



Spring Newsletter

www.carnbee.org

March 2012

SPRING 2012

FEE UPDATE

As the Treasurer of the Association, until recently, there was a lot of work but no surprises. Then, in the space of one year we had the largest snowfalls seen for years and gales which blew one of our trees over. An inspection of the trees revealed that two were in such a poor state that they had to be felled quickly. On the positive, side half of the owners who were in arrears, some with a little persuasion, settled their accounts and most of our budgeted projects are coming in under budget. The net position is that even with the unforeseen expenditure on the trees, we are likely to complete the financial year without dipping into our reserves of £6000.00

We are still actively pursuing the four owners who have never contributed to their share of maintaining the estate. We have recently obtained Decree against one of the owners and are now awaiting payment. Many thanks to the owners who pay

early, it saves the Committee a lot of work.

John Pendlebury
(Treasurer)



Carnbee on Trial

Your committee would like to take this opportunity to keep you up to date with what we've been doing over the past year and what we plan to do in 2012. As well as the regular maintaining of our 12 communal areas we try to carry out additional projects to enhance the estate, last year we turfed and landscaped the communal area at the foot of Carnbee Dell. This year we plan to trial growing meadow flowers and grass in our wooded area (Area 7). Part of this work will be carried out by volunteers within the committee. We are also working on restoring a feature area in Area 7 back to its former glory, this project may take a few years to complete.

Last year we were required to re-plant trees in Area 7 after we removed some as a result of our tree survey. We are sorry to say most of these trees were vandalised, this was reported to the Police who although helpful did not catch the culprits. Due to this mindless vandalism the committee have decided for the moment not to plant any further trees.

We have had a vast increase in litter within the estate recently, partly due to the high winds and partly due to the building site opposite, with the most litter being noticed in the entrance areas. Although Greenfingers periodically remove litter during the Winter months it was proving not to be enough. Committee members voluntarily cleared litter from the entrance during December as the cost of paying Greenfingers to do this was not good value for money. We have since talked to the manager of the building site who has kindly agreed to send one of his men over every Friday to remove litter from our entrance area.

If you have any comments or suggestions to improve our estate the committee would love to hear from you. Contact details can be found at the rear of this newsletter.

Summer Newsletter Survey Results

Thank you to all owners who took part in our survey which was contained in our Summer 2011 newsletter.

- ◇ 100% of owners who replied were either satisfied or very satisfied with the work of the committee
- ◇ 100% of owners who replied believe that the current fee provided good value
- ◇ 100% of owners who replied were either happy or very happy with the general appearance of the estate
- ◇ 100% of owners who replied were happy with the level of communication they receive from the committee

Register now for CarnbeE-Newsletter

After previously offering owners the option of receiving electronic communications, 83 owners have now

registered for this method and we thank them for this. We are keen to increase this number as using electronic delivery keeps costs to a minimum and allows more of your annual fee to go towards improving the estate.

Registering to receive COA communications electronically is simple; click the link on the home page of the COA website, complete the online form using the code _____, and click the 'Register' button to submit. You will receive an email confirming your email details and a final single step instruction to complete the registration process.

We hope many more owners will register and agree this is a more efficient and cost effective method of distributing COA communications, though we appreciate that not everyone has access to email so we will continue to produce and distribute paper copies as required.



Would you



COA on Facebook?

Your committee are keen to ensure COA members are kept as updated as possible with information about our estate throughout the year. This could be topics such as the AGM, the schedule for our gardeners or unplanned works such as the felling and replacement of trees. As a progressive and inclusive committee we appreciate comments and suggestions from COA members. We already have a website www.carnbee.org and email address contact@carnbee.org and members also have the opportunity to receive communications electronically - but we're keen to do more.

We'd like to gauge your interest in either a Facebook page or a Twitter feed to provide up to the minute news and comment about Carnbee. If we get sufficient interest we may set up both ! We're still committed to providing information through newsletters and other mail drops but every sign up to an electronic communication method reduces the need for paper - which is better for the environment and the COA budget.

Please contact us at contact@carnbee.org and let us have your views

Committee and Contact Details

Who are the Committee Members ?

Catherine Crosbie (Chair),
Jane Patterson (Secretary)
Elaine Turbitt (Deputy Chair)
John Pendlebury (Treasurer)
Alan Graham (Treasurer Designate)

Alan Gibson (Ordinary member)
Lee-Anne Mitchell (Ordinary member)
Robert Mitchell (Ordinary member)
Janis Monaghan, (Ordinary member)
Elizabeth Stott(Ordinary member)
Kerstin Weir (Ordinary member)

Where can I find the most up-to-date information relating to the COA ?

You can find us on the web at www.carnbee.org

How do I contact the COA ?



Carnbee Owners Association
c/o Spring Professional Services
21 Lasswade Road
Edinburgh
EH16 6JB



contact@carnbee.org