



**Dawncliffe Residents
Association
(including Wishing Well area)
Newsletter – August 2009**

This newsletter comes to you from your committee of nine volunteers who meet monthly to wrestle with security in our area. We serve you, all the residents on this area which comprise 500 households of which 239 contribute to the 'hut scheme'. We know that the scheme delivers valuable results as shown in the stats published on the website, but it takes some effort on our part and the part of Coin management, to maintain a reasonable standard of surveillance. Instead of sitting back and blaming somebody else we, you and I, have chosen to take back control of our situation as best we can.

With an eye on taking responsibility for our area we are exploring the concept of a UIP for our area. Briefly, a UIP (Urban Improvement Precinct) is a "local management structure for specific strategic precincts in which property owners and investors participate". It is aimed at improving the living environment for residents. There is an existing such Precinct operating in Jacobs and one in Southbroom (see www.southbroom.org). Once the UIP is recognised by the authorities supplementary rates over and above the municipal rates, are used for services, resources and improvements which will benefit the area exclusively. These supplementary rates are collected by the municipality with the normal monthly rates bill and then paid over to the UIP (usually a Section 21 Company) who control the use of those funds. To have such a UIP registered it has to be supported by at least 66% in number and value of properties, representing not less than 200 properties and with a cumulative rateable value of not less than R100m.

Back to some planning closer to home. The committee is considering running a community Beerfest in October in our area. The previous community function in 2008 was held at the Barnyard Theatre but we are hoping that this Beerfest will be held within the community and become a community building event. If it happens look out for more information on the website and on the huts.

Make use of the website – it is intended for you. If you wish to ask questions, advise or comment you should do so by sending an email to the address on the website. We need feedback to know if we are doing the right things so we appreciate your constructive input. Everybody in the area who has given us their email address gets advised by email of criminal activity in the area. If you do not receive such emails then get onto the website (www.dawncliffe.com) and send the committee your email address. Nikki does a great job of keeping the website going and she too would appreciate constructive comment to aid her in providing a better service to you. The committee continues to wrestle with the concept of limiting it's web users to contributors. Is it not time to open the member's section of the website to everybody? Wouldn't we achieve greater security awareness and stronger community bonds?

We would like to expand the website to include a directory of services and products available within the community. Services or products like B&B's, homemade confectionery, baby or house sitting, lift sharing, student study groups, pet walking, young mothers groups, community social worker (there is one, you know), items no longer needed but which someone else could use, etc. If you like the idea drop us a line on the website and tell us what you have to offer.

DRA committee
www.dawncliffe.com

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