

THE BOOKHAMS' RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 1st June 2015 at St Nicolas Pastoral Centre at 7.45pm

Present: Michael Agius(chair), Chris Pullan, John Allen, Michael Anderson, Julia Dickinson, Frances Fancourt, Arthur Field, Keith Francis, Michelle Hudspith, Les Huett, Stan Miles, Ray Pritchard, Jim Smith OBE, Nick Forrer (Minutes),

Invited Councillors; Cllr. Lucy Botting, Cllr. Clare Curran,

Co-opted and Honorary Members; John Howarth

Ordinary Members; Tony Alsburg.

1 Apologies:

Peter Seaward, Andrew Freeman, David Cox OBE, Elizabeth Hudson, David Smith, Cllr. Stella Brooks, Cllr. John Chandler, Cllr. Paul Newman and Cllr. Jatin Patel.

2 Minutes

- 2.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record, subject to a correction to 3.1,

3 Matters Arising

3.1 Previous Actions

- 3.1.1 2nd January item 3.1.3 Completion of the **Business Maps** index showing the business premises with their name and trade indexed against their location in Bookham. Once completed Squiggle will print the map which then can be displayed on a new Notice Board in Lower Road Car Park. This will require a licence from MVDC. Subsequently it was determined that planning permission is no longer required. The approval for the money to support this activity will be delegated to the Treasurer in consultation with the Actioner. Once licenced the project manager for the installation of the Notice Board will be Arthur Field.

There was dismay that it taken such a long time.

Action: Nick Forrer

- 3.1.2 6th October item 6. BRA Survey/Questionnaire. A small working sub-group to be formed with the involvement of Nick Forrer, Ray Pritchard, David Cox, Les Huett and Cllr Clare Curran.

Action: Nick Forrer with Ray Pritchard

As part of the survey we need to make sure we provide information on the different organisations that are part of Bookham. Otherwise the answers to the survey will not be properly informed. We also need to make sure that we use all the communication channels available to inform the local residents of what we all do.

- 3.1.3 11th May item 6 Planning: MVDC Local Plan/The Howard of Effingham. Further details of the Community Infrastructure Levy will be provided at a later date.

Action: c/f P Seaward & M Agius

- 3.1.4 11th May item 8.2 Car Parking. The fees for parking at the Lower Shott car park were also raised. The suggestion is to have two rates, one for the morning and the other for the afternoon, with the first 30 minutes of both being free. A letter to be drafted.

Action: c/f P Seaward

- 3.1.5 11th May Kebab Shop. The signage and whether appropriate in a conservation area is to be decided by MVDC.

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

4 Correspondence

- 4.1 We received an email of the pending retirement of Brown Owl, who had been leading one of the Brownies Group in Bookham for many years. This was duly noted.

- 4.2 The daughter of Charles James Finch told us that her father had passed away recently and in his Will stipulated that at his funeral, if people like to make a donation it was to go to the BRA. This was a wonderful gesture of his and the committee is very grateful.

There was no other correspondence to discuss.

5 Bookstall and BRA Stand

Tony Alsburg gave an update on the bookstall, which the committee was very grateful that he was organising for Bookham Village Day on the 20th June.

There would be a BRA Stand next to the bookstall to give further information about what we do. Two volunteers would be required to look after this stand.

6 Village Quiz Night

This will be held on Tuesday 23rd June. Any help would be gratefully received

7 AGM – Lessons Learnt

There are a number of lessons that can be taken away from the AGM. Residents want to listen but we need to find suitable topics to fully engage them. The residents need to know what subjects they will hear about if they come. What we are looking for are some burning issues.

The seating format will also need to be looked at, but using circular tables is not the answer to improving the engagement of the audience.

One thing not done was to ask for some new volunteers so as to have new blood on the committee.

8 **BRA Survey**

See item. 3.1.2.

9 **Community Council update**

The key to the decision is to make sure that the local residents are aware of the different choices and the implications of each. A key issue can be a significant game changer. For example the supermarket going to Lower Shott fired up local people to oppose.

It could be argued that as public money is going towards making the case for a Community Council then this could be considered somewhat unfair. However this is to current situation so instead we should take full advantage of using the local media (Look Local) and social media (Street Life) to put forward different views. Circulating different views should be shared between the BRA, BCA and Churches Together.

The decision on a Community Council boils down to whether should go for the status quo or is it necessary.

An article to be written for Look Local.

Action: Les Huett

10 **Company Limited by Guarantee Update**

The company would have Board Members and also have Executive Members. You may want to have no councillors on the board but on the other hand you can ask the District and County Councils to decide which councillors to appoint to these positions.

11 **Sub-Group Updates**

11.1 **Planning**

The minutes of the planning committee of 21st May were discussed. Item 5. 15/0629 the telecommunication masts, on Guildford Road will be approved next month. There was an update on item 8 Moonlyt Garage.

11.2 **Environment**

11.2.1 **Tree Planting:** Frances Fancourt gave an update on tree planting and hoped to plant a young oak which will eventually be a successor to the big oak which has suffered fire and other damage. This could be planted in memory of Brenda De Bruin, pending approval of Mole Valley District Council.

11.2.2 **Grass Verges:** Michael Agius would chasing up the cutting off grass verges in Eastwick Park Avenue.

Action: Michael Agius

- 11.2.3 **Bookham Signage:** The two signs at each end of the village on the A246 will need to be replaced at some time as the wooden frame is getting rotten and the surface of the sign is showing some distress. It would be good to be able to personalise the signs by putting some picture that is typically of Bookham.

Action: NOT sure??

- 11.2.4 **Parking at the Howard of Effingham:** The overgrown footpaths outside the school have been cleared of brambles recently but further work needs to be done. More of a problem is the parking on the bend, so that as you go west from the Vineries, if cars are parked on the bend it's quite difficult to see round the corner for oncoming traffic. Although there is hatching on the bend this seems to be ignored by a number of parked cars. One answer would be to have yellow lines but this would need to be agreed by the Effingham Parish Council, which once agreed would have to be authorised by Guildford Borough Council committee. This will take some time.

11.3 **Health:**

The local Community Hospitals are working closely with Surrey Downs Clinical Commissioning Group.

12 **Annual Objectives**

- 12.1 **Joint Working:** There will be an informal meeting sometime in October.

13 **Any Other Business**

- 13.1 **BRA Committee Members Directory:** This had been updated recently and circulated.

14 **Next BRA Meeting:** Monday 6th July 2015