

THE BOOKHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 8th April 2013 at
St Nicolas Pastoral Centre at 7.45pm

Present: Peter Seaward (Chair), Chris Pullan, Michael Anderson, Andy Freeman, John Allen, James Smith, Stan Miles, Michael Agius, Cllr Phil Harris, Cllr Clare Curran, David Smith, Michelle Hudspith, Cllr Tessa Hurworth, Elizabeth Hudson, Cllr Stella Brooks, Frances Fancourt

1. Apologies: Chris Boughey, Lin Hulford, Grant Woodham, Cllr. Paul Newman, Alec Garnham, Ray Pritchard, Judith Walker, Cllr John Chandler, John Howarth, Les Huett, David Cox.

2. Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record subject to a correction re. Ken Don's name was spelt incorrectly and under correspondence the ambulance service referred to was the red Cross ambulance service.

3. Matters Arising:

3.1 Meeting Place: Elizabeth Hudson reported that the plans for Meeting Place was wider than stated in the minutes and said that it is aiming to become a charity with trustees, etc. which opens up the opportunity to increase funding, etc. and they are well on the way to attaining the required £5k to proceed. Plans are to open approx. 3 times a week offering an informal pub-style environment and offer a wide range of services, e.g. visiting police, CAB, councillors, benefits advice, etc. plus some education services. Premises is still being sought. Michael Anderson proposed tha a donation of £500 be made. This was agreed subject to clarity on the size of venue being sought and the range of services to be provided.

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

4. Correspondence

4.1 **Last Post:** An email had been received from Philip Bishop to play the Last Post at Remembrance Day this year. It was noted that Claire Hueth had also offered but was unable to last year due to other commitments. **Action: AF to email Pat Morrish re. these offers of help.**

4.2 **Flooding:** John Sage had reported flooding at Eastwick due to eh absence of a soak-away. Michael Agius agreed to look into the matter.

5. Community Council

5.1 After a brief discussion it was agreed not to proceed at present until the Neighbourhood Plan had been completed and the reaction of residents to that.

6. AGM

6.1 It was agreed that the names of the committee members willing and wishing to stand again would be read out so that attendees know who they are re-electing. Everyone present was willing to have their names put forward again next year. **Action: AF to email absentee members to ask if they are willing to stand again.**

6.2 Other arrangements are going to plan, e.g. printing of minutes, accounts, etc. It was noted that Michael Agius would be standing in for John Allen as he won't be able to attend.

6.3 Chris Pullan gave a quick synopsis of the accounts and is prepared to answer any questions as to why some budget lines were either above or below budget, e.g. donations received for the Christmas lights fund.

7. Sub-Group Update

7.1 **Health:** Stan reported that there is a Best Services Best Value (BSBV) meeting this coming Friday and asked if anyone was willing to attend and if so, to contact him. It now looks likely that a decision will be made in early Summer but this was down to the CCG to decide.

7.2 Stan also said there were some uncertainties about the new commissioning arrangements, e.g. who the public should contact if they have any queries and patient choice, etc.

7.3 Environment:

- **Bus Stop:** Phil Harris reported that the damaged bus stop had now been repaired although the one at the top of the High Street was now damaged!
- **Railings:** Phil had met with John Hensch re. the damage to the railings at the top of the High Street, thought to be done by vandals. SCC is aware and will be addressed through LIMBRA.
- **Jubilicity:** This is a follow-on event from the Jubilee celebrations and to repeat the family day out at Polesden Lacey with fireworks, etc. The event will be held on 6th July between 5.00pm and 10.00pm.
- **Graffiti:** There had been a few instances of graffiti using a "zone" tag, e.g. at SPACE.
- **High Street Cleaning:** It was generally felt that the High Street wasn't looking at its best due to lack of cleaning. Action: Clare Curran to email MVDC. This was also an issue in other places, e.g. Proctor Gardens, where the "hit squad" could be used.
- **High Street Camera:** A meeting had been held with police, MVDC and councillors re. the need for a camera at the top of the High Street. Michelle stated that a number of traders feels that it's too difficult to report crime.
- **Electronic Display:** Funding was still needed - £6k in total. The BRA had donated £500 as had BV and the BCA.
- **Trees:** Frances reported that one of the trees at the top of the High Street needs cutting back as it partially obscures the existing CCTV camera. She also reported that trees had been planted in Fetcham but had been put on hold in Bookham as the planting season had been missed due to not receiving permission in time.
- **Felled High Street Tree Stump;** It was suggested that the stump could be made into a planter and look rather attractive.
- **Green Belt Survey:** It was reported that the BV survey on how to consult the public had been agreed and would go out to consultation next week.
- **Bookham Vision:** Michelle said that she thought that local residents doesn't really understand the purpose of BV and what it's trying to achieve and suggested that the communications strategy should be looked at again, including the use of jargon.

- **Bookham Local:** It was also suggested that the public didn't understand the difference between the BRA, BCA and BV and that an article in Look Local might help explain.

7.4 **Planning:** Stan Miles reported that the sub-committee had considered 20 applications and had sent one letter of representation in respect to 67 Keswick Road. Regarding the 66 The Park application, the minutes stated that a letter would be sent although this decision was later rescinded.

7.5 **Co-Op:** Regarding the Co-Op it was noticed that external shutters had been erected which could be in violation to the planning laws and may not have applied for planning permission. Action: Stan to contact MVDC's planning department to investigate.

8. Village Jubilee Sign:

8.1 Agreement had now been received from all parties except for a late issue re. SCC seeking indemnity against any claims whilst the work is being carried out. This can be agreed therefore the sign should now progress.

9. Annual Objectives 2013/14

9.1 Deferred but agreed to have as a high priority for the next meeting

10. Any Other Business

10.1 There were a number of items as follows:

- **Lower Road Crossing:** It was noted that construction was now underway.
- **Bookham Maps:** Phil said these information maps was work in progress.
- **Notice Boards:** MVDC is finding it problematic to re-locate the notice board to the Lower Road car park. Action: Phil to obtain a quote.
- **Shop Wraps:** Phil also said that wraps might be put in the window of the vacant newsagents in Lower Shott, the charity shop in the High Street, possibly funded by MVDC and BRABA.
- **Footpath Sign:** The sign near White's Garage had disappeared.
- **Parking Fees:** Clare reported that the increase in charges to the Lower Road car park had been made in error in that it shouldn't have gone up to 60p and that a 30p half hour charge should apply. She also said fees at the Lower Shott car park would be introduced on the 1st August.
- **Edenside:** Tessa reported that planning permission had now been approved to demolish some garages and Douglas House and replace with housing. Whiteway had also been agreed and the Middlemead application may go to Committee in July.
- **Newsletter:** Feedback on the colour version was very positive and therefore agreed that future additions should also be in colour. Thanks were expressed to les for his efforts.
- **Website:** David Stoves keeps the website updated and has recently made significant changes to improve it. It was agreed to thank David for his efforts and to increase his honorarium to £50 as recognition of his additional works.

11. **Next Meeting:** 7.45pm on Monday 13th May 2013