

THE BOOKHAMS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
Company Limited by Guarantee - Number 10053863

**Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 6th February 2017 at
St Nicolas Church Room at 7.30pm**

Present: Peter Seaward (chair), Chris Pullan, John Allen, Andrew Freeman, Michael Anderson, Julia Dickinson, Arthur Field, Keith Francis, John Howarth, Stan Miles, Ray Pritchard, Frances Fancourt, David Cox OBE, Nick Forrer,

Invited Councillors: Cllr. Metin Huseyin,

Ordinary Members: Phil Harris, Clifford White

Apologies: Michael Agius, Cllr. Lucy Botting, Cllr. Simon Edge, Cllr. Paul Newman, Cllr. Jatin Patel Les Huett, Margaret Lawson, Michelle Hudspith, David Smith, Cllr. Clare Curran, Cllr. John Chandler, Renee Botha

1 Minutes

- 1.1 Slight amendment to the Village Clock item. It should read "To look at using PIC funds to get it repaired", not litter pick funds. Other than that, the Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record.

2 Matters Arising

- 2.1 1st June item 11.2.2 **Grass Verges:** Michael Agius will be investigating the provision of wooden posts on the grass verges in Eastwick Park Avenue. This is to discourage parking on those verges. The MVDC Parking Design Team is reviewing the parking of cars on grass verges and the discouragement of such using posts. Carried forward.

Action: Michael Agius

- 2.2 9th May 2016 item 6.1 **Speed Cameras.** The speed cameras have been located and Highways will maintain them and Inspector Richard Hamlin had previously said the police would erect them. To be clarified.

Action: Peter Seaward/Andrew Freeman

- 2.3 4th July item 5.4.5 **Bookstall.** There was broad agreement that the BRA should purchase a marquee to cover the books at the bookstall although Peter Seaward indicated that these appear to be of higher cost than previously thought, therefore lively to use several gazebos again this year.

- 2.4 1st August item 4.3.1 **Drainage.** The Lower Road Recreation Ground newly installed drainage ditch and pipe work has been reviewed by Michael Agius. The only issue is that there is a gap in the protective fencing at one end. Michael has written to Paul Anderson, MVDC, on the adding missing protective fencing. Carried forward.

Action: Michael Agius

- 2.5 There were no matters arising that were not elsewhere on the agenda.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Andrew Freeman reports that there had been around a dozen enquiries to the 0300 number or via the website. Most of these had been prompted by the "No to Parish Council" leaflet and wanting to sign the petition or join the BRA.

4 Group Updates

4.1 Management Group

- 4.1.1 **Finance:** Chris Pullan updated the committee saying that just over £9k had been raised via subs and that the year end position is likely to show a surplus of £338 allowing for £1,000 being set aside for the "No to Parish Council" campaign.

4.2 Planning Group

- 4.2.1 The issue of 63 Church Road has not been resolved. The Council appear to not fully appreciate the NDR and clarification is still awaited. However, since the last meeting, planning consent appears to have been given for one 4-bedroomed house and two 3-bedroomed houses (as per the NDP) whereas the developers are still advertising them as three 4-bedroomed houses.
- 4.2.2 It was agreed that Peter S, Trevor and Stan Miles would meet with Cllr. Metin Huseyin and Cllr. Jatin Patel to discuss and then to meet with Chris Hunt, Chair of the the Development Control Committee

Action: Peter Seaward, Stan Miles, Cllr. Metin Huseyin & Cllr. Jatin Patel.

- 4.2.3 No other specific planning applications were highlighted by the Planning Sub-Committee as requiring action.

4.3 Environment Group

- 4.3.1 **Roads:** Nil to report.

- 4.3.2 **Bookham Flood Action Group.** Keith Francis reported that the governance arrangements had been altered which has distanced the BRA from the utility suppliers.

- 4.3.3 **Trees Horticulture:** It was reported that £2,000 PIC funding was expected this year and that 13 trees will be planted plus tree and verge maintenance works to take place. Regarding the Chrysie Rec, work was now nearly complete with two benches to be erected and some pruning of trees.

4.3.4 Litter Pick

It was reported the previous litter pick had been attended by 10 people and filled 16 bags. It was also noted that the Lower Shott bins were quite often overflowing and needed to be emptied more regularly.

Action carried forward, John Chandler agreed to approach the Council for continued funding of £1 per bag.

Action: John Chandler

4.4 **Community Group**

4.4.1 **Education**

David Cox reported that the Schools Admissions Team had raised some concerns that the Eastwick School had some plans to increase capacity that would impact on other schools and result in a surplus of spaces.

4.4.2 **Transport:** Nil to report.

4.5 **Communications and Membership Group**

4.5.1 **Communications**

On the question as to whether Bookham should have a Village Council posters had now been put up in shops and notice boards; Phil Harris and Arthur Field have continued the High Street campaign; and a further discussion took place regarding having tellers at the polling stations. Metin Huseyin will check whether the tellers are able to say anything to voters.

Action: Metin Huseyin

4.5.2 It was noted that over 700 people had signed the petition, including about 250 that have signed in the shops and that the Council would be sending out a leaflet describing the advantages and disadvantages of a parish council. Finally, it was agreed that the BRA wouldn't hold a public meeting.

Newsletter: Les Huett had forwarded a message to request articles for the next Newsletter. Andrew Freeman to circulate Les' plan.

Action: Andrew Freeman

Membership

4.5.3 The BRA membership list is to be computerised and placed on an electronic basis. The cost of this will be some £500 although no one had been identified to undertake this piece of work.

4.5.4 Peter Seaward and Phil Harris had met to look at alternative ways to collect fees. Discussion to be widened to include Arthur Field, Chris Pullan and David Cox and then to report back.

Action: Peter Seaward/Phil Harris

4.6 **Business Group**

4.6.1.1 **Bookham Retail and Business Association** *David Smith*

Nil to report due to the absence of David Smith.

5 **Projects Update**

5.1 **Community Pride & Lengthsman scheme.** *Michael Agius*

Nil to report due to the absence of Michael Agius.

- 5.2 **War Memorial** Peter Seaward
A supplier has been identified and a small trial will be undertaken to test. The easement issue has been resolved.
- 5.3 **Trees 2016 schedule** Frances Fancourt
Frances Fancourt reported that a schedule of tree activities had been submitted to SCC and feedback awaited.
- 5.4 **Bookham Business Map** Nick Forrer
A draft Business Map showing the business premises with their name and trade indexed against their location in Bookham has now been produced.
- 5.5 **New Notice Board Lower Road Car Park** Nick Forrer
The notice board near the Co-Op has been erected and Af- has a spare key (as he does for all the notice boards).
- 5.6 **3rd CCTV** Peter Seaward
It was noted that a Bank of Ireland ATM would be erected in the Post Office and it might be a good idea to put the CCTV camera near that since Lloyds would be closing.
- 5.7 **Electronic Sign** Peter Seaward
It may be possible to fix it to the Notice Board in Lower Road Car Park
- 5.8 **Bench renovation outside St Nicolas (Lower Road North side)**
An update will be available at the next meeting. Arthur Field
- 5.9 **Lower Shott Memorial Bench** Nick Forrer
Memorial bench now in place. Project closed.

6 Any Other Business

- 6.1 **Police Issues:** Phil Harris said that he hasn't seen any police in the village nor around Christie Rec and had tried to contact the 101 system but had experienced undue delays. He also repeated a comment that Inspector Hamlin had said and that was, "if someone is unable to get through on the 101 number then to dial 999". It was agreed that Phil together with Keith Francis and Nick Forrer or Peter Seaward, would call the 101 number and monitor the response rate.

Action: Phil Harris, Keith Francis, Nick Forrer or Peter Seaward

Keith Francis also noted that had been two incidents of anti-social behaviour and, as mentioned by others, Brackenbury's door had been kicked-in recently. Metin Huseyin agreed to draft an article for Look Local to encourage people to report crime and forward it to Ray Pritchard.

Action: Metin Huseyin

It was agreed that Inspector Hamlin should be invited to a future meeting.

Action: Peter Seaward

- 6.2 **CIL:** It was noted that any CIL monies would come to Bookham whether there is a parish council or not.
- 6.3 **Council Tax Referendum:** There was a brief discussion regarding the proposed 15% increase in Council Tax and it was decided the BRA would remain neutral on the matter.
- 6.4 **Joint RA/Council Meeting:** Peter Seaward attended the recent meeting and a “tree policy”; Community Housing Fund, Deepdene trail and a sustainable transport scheme (between KBR and the town centre) were all on the agenda. If anyone would like a copy of the minutes, please contact Peter Seaward.
- 6.5 **Junior Cycle Ride:** Julia Dickinson reported that this had been deferred until September unless someone else is able to organise it.
- 6.6 **Mental Health Wards at Epsom:** Clifford White reported that two wards had recently been transferred to Chertsey with no consultation. Metin Huseyin to speak to Lucy Botting.

Action: Metin Huseyin/Lucy Botting

- 6.7 **JAG:** Metin Huseyin reported that the JAG (re. housing) had been well attended. He also said he was willing to look at gardens that had become an eyesore.
- 6.8 **Bookham Vanguard:** It was noted that the Bookham Vanguard was now nearing the end of its expected life cycle and that there is a Task Force meeting on the 22nd February which might be the final one.
- 7 Next BRA Meeting:** Monday 6th March 2017