

# THE BOOKHAMS' RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2014 at  
St Nicolas Pastoral Centre at 7.45pm

**Present:** Peter Seaward (chair), Michael Agius, Michael Anderson, John Allen, Chris Pullan, Les Huett, David Smith, Michelle Hudspith, Jim Smith, Stan Miles, John Howarth, Nicholas Forrer, Cllr. Phil Harris, Cllr. Clare Curran Andrew Freeman, David Cox, Cllr. Tessa Hurworth, Frances Fancourt,

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1. **Apologies:** Ray Pritchard, Lin Hulford, Cllr. Stella Brooks, Elizabeth Hudson, Cllr. John Chandler

## 2. Minutes

2.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record, subject to a correction to 5.5 Communications as submitted by Nicola Reid in that there is no link to Streetlife from the Bookham Village website although there is via the BRA's website.

## 3. Matters Arising

3.1 There were no matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda.

## 4. Correspondence

4.1 A letter had been received from Simon Ling, Leader of the Ashted Independents asking whether the BRA would consider supporting an independent candidate in local elections. After some discussion it was agreed that the BRA wouldn't do so as the current arrangements and relationships is working well.

## 5. Sub Group Updates

### 5.1 Planning

**Housing and Traveller Sites Plan:** Stan Miles explained the Planning Committee's suggested approach to MVDC's consultation on the Housing and Traveller Sites Plan which is to outline the principles which the BRA feels should be used if development on the green belt is to be undertaken.

It was noted that any developments of 3 hectares and above would include 4 traveller pitches.

Through Bookham Vanguard it would be possible to determine the housing mix required and to ensure the infrastructure needed is also addressed.

Clare Curran suggested some additions such as being clearer as to merging of villages meant, e.g. Little and Great Bookhams or Bookham and Effingham,

There are two drop-in sessions to be held in Bookham. The BRA will also produce an article for Look Local and send an email to our distribution list.

**Planning Applications:** Stan reported that one letter of representation had been sent regarding one application, namely the erection of a detached dwelling at the rear of 2 Griffin Way.

## 5.2 **Environment**

**Flood Forum:** Michael Agius will be attending the forum next week and will report back at the next meeting.

## 5.3 **Bookham Retail and Business Association**

David Smith reported that Patrick Gardner Estate Agents is moving to the former HSBC site and hopefully a deal to maintain the ATM can be agreed shortly.

Re. Lower Shott, there had been a positive meeting involving local traders to discuss re-development opportunities. There have been no developments regarding the car park.

Finally, it was noted that there are just two vacant shops in Bookham.

5.4 **Finance:** Chris Pullan said the year end was in September and expects the accounts to show a surplus for the year of £481 compared with £778 last year.

5.5 **Health:** Fairfield Medical Centre's Patient Participation Group's AGM is to be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> March.

5.6 **Education:** David Cox explained about the school performance report appended to the agenda. It was noted that the secondary schools were performing above the Surrey LEA average. The results for Eastwick junior school fell short of the Surrey average whilst Dawnay junior school was marginally higher. Clare Curran reported that the SCC target was for all schools to be rated good or better. Unfortunately, at the moment, the primary schools in Bookham had disappointing results.

## 6. **Annual Objectives**

6.1 **Joint Working:** Michael Anderson reported that the second meeting of the group would be held on 12<sup>th</sup> March and will feedback at the next meeting.

6.2 **Schools/Youth:** David Cox reported that SPACE is being well used and booking for the sports area is increasing.

6.3 **Business/Tourism:** It was noted that the business map is nearing completion and should be ready soon. Re. the electronic sign, a new location is now needed but it was agreed that this should be progressed despite the cost increasing to circa £6k.

## 7. Any Other Business

- 7.1 **CCTV:** Funding now available for three cameras although sites and permissions are needed. One site house a server to record and send images to the Reigate centre.
- 7.2 **Wardens Cottage:** It was noted that the cottage would be retained in its current use until 2017. There is a covenant on it to restrict future use for agricultural use and perhaps the Surrey Wild Life Trust might potentially be interested.
- 7.3 **Trees:** Frances reported that 15 trees will be planted this year with 2 planted so far (Lower Road and Kennel Lane). It was agreed that this year's contribution of £200 should be released.

David Cox reported that a tree opposite the Anchor public house was removed within 24 hours after it was reported as being a danger. Clare added that SCC is looking at trees, in priority order, on school sites, A roads and then other priority areas.

- 7.4 **Newsletter:** Les asked for all articles to be sent to him by the 27<sup>th</sup> February at the latest.
- 7.5 **Salt:** Clare reported that salt could be given to individuals free of charge on the understanding that they took responsibility for a particular area. Nominations / volunteers to Clare.
- 7.6 **Notice Boards:** It was noted that the Barn Hall notice board needs to be relocated at a cost of £159.
- 7.7 **Railings:** Phil reported that the railings at the top of the High Street will be rearranged so that the damaged ones would be removed and a couple at the end would be removed to replace them. The damaged railings will be returned to SCC and hopefully repaired and replaced at some point.

## 8. Next BRA Meeting: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014