

ROMAN PARK MANAGEMENT LIMITED  
NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2023

#### FIREWORKS

The Trustees are looking forward to the usual full programme of fireworks set for Saturday 4th November

This ever-popular event takes place at 6.30 pm in the park immediately in front of the Club building. We are grateful to the substantial grant from Stantonbury Parish Council without whose help we wouldn't be able to stage the event.

The car park will be closed to parking for the whole day. If you have a Blue Badge and would like to use our car park for the event, please contact [admin@romanpark.co.uk](mailto:admin@romanpark.co.uk) and a space can be booked for you.

The Café and Bar will be open to all – we have applied for a special licence for non Club Members to use our facilities. The café will be open from 5.00 to 7.30 providing Burgers, Hot Dogs, Rolls and Chips.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Both the Trustees and the Residents Committee have had their AGMs.

At the Trustees meeting the plot holders voted to keep Sky and BT TV in the bar area. The meeting received a shock report of the future of the Club which has been facing rising costs and falling revenue for a number of years. A working party has been set up to explore a range of options including leasing the licensed area to a private company. This would need much research and would take some considerable time before a suitable candidate could be found and in situ. The meeting learned that in order to continue, losing money as we are now, could mean an increase in Equal Contributions to around £400.

Since then, the Trustees have been considering all options including for the near future ie January 2024. We are now looking at maintaining an open premises run by a Manager. The Residents Club Constitution dictates that the Manager is the license holder and, therefore, a manager will be essential to keep the license, and for maintenance and upkeep.

Draught beer needs approximately 70 KWh of electricity per day to run the coolers so we propose to serve only bottled drinks. This would also be less wasteful in terms of stock. The bar and café will open to meet perceived demand which will vary. While we would have assistant staff, we have a lone working policy which means we would need to call upon the community to provide volunteers to help run the facilities, maybe alongside paid employees. For big sporting events ie Football, Rugby etc it is felt Members would volunteer to come forward. Doing this could also help to restore some community spirit with other groups coming forward to organise their own interests. Existing functions such as Bingo and Quiz nights would continue along with members' and non-members' hirings of the hall etc. We are speaking to the Licensing officer to ask about extending the number of TENs licenses each year. As long as the front door is open the Club will be open to bona fide members for their own purposes – conversation / pool / games etc.

If we adopt this plan, the EC would be in the order of £220 instead of the close to £400 if we stayed as we are. Please help the Trustees make a decision by contacting [admin@romanpark.co.uk](mailto:admin@romanpark.co.uk) which option you would prefer

**A to carry on as we are with an EC of around £400, or**

**B to adapt to circumstances with an EC of around £220.**

At the Annual General Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September the then Residents Committee announced they had come to the end of their tenure and didn't wish to stand for re-election. No candidates came forward from the membership or the floor. This means we currently have no Residents Committee which also means that we have no Wine Committee. Technically, without a Wine Committee we have no licence. We need at least four members to volunteer to become Committee members of whom three will form the Wine Committee. The licensing officers have agreed we have a limited window in which to establish a Wine Committee. The Trustees are proposing a meeting shall be held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30 to elect a new Residents Club Committee.

#### ACCESS TO THE CLUB

Following advice from members the swipe card access to the Hall door has been moved to the front door. The front door will be open to non-members while the Café is open. Club members with activated cards may access the bar at any time the café is open and enter via the front door after 12.00 noon when the bar is open.

THE TRUSTEES