) to coordinate the proposal and to seek Lottery funding. The Council's website (www.camelford-tc.gov.uk) states "many residents and visitors filled in the questionnaire at the recent Easter Fair" -- in fact, according to Mr. Whitehead's own figures, only about 75 people completed the form -- therefore about **3%** of the population of the town (obviously less if some respondents were visitors). Your financial contribution, if the bid is successful, could be anywhere from £25,000 upwards and those funds need to be found - again from your council tax.

3 - As I reported in last month's Newsletter, there is still the issue of £10,000 costs awarded against Julian Harman over a bill for (approx) £250 which he presented to the Council following the allegation of assault made by the Town Clerk. The false allegation of assault has **not** been investigated by either the police or the Council (to the best of my knowledge) but, rather than pay the £250 that it cost Julian to seek legal advice, the Council fought his attempt **to seek repayment**.

The Council then **did not seek the truth** over the Clerk's false allegation of assault, the Clerk himself has said that the allegation was made to "wind you [Julian] up" --- £10,000 is an awful lot of winding up!! -- the new Council must investigate the insurance claim which led to a high-priced solicitor being called to have a claim for £250 dismissed. That same solicitor had allegedly advised the Council to pay Julian's bill but was instructed to proceed - even if that meant that Julian would be declared bankrupt.

4 - The **true** figure that your council tax will increase by, when the cost of the car park is returned to the precept, should be made known as soon as possible. Prior to the May election various amounts were bandied about, from 20p per week per household to a ridiculous "70%" increase. Without doubt there are many more people around town now that charges have been suspended (for the time being suspension is the only way to circumvent the legality of the Parking Order imposed by the previous Council). Anyone complaining about paying 20p per week for the visible improvement in usage of the town can justifiably be called petty, the same cannot be said if the precept is to rise significantly - but where did "70%", as quoted by ex-Councillor Jenny Finch come from???

Local Businesses



CAR will happily advertise your business within the pages of our Newsletter (subject to space) without charge, please contact our secretary. You can also advertise on our website for free - who said there's no such thing as a 'free lunch' !! Our intention is to promote our community as much as we can - we'd still accept any donations that you would like to make, (hopefully these will be tax-deductible for you) but please remember that CAR is not a charity when filing your tax returns.

Next C.A.R. meeting
 14th June at 7.30pm
 in Camelford Hall

Car Park common-sense

The area currently designated as 'Coach Park' is completely under-utilised and it has been suggested that it should be assigned to residents and workers in the town who need to park for extended periods. It does seem logical to request that the business community ask their staff to park at the far end of the car park thereby leaving the parking places nearest to the shops and medical centre available for those who will be frequenting those facilities. Similarly with residents who don't have access to a parking spot outside their home but need to use Churchfield on a daily basis (or overnight) - please use the 'top end' whenever possible so that the benefits of the restoration of free parking are maximised for the whole town - remember that shoppers may only need to park for a relatively short time and the turnover of spaces nearest to the shops will encourage more shoppers and visitors into town along with the revenue they bring.

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Latest Car Park Survey

To examine the impact of removing car park charges, the Council has conducted a survey over the last couple of weeks - this shows that the overwhelming majority of parkers are local people who use the car park for under an hour at a time., but maybe more than once a week.

It will come as no surprise to many residents that less than 1% of those using the car park think that it should be Pay & Display - so, is it to be 30p an **hour** or 40p a **week** for locals?

Town Centre parking

The Town Trust wants the current parking restriction on their land to stay in place and has hinted that if parking between the Library and the Darlington continues to be abused they will seek to have the area designated for 'recreational use' only thereby stopping all parking in that area. 'Rigorous' monitoring of vehicles will take place - you've been warned!!



‘Love Parks Week’

Various events are planned for the period from **16th to 24th** June in Enfield Park - it should be great !! Check your diary and come along if you can.

! Not everyone loves the Park !

In spite of the efforts being made to make good use of the facilities at Enfield Park there is still a nasty minority of young people who seem to take pleasure in causing damage to seats, flower beds and disposal of their rubbish in the play area.

This mindless vandalism seems to be taking place on a fairly regular basis on Friday evenings and I must assume that the morons doing it are from outside Camelford - why else set about destroying parts of a beautiful town asset?

C.C.T.V. Images

Most townspeople know that the Park is covered by closed circuit television and that the footage is recorded on video - the latest images of the vandalism taking place are in the hands of the local police who will be carefully studying all the faces involved and taking appropriate action.

Repair & maintenance

The Council has recently employed a person, John Gilbert, to look after the repair and maintenance of the town's assets, and he's making a good job of it, but we all pay extra through our local council precept when constant repairs are required rather than just regular upkeep - so - if you know the names of those responsible for the damage please let the police know - it'll save time and maybe some of your money!

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

IN AID OF

CAMELFORD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Sunday 24th June, 8pm

At The Lib Club

£1 per person

Plus Raffle