

THE BOOKHAMS' RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 2nd June 2014 at St Nicolas Pastoral Centre at 7.45pm

Present: Michael Agius (chair), Andrew Freeman, Chris Pullan, John Allen, Michael Anderson, David Cox OBE, Les Huett, Stan Miles, Ray Pritchard, Jim Smith OBE, Nick Forrer (minutes),

Invited Councillors, Cllr Lucy Botting, Cllr. Clare Curran, Cllr. Stella Brooks

Ordinary Members, Keith Francis, Phil Harris.

1 Apologies:

Peter Seaward, Frances Fancourt, Michelle Hudspith, Elizabeth Hudson, David Smith, Cllr. John Chandler, Cllr. Paul Newman, Cllr Jatin Patel.

2 Minutes

2.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record, subject to an addition to 6¹.

2.2 6.3 The BRA needs to consider how to improve communication to residents and then determining their views within a democratic context. A working party would be set up to explore this matter. For both this activity and a separate working party to discuss a Parish Council versus a Residents Association, participants needed to be identified. Once their mix of views has been determined, appropriate courses of action could be taken.

3 Matters Arising

3.1 On 4.1 Cllr. Clare Curran reported that agreement had been given to repair the barriers at the top of the High Street. A quote is awaited so that the BRA can agree it and the work started.

Action: Michael Agius

3.2 On 4.2 Chris Pullan reported that he had asked Peter Seward to chase payment from Effingham Parish Council.. Payment had now been received.

Action: Closed

3.3 There were no further matters arising that were not elsewhere on the agenda.

4 Correspondence

4.1 There was no correspondence to discuss.

¹ It was pointed out to me that there was another strand that was discussed at the meeting as part of this item. I have added this for approval or otherwise.

5 Community Council Debate

5.1 This is carried forward to the next meeting on Peter Seaward's return.

6 Village Day

6.1 This is on Saturday 21st June.

6.2 John Allen asked for help with the Book Stall which will be setup from 8:00 and pack-up at 4:00 in the afternoon. There will be a banner across the marquee indicating its presence.

7 Sub-Group Updates

7.1 Environment

7.1.1 Yellow Lines

Cllr Clare Curran reported that the Dorking Road/Lower Shott junction yellow lines had been painted, along with others at junctions around Bookham. The purpose of yellow lines was to reduce congestion and improve pedestrian safety. The double lines were painted around bends and the entrances/exits to main roads.

The lines in Dorking Road were not quite as long as desirable, but it was important to remember this was a residential area and home owners needed to park close to their houses. The placement of yellow lines in Lower Shott had been agreed by the appropriate Council Committee.

This was followed by a general discussion on the purpose of single and double yellow lines and other problem locations were mentioned e.g. The Garstons & Eastwick Park Avenue.

The placement of yellow lines in Lower Shott had been retained by the appropriate Council Committee for later and further consideration.

It was agreed that the impact of the yellow lines around Bookham will be reviewed in two months' time.

7.1.2 Charges for Parking

There was a meeting on car parking charges at Lower Shott on 15th May. Discussion centred on whether a free time of between 30 to 60 minutes would be beneficial to the traders. The various options would be taken back to the Council Cabinet for consideration and any resulting impact.

7.1.3 Old Barn Hall Parking

Some events at the Old Barn Hall cause parking issues, coupled with the parking at the Vets and Hairdresser opposite. Although extending the parking at the back of the Old Barn Hall had been examined in the past, nothing had been done.

For both this topic and the previous item we need to come to a collective view. This to be further discussed at the next meeting.

Action: Next Meeting Agenda

7.1.4 Tree Group

There is some £5,000 available for the maintenance and planting of trees in Bookham which also extends to Fetcham. The Tree Group needs to look at this and identify where this should be spent over the coming year.

Action: Frances Fancourt

7.1.5 Overgrown Vegetation

A number of paths around Bookham are being impeded by hedges growing into the path. This can be reported to the Surrey County Council² who will write to the owner to trim the offending vegetation and if not complied with, will do the work and charge the owner. The process does take some time.

7.1.6 Verges

These are cut some 6 times a year but will left a little longer to encourage wild flowers in the Spring.

7.2 **Bookham Retail and Business Association**

7.2.1 Hanging Baskets

These will be ready for deployment this weekend.

7.3 **Planning Issues**

7.3.1 Bookham Grange Hotel

There is some information on the Web Site.

7.3.2 Tree Surgery

There was some discussion as to the duties of the Council Tree Officer. Perhaps there should be a meeting with the BRA to discuss their duties and what approach we should be using.

7.4 **Health**

Nothing to report

7.5 **Finance**

Chris Pullan reported that the footpath to the Howard of Effingham money is now slightly in surplus if we get monies from the SCC Right of Way Section of £576.

Action: Michael Agius

Reinstatement of the pipes under the footpath near All Saints Church would cost a further £565.

² <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/road-maintenance-and-cleaning/problems-on-roads-and-highways/report-a-defect-part-ii?defectid=237051>

Other calls for money are:-

- £65 for sand/salt.
- We received £1200 PIC monies from MVDC but this was slightly overspent with £900 at St Nicholas and £360 on the A246 bus shelter.
- We have £3,000 for an electronic sign. The £3,000 grant for the village sign more than covered the costs of £2332.
- £300 for the trees at All Saints Church.

The sum for the Village Guide is unknown but will be discussed with Peter Seaward on his return. Nick Forrer was able to report that the layout for the guide had been agreed with a plan showing all the shops and key structures with unique numbers in the village. There was a separate plan identifying the numbers with the name and trade being carried out in those premises.

7.6 **Schools & Youth**

An update was given by David Cox.

7.7 **Joint Working**

Michael Anderson gave an update on the Bookham Volunteer Fair (10th April) and earlier Workshop (22nd March) on volunteering. There will be a meeting of the Bookham "Working Together" Group on the 11th June in The Old Barn Hall.

There will discuss both the fair and workshop with a discussion on the use of Social Media to inform and obtain comment. Also on the Agenda will be strengthening community links with the Howard of Effingham.

8 **Any Other Business**

8.1 **CCTV**

Two cameras are in operation in the village. The camera to overlook the ATM in Lower Road has not been fitted.

8.2 **Local Buses**

Keith Francis reported that local buses will be running later in the evening to 6:30/7:00.

9 **Next BRA Meeting: Monday 7th July 2014.**