

# HOLCOMBE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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Barbara Cross

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Dear Resident,

I am writing to let you have some feedback from our recent questionnaire, the immediate actions we are taking as a result of the responses, and to advertise a couple of events in the lead up to Christmas.

We received some 60 responses from members to the questionnaire, which focused on our perceived priorities for the coming year and the format of the *General Meetings*. I would like to thank everyone who returned their questionnaire, as the response rate (around 30%) was very high for a survey of this type and it has helped your committee focus on some key issues. In general, most people agreed that the Association should focus on planning issues and try and get some progress on improvements to the junction on the main road at Hall Lane to facilitate crossing the road. In addition, more social events were supported. The other main issues related to tidying up Smugglers Lane and improvements in the centre of the village (amenities, traffic calming and parking issues).

With these clear priorities, the committee will now decide how to take these forward. As part of this, we will use the *General Meeting* in February 2011 to seek further views on what can be done to make progress on the issues identified.

In the questionnaire we also asked for views on the format of the *General Meetings*. It was clear from the responses that members do value these meetings, in particular the opportunity to discuss local issues. However, there were a significant number of people who felt that there should be fewer speakers and that Friday was not a good night for them to attend a meeting. As a result of this feedback, we have decided to reduce the number of speakers in 2011, hold one *General Meeting* on a Thursday and incorporate a social event with the AGM. Key dates for next year are shown below:

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2011 | General Meeting focusing on feedback from questionnaire and how to take forward issues |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2011    | AGM and social   |
| Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2011    | General Meeting including a guest speaker  |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2011 | General Meeting including a guest speaker  |
| Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2011 | Christmas Social / Barn Dance  |

Whilst writing, I would also like to draw your attention to the Annual Barn Dance, with "Red Shed", that will take place on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November. This is an extremely popular event but places are restricted due to the size of the hall. If you would like a ticket, please contact Gerry Chambers on 01626 888919. Tickets are £7.50 each (which includes a pasty) and will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

The other date for your diary is the Christmas Fayre which will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December (11am to 3pm). As part of this, the Residents Association will be running the "Nearly New" stall. If you have any items that can be donated could you please let Janet Evans know on 01626 864489.

Finally I would like to thank all members for their continuing support. Membership of the Association remains strong (around 330 members in over 200 households); in the current economic climate it is important for the village to have a strong voice on issues that impact on us from time to time. Our aim for the coming year is to be more proactive on local issues and to increase the social side of the Association - I hope that we can continue to count on your support.

Andy Watson  
Chairman