

THE BOOKHAMS' RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 1st July 2013 at St Nicolas Pastoral Centre at 7.45pm

Present: Peter Seaward (chair), Michael Agius, Michael Anderson, Andy Freeman, John Allen, Jim Smith, Stan Miles, Chris Pullan, Cllr Clare Curran, David Smith, Michelle Hudspith, Elizabeth Hudson, David Ashby, Chris Boughey, Ray Pritchard, Cllr Tessa Hurworth, Les Huett, Alec Garnham, Helen Adcock and two colleagues from Code Development Planners representing Thakenham Homes

Police Forum

PC John Hench and PCSO Marion Hawkins were in attendance. Reported crimes for May and June were 17 and 27 respectively.

Regarding the VAS signs, John to ask Tom Arthur to give Peter Seaward an update on the two signs which have been ordered but are still awaited. Re. the Neighbourhood Watch scheme, this is currently being re-vamped. Finally, it was noted that the Police and Crime Commissioner, Kevin Hurley, wishes to establish Local Policing Boards and Inspector Andy Rundle will be attending the BRA meeting on the 2nd September to advance this.

1. **Apologies:** Lin Hulford, Grant Woodham, Judith Walker, Cllr John Chandler, John Howarth, Cllr Stella Brooks, David Cox, Cllr Phil Harris, Frances Fancourt

2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 **HSBC:** Peter Seaward, David Smith and Phil Harris met with representatives of the bank and were disappointed with the outcome as it seem the decision to close the branch has already been taken. A request to retain the ATM was made but the feeling was that this would be unlikely. Clare Curran and Peter Seaward were urged to write to the Communities Minister to complain. On the positive side the Lloyds bank had now increased their opening hours.

4. Correspondence

4.1 A letter had been received from Stephen Lloyd regarding the future of the Leatherhead & District Countryside Protection Society which is at risk of folding due to the lack of active members and other organisations fulfilling it role in part. It was noted that over the years this organisation had made significant contributions locally and that its loss would be keenly felt. The organisation is meeting on the 24th July at which a decision would be made.

4.2 Polesden Lacey are putting on some Shakespeare plays and wanted to know where they could put up a banner to advertise. A number of suggestions were made. AF to reply.

4.3 Contacts had also been made regarding the Jubilocity event which will be held on 6th July at Polesden Lacey. Flyers are available.

4.4 Bookham Vanguard had been in contact regarding their need for some notice boards and asked the BRA if it would purchase some and then loan them out to various organisations, etc. as required. BCA would house them. Agreed that £300 would be provided to purchase them.

5. Annual Objectives

5.1 **Email Distribution List:** It was suggested that Woodlands Road RA might be willing to share its distributions list as perhaps would Bookham Vanguard. Action: Andy to liaise with Paul Overell and Catherine Hossack respectively. Clare suggested using Mail Chimp – Andy to find out more. Les Huett and David Stoves will be looking to link BRA website with the Bookham Village website and vice versa.

5.2 **Joint Working:** Peter Seaward agreed to be the lead person and sees joint working with other local organisations as a precursor to perhaps establishing a community council.

5.3 **Grant Applications:** Regarding the Christmas lights it was noted that the MVDC grant of £700 had now expired and John Allen agreed to re-apply.

5.4 Monies had also been received from SCC highways for footpath maintenance, etc. although this came with a number of caveats which are important to understand. Michael Agius to liaise with David Belsham as the contractor to ensure these caveats are understood.

5.5 **Schools/Youth:** The meeting between David Cox, Peter Seaward and Michael Agius to discuss this objective has yet to take place. It was agreed to try and get David Ashby involved and Michael Anderson will liaise with him. It was thought that it would be good to try and engage young mums via PTAs and other groups.

5.6 **Tourism Guide:** Michael Anderson will be meeting with Poleston Lacey as there would be mutual benefits in working together. It was also reported that the “business maps” was progressing well.

6. Village Sign

6.1 Peter Seaward announced that the sign had now been ordered.

7. Sub-Group Updates

7.1 **Health** (inc. Epsom Hospital update): A decision on Epsom Hospital has been delayed until the autumn after NHS England raised some concerns. Stan Miles also stated that the Surrey Health Scrutiny Committee is meeting this week and the Better Services, Better Value was on the agenda.

7.2 Environment:

- a) **Highways:** It was reported that a consultation document would be issued regarding the High Street traffic controlling measures in October/November.
- b) **Roads:** An additional £100m had been made available over 5 years for road improvements which should enable some local roads to be improved, e.g. Dowlans Road.
- c) **Rectory lane:** The road widening and footpath is currently scheduled for 2014/15.

- d) **Chalk Pit Lane Depot:** It was thought that a caravan might have appeared together with some business signs.
- e) **Double Yellow Lines:** SCC will shortly be going out to consultation re. Possible yellow lines in the following roads: Leatherhead Road/Gilmais, The Spinney/Eastwick Road, Eastwick Park Avenue/Lower Road/Eastwick Road, The Street/East Street/Guildford, Road/Leatherhead Road/Lower Road, Lower Shott/Dorking Road, Post House Lane, Mill Close/Church Road, Little Bookham Street/Merrylands Road, Little Bookham Street/Lower Road, A246/ Woodlands Road
- f) **Lampposts:** Skanska have a contract to replace all lampposts over 7 years. Work on the heritage sites are not scheduled for this year.
- g) **De-Cluttering:** This work is ongoing and has a £5k budget which would include some re-locating of signs onto buildings.

7.3 **Planning:** Stan Miles reported that the Planning Sub-Committee had:

- participated in a Peer review exercise on the Council and are now awaiting the report.
- had written one letter of objection and that this application had since been refused.
- Green Belt review is being undertaken by Bookham Vanguard in Bookham and it is being investigated as to whether delegated power could be devolved to BV to ratify any decisions.

7.4 **Bookham Retail and Business Association:** David Smith gave an update as follows:

- Lower Shott: Tenants had been contacted regarding their leases.
- The pay-and-display changes will be introduced in September but there is a need to monitor the level of displacement parking

8. Any Other Business

8.1 **Graffiti:** Notes that there is graffiti outside of 288 Lower Road which will be removed shortly.

8.2 **Armed Forces Day:** Jim Smith reported that he had attended an event at Headley Court and asked whether the BRA could do more next year in support of Armed Forces Day.

8.3 **Meeting Place:** Elizabeth reported that debt counselling was now available in Bookham. Meeting Place now have trustees in place but are still looking for a suitable venue.

8.4 **Cycle Races:** There are two planned races as follows:

- Ride London on the 4th August which will have 17k participants and whilst it won't be coming through Bookham, any stragglers will be diverted along the A246 as a shortcut as needed so there it is likely that diversions and road closures will occur;
- Tour of Britain on the 24th August which will go along the A246 so there will be road closures in place.

8.5 **River Mole Partnership Forum:** There are new EU directives regarding improvements in standards for rivers and there is a new forum to take this work forward. Michael Anderson and Michael Agius are representing the BRA.

8.6 **Book Stall:** John said that £1,960 had been raised. This year there were approx. 6,000 books and there is a logistics problem in moving the boxes around and wondered whether help could be got from the Howard of Effingham. To discuss with Dave Ashby.

8.7 **Friendship Tree:** John Allan reported that it would cost £444 to have the tree pollarded. The Committee agreed to donate £100 for this purpose.

9. **Next Meeting:** Monday 5th August 2013.