

THE BOOKHAMS' RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Company Limited by Guarantee - Number 10053863

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 6th June 2016 at St Nicolas Pastoral Centre at 7.30pm

Present: Michael Agius(chair), Andrew Freeman, Chris Pullan, John Allen, Tony Alsbury, Michael Anderson, Julia Dickinson, Frances Fancourt, Keith Francis, John Howarth, Les Huett, Margaret Lawson, Stan Miles, Ray Pritchard, Nick Forrer (Minutes),

Invited Councillors; Cllr. Clare Curran, Cllr. Metin Huseyin,

Ordinary Members; Laura Thomas

Apologies: Peter Seaward, David Cox OBE, Arthur Field, Cllr. Lucy Botting, Cllr. John Chandler, Cllr. Simon Edge,

1 Chrystie Recreation Ground

- 1.1 PCSO Jessica Door¹ joined us for the discussion on the issues at the Chrystie Recreation Ground and the Club House situated on it. The Police are aware of the drug dealing in the car-park there and they were able to make a successful arrest there recently. If there are further problems at the site, such as youngsters with catapults, this should be reported to the Police, either through 101 or 999. The location has been flagged so that the appropriate resources can attend. She also reported that the Police are doing a regular "drive by" as it is a "location of interest".

There is meeting on site at 10:00 am on Wednesday 8th June to look at options to make better use of the site and improve facilities. If the site was used more, then the likelihood of problems and vandalism will be much curtailed.

Frances Fancourt has been working on proposed improvements to Chrystie Recreation ground. These are the planting of trees and shrubs with the additions of posts and benches plus the relocation of a concrete bench. These have been passed to MVDC for consideration and if agreed to use Bookham PIC² funds for implementation. The estimate cost is some £2,000.

Action: Frances Fancourt

2 Minutes

- 2.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record.

¹ She is part of the local policing team for North Leatherhead.

² Planning Infrastructure Contributions

3 Matters Arising

- 3.1 2nd January item 3.1.3 Completion of the **Business Maps** showing the business premises with their name and trade indexed against their location in Bookham. On completion Squiggle will print the map which then can be displayed on a Notice Board in Lower Road Car Park. A licence for this noticeboard has been granted by MVDC. The approval for the finances will be delegated to the Treasurer in consultation with Nick Forrer.

Nick Forrer reported that a start had been made and it was hoped to complete the Business Map by the next meeting. Carried forward.

Action: Nick Forrer

- 3.2 1st June item 11.2.2 **Grass Verges:** Michael Agius will be investigating the provision of wooden posts on the Grass Verges in Eastwick Park Avenue. This is to discourage parking on those verges. Michael Agius has contacted Paul Anderson to discuss this. Surrey County Council has yet to agree to the work being done. Also discussed was the effectiveness of the verge cutting. Carried forward.

John Allen also said that the verge cutting in Eastwick Park Avenue outside his house was poorly done and needed rectification. Michael Agius will raise this with Paul Anderson (MVDC) and co-ordinate with Cllr. Lucy Botting.

Action: Michael Agius & Cllr.
Lucy Botting

- 3.3 1st June item 11.2.3 **Bookham Signage:** Michael Agius reported all new signs have been installed and look very smart. The Committee thanked him for his hard work on completing this activity.

- 3.4 5th October item 2.1.5 **Councillors' Responsibilities.** With the constraints in budget there needs to be better insight as to what the councillors' responsibilities are at each level of government. There is much confusion as to which does what functions between District and County. Cllr. Lucy Botting will consider what can be done to publicise the distinctions between them. Cllr. Lucy Botting was able to report that the Councillors will be agreeing at their next meeting on the 26th May on their respective responsibilities. They are also considering a rota for reporting back to the BRA. They will be contacting the BRA Chairman to discuss further.

Action: Cllr. Lucy Botting

- 3.5 2nd November item 0.2 - **Parking Update.** David Smith raised the issue of Trader Parking Permits, as the take-up of these is quite low. This is due to the cost being £150 and as the permit doesn't guarantee the trader a parking space. Perhaps having dedicated trader permit holder spaces might be a better approach. In general people resent having to pay for a parking space. Taking all of this in context if street parking is available for free why might you want to pay? Cllr. John Chandler will review the Parking Policy. Take-up has remained low. Still under review.

Cllr. Clare Curran pointed out that when she used the Car Park there always seemed to be spaces available. She did feel it should be possible to resolve somehow.

Action: Cllr. John Chandler

- 3.6 Further to the discussion at the December 2015 meeting on the Police who are going through an extensive restructuring. We should discuss this further with the Temporary Chief Constable Nick Ephgrave and PCSO Marion Hawkins. On the issue of youths using catapults and causing damage, the Police are aware and are dealing with it. Both issues are ongoing. If and when there is something to discuss then we should consider inviting the Police Commissioner.

Action: Michael Anderson & Keith Francis

- 3.7 7th March item 3.1 **Memorial Bench**. The ordering and installation of the bench from the donations at the funeral for Charles James Finch has been passed to Nick Forrer and then arranging with the Projects Manager for the installation. Michael Anderson suggested that we might be able to obtain a better value for a bench from Norbury Park Wood Products. An estimate had been made of the total cost from both sources. The Streetmaster bench (used by the Council when needing street furniture) was cheaper than the Norbury Park Wood Products. The total cost is expected to be near £1,000 when including installation, fittings, carriage and VAT.

It was agreed that the BRA would make a contribution towards the total cost but Cllr. Clare Curran suggested that we should seek funding from the PIC (Planning Infrastructure Contributions) to make up the difference. Michael Agius will provide an example form.

Action: Nick Forrer

- 3.8 9th May 2016 item 6.1 **Speed Cameras**. The whereabouts of the two speed cameras, that we helped to fund, need to be discussed with the local Police Inspector. Even if we can't download the pictures that it takes from them it still acts as a deterrent and we don't want to lose sight of where they are. Andrew Freeman will discuss with Inspector Richard Hamlin.

Action: Andrew Freeman

- 3.9 There were no other matters arising that were not elsewhere on the agenda.

4 Correspondence

- 4.1 **Rectory Lane**. There has been discussion in the past, to widen the lane and have a footpath all the way along. To achieve this would require compulsory purchase orders to obtain the necessary land for the expansion. This would require funding. One possible route to finding the funding is development of the former Chalkpit depot. There are some improvements to the pavement at the northern end of Rectory Lane due to the care home development.

- 4.2 **Donkey Derby**. There has been a request for a donation for this event on 4th September. Last year we gave £125 To be discussed at the next meeting.

Action: Carried forward

- 4.3 There was no other correspondence to discuss.

5 Village Day

- 5.1 **Bookstall.** We are looking for volunteers to collect books the evening before and deliver them in the morning, help on the bookstall on the day (Saturday 18th June) in 2 hour slots and finally return any books left to Tony Alsbury.

All are encouraged to go to the Old Barn Hall to see the stalls and all the local school children dressing up for the parade.

6 Company Limited by Guarantee.

Our public liability insurance has been updated to reflect our new status as a company.

Registration with HMRC has been completed for Corporation Tax. It is not expected that we will need to pay any tax.

MVDC and Surrey County Council have nominated Cllr. Simon Edge and Cllr. Clare Curran to be directors on our board.

7 Sub-Group Updates

- 7.1 **Finance:** The membership subscriptions stand at £2,000 to £3,000. Still more to collect.

7.2 Planning

- 7.2.1 **Planning Committee.** With the need to have more housing there is pressure on the Green Belt which impacts on the Local Plan. There also a desire to better understand affordability and how it is calculated and how it should be. The Planning Committee will invite Jack Straw, MVDC Corporate Head of Service, to a meeting to discuss.

- 7.2.2 **Planning Applications:** These had been reviewed and the views summarised in their Minutes³.

7.3 Environment

- 7.3.1 **Litter Pick:** On the last litter pick 7 sacks have been collected. Margaret Lawson was hoping they were going to supply two types of sack so that recyclables could be separated from rubbish. The litter picks are the first Sunday of each month at 11:00 am in the Lower Shott car park.

- 7.3.2 **Trees:** Various maintenance work is being put aside for David Belsham to complete. An application for funding for this year's tree maintenance has been submitted.

- 7.3.3 **Roads:** The High Street will be resurfaced shortly with a road table and narrowing at that point to help in crossing safely. Eastwick Road is next with minor repairs to the surface. In Little Bookham Street, Surrey Water and Surrey Highways have found a collapsed drain which helps to explain the excess surface water when raining.

³ Also published Bookhams Residents website. <http://bookhamresidents.co.uk/latest-news/planning-sub-committee/>

- 7.3.4 **Alabama Rot:** Is a disease that affects dogs caused by damage to the blood vessels of the skin and kidney. Michael Andersen mentioned in connection of Norbury Park.
- 7.3.5 **Food Waste:** The types of bags that can be used for food waste has been extended to plastic liners or food bags. Compostable liners can still be used.

7.4 **Communication and Membership**

- 7.4.1 **Leaflets:** Any spare BRA summary leaflets should be taken to the Village Day bookstall for distribution with the books.

Action: Nick Forrer

- 7.4.2 **Facebook.** Les Huett mentioned that a Facebook page has been setup for the BRA.

7.5 **Business Group**

- 7.5.1 **Leatherhead Transform.** The amount of revised and additional retail space in Leatherhead is likely to have impact of the Bookham retail space. We will need to consider how best to support our local shops.

8 Projects Update

- 8.1 Community Pride & Lengthsman scheme Michael Agius
Pending
- 8.2 BRA High Street awareness campaign Phil Harris and Arthur Field
There is a need for more volunteers and the occasional Councillor to support this key activity.
- 8.3 War Memorial Peter Seaward

The letters seem to erode after 7 years and need to be redone. There needs to be a review of the integrity of the monument. Another quote is being obtained for the lettering.
- 8.4 Trees 2016 schedule Frances Fancourt
Frances Fancourt has drawn up a schedule of tree activities coupled with planned tree maintenance activities.
- 8.5 Bookham Business Map Nick Forrer & Ray Pritchard
- 8.6 New Notice Board Lower Road Car Park Nick Forrer
- 8.7 3rd CCTV Michael Anderson & Keith Francis

This will require some £4500 for purchase and subsequent installation. This may be available through the Police Commissioner's Budget.
- 8.8 Electronic Sign Peter Seaward
It may be possible to fix it to the Notice Board in Lower Road Car Park
- 8.9 Xmas lights BRABA
This activity should be passed to the Bookham Retail and Business Association for them to decide what to do. The BRA may be able to help with the financing of the

light sockets on lampposts. With escalating cuts and diminishing grants it is imperative we look at alternatives. Carried forward.

8.10 Bench renovation outside St Nicolas (Lower Road North side)
An update will be available at the next meeting. Andrew Freeman

8.11 Lower Shott Memorial Bench Nick Forrer

It was suggested to make an application for PIC funds to help in the purchase and installation.

9 Any Other Business

9.1 **Bookham Library.** The hours of opening and closing are likely to change in September in all libraries in Surrey.

10 Next BRA Meeting: Monday 4th July 2016 at 7:30pm.