

# THE BOOKHAMS' RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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

**Present:** Peter Seaward (chair), Michael Agius, Ray Pritchard, Les Huett, Michelle Hudspith, David Smith, Elizabeth Hudson, John Allen, Stan Miles, Frances Fancourt, David Cox, Jim Smith, Cllr. Phil Harris, Cllr. Tessa Hurworth, Cllr. Clare Curran (part), Nick Forrer (recorder).

Prior to the Meeting there was a talk from PC John Hench and PCSO Marion Hawkins of the Mole Valley Bookham Neighbourhood Panel.

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### 1 Apologies

Chris Pullan, Andrew Freeman, Michael Anderson, John Howarth, Lin Hulford, Cllr. Stella Brooks, Cllr. John Chandler.

### 2 Minutes

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

### 3 Matters Arising

3.1 The funeral of Ted Dalley was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> March. He was a wonderful member of the BRA. We made a small donation of £20 which was agreed. There were no other matters arising that were not elsewhere on the agenda.

### 4 Correspondence

4.1 There was no correspondence to discuss further.

### 5 Sub-Group Updates

#### 5.1 Environment

**Flood Forum and Flooding:** Michal Agius reported on the impact of flooding in the local area. Sole Farm Road, at the junction of Little Bookham Street, where a drain cover was lifted. This was due to water ingress into the sewage system lifting the cover. Also significant water arising from underground springs outside Weales Stores on Little Bookham Street.

We need a better understanding of where the flows of water are. An independent study using a Hydrological Consultant might be the way to go.

At the recent Flood Forum there was a discussion on the local infrastructure and the need to invite other agencies, who support this infrastructure, to the Flood Forum to discuss their impact on this structure.

#### 5.2 Planning

**Planning Applications:** Stan Miles highlighted a few planning applications in the Minutes of the BRA Planning Committee of the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014.

**Green Belt:** BRA's written response to MVDC Green Belt Consultation for Bookham was discussed and any comments on the document to Stan Miles before the deadline. Note that the Preston Cross Hotel proposed 70 Bed Nursing Home counts as one home.

**Action:** All as required

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

Dave Smith reported that the flooding had affected local businesses but we must talk positively about the benefits of having local businesses.

The new business, at the old newsagent in Lower Road, Bookham, is welcomed in. It is an events business providing services in homes and halls for weddings, etc.

The installation of the ATM in the High Street is slipping but is expected to be ready by the end of March.

It is likely that there will be Business Rate reduction of 50% for small businesses with a low turnover, which will be much welcomed by local retailers.

5.4 **Health:** A short discussion on the 5 year strategy for Healthcare and the Clinical Commissioning group followed. The petition to save the closure of Epsom Hospital services, collected some 130,000 signatures.

5.5 **Finance:** The Income & Expenditure Account for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013 was presented on behalf of Chris Pullan.

Some £8,000 was raised to support work on the flooded footpaths.

John Allen and David Smith to meet up to discuss re-siting Christmas lights on a permanent basis.

**Action:** John Allen & David Smith

The CCTV positioning on Fairfield House so as to collect three images for onward transmission to Reigate is progressing and should be soon completed. Cllr. Phil Harris will discuss with Stella Keen of MVDC.

## 6 **Annual Objectives**

6.1 **Schools/Youth:** David Cox said that there would be a Quiz Night at the Youth Centre on the 15<sup>th</sup> March.

6.2 **Business/Tourism:** Cllr. Phil Harris reported on the moving of the BRA notice board. It would need to be a single board and a price is required so as to be able to make a decision.

**Action:** Ray Pritchard

## 7 **Any Other Business**

7.1 **Cycle Forum:** Cllr. Phil Harris reported from the Cycle Forum where a lively discussion occurred.

7.2 **Potholes:** a discussion followed on the many potholes appearing and the use of cold tar methods, rather than hot tar which would give a longer life.

- 7.3 **BRA Telephone Number:** this is for local residents to report issues of local concern. They will be able to leave a recorded message which is emailed to a BRA member and then the appropriate response composed. The cost of providing this helpful service is very reasonable.
- 7.4 **Newsletter:** this is complete and after final checking ready for circulation, printing and circulation.
- 7.5 **Vanguard Task Group:** a survey to some 561 residents had been sent out. This would be raised at the next Task Group meeting.
- 7.6 **Broken Signs:** on a number of roundabouts was discussed.
- 7.7 **Railings:** the damaged railings at the southern end of the High Street was discussed. The broken ones in the middle should be replaced with ones at the end. Before the replacement can begin a "work instruction" or "permission to do" is required.

**Action:** Michael Agius/Clare Curran

- 7.8 **Banners/notices on Street Furniture:** these should not be placed there and should be removed.
- 8 **Next BRA Meeting:** Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014