

NEWSLETTER No 55, FEBRUARY 2013

15 February 2013

Dear Members

Our first Newsletter for 2013 and we're looking forward to the new season! We will continue to keep you informed of developments on the park and help with any issues which may arise.

1 Meeting with Darwin on 28 January 2013

As you are aware, our Chairman, Phil, and Rosemary, our Liaison Officer, met Anthony Esse, Lindsey Bamford and Anne Foulkes on 28 January. They and Darwin agreed to publish joint notes of the meeting. The points discussed are attached and will be placed on our website. We welcome your comments, and the Committee will discuss these points and your comments as soon as possible.

Lindsey is the Darwin person responsible for all Darwin holiday parks and Anne is the new manager at SBV. We welcome her to the park, and look forward to establishing a good and positive working relationship with her.

LINK TO MEETING NOTES (added to website version of Newsletter:

http://bayviewowners.co.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Notes_of_BayViewOwnersAssn_meeting_with_Darwin_on_Monday28thJan2013.pdf

2 Fees for 2013/14

The fees for 2013/14 are £3,317.40 for those with the amended STC licence, inclusive of VAT. We understand the 2013/14 fees for new owners to SBV since Darwin took over may be over £1,000 more than this, but we haven't been advised by Darwin of this new figure yet. All fees and business rates can be paid by instalments if you wish. We have asked Darwin to put the option of instalments on the invoices but if it isn't there, the option to pay by instalments remains, as it is contractual and has been since agreed with STC in 2008.

3 £150 refund

As you know Darwin have agreed to a £150 refund for services paid for but not received. If you have not already had it credited to your 2012/13 fees, please check that it is credited to your 2013/14 fees. For those with a Darwin licence we believe that it should be credited proportionally to the time you have been on the site. If you are leaving the site shortly, we believe that it should be paid to you as a cheque, unless you instruct them to deduct it from any monies owed.

4 Bay View Caravan Owners' Association annual subscription 2013/14 - waived

The subscription for 2013/14 is now due. However, in view of the financial situation for many of us and the recession, we have decided to WAIVE the £10 subscription for this year. We can also report that the Association's accounts are quite healthy, another reason to waive the annual fee. If, on the other hand, you would like to make a voluntary contribution, that would be most welcome. If you want to do this, please send any contribution to

Phebe Tiney, at Miraflores, Tall Trees Park, Matcham Lane, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 6AW. Tel: 07525 006 139

If you wish to pay electronically, the bank details are: Lloyds TSB, sort code 30-99-12, A/c No 01819778.

You can also make voluntary contributions at any meeting or to Marjorie at No 66.

5 New licence

We are still waiting for Darwin to comment on the draft licence NACO have sent to them. This can be seen on the Association's website, as shown in Newsletter 54.

6 Letter from SBV re permanent address

You will all have received a letter, dated 29 January, from SBV. According to one of our members, Purbeck District Council have confirmed that the issue of confirming permanent addresses only applies to caravan owners on residential parks and not holiday parks. SBV is a holiday park. Do not be concerned about it, as Darwin/SBV already have details of a separate permanent address for you. It is the address shown on the invoices Darwin sends to you. Darwin can confirm this permanent address to any local authority. It is entirely up to you, but it is never advisable to send any documents with private and personal details through the post, for safety and security reasons.

We agree with what Darwin say in their letter:

"there is no legislative restriction as to the length of time owners may spend at their holiday home during the season". Our licence allows owners to stay on the park for 46 weeks of the year if they wish.

7 Contacting Darwin

As we have said before, we are looking forward to having a new manager, who will be on site to answer most of our problems, so that we do not have to wait for answers to letters that may not be answered or delayed. It is, however, always best to have record of the problem and what was said and agreed, so that any solution can be publicised and apply fairly to other caravan owners as well.

8 Website

You can see all the details of our dealings with Darwin and others on the Association website

www.bayviewowners.co.uk/

9 The future

As a result of the meeting with Darwin on 28 January, it is our hope that many issues will have been, or are being sorted out, so there can be better relations and a much more positive outlook for the future. If you have any suggestions for improvements, please forward them to us as at

bayviewcaravanownersassociation@yahoo.co.uk

We also hope that our continued reasonable tone when communicating with Darwin will help them to see that we can do business together.

AND FINALLY

With new management on board, we are hopeful that relations at SBV will improve. It is up to each of us to raise any matters that concern us or ideas and suggestions with SBV management in a polite and reasonable way, as usual. With a new manager we hope that we too can bring a new approach without blaming her for the poor management of the past. We assume she will adopt good and best practice.

We will be arranging the next meeting probably in April 2013 when the weather is getting better. We will let you know the date and venue in due course.

Phil Davey	No 212	- Chairman	07901 586 189
Richard Edwards	No 66	- Vice Chairman	07717 682 323
Andrew Scudamore	No 18	- Secretary	07855 217 866
Marjorie Edwards	No 66	- Asst. Secretary/Membership	07717 682 323
Phebe Tiney	No 132	- Treasurer	07525 006 139
Rosemary Burbridge	No 311	- Liaison Officer	07961 034 473

Cc Park Manager: Reception: NACO : DTS