

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

**Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on**  
**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017**  
**at St Nicolas Church Room at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Peter Seaward (chair), John Allen, Keith Francis, Andrew Freeman, Frances Fancourt, John Howarth, Arthur Field, Julia Dickinson, Ray Pritchard, Nick Forrer, Phil Harris, Michael Anderson, Margaret Lawson, Geoff Tranter, Les Huett,

**Invited Councillors:** Cllr. Clare Curran,

**Ordinary Members:** Clifford Wright,

**Apologies:** Michelle Smith, David Smith, Tony Alsbury, Cllr. Lucy Botting, Cllr. John Chandler, Liz Pemberton, David Cox, Chris Pullan, Michael Agius, Stan Miles, Cllr. Metin Huseyin, Cllr Simon Edge, Cllr. Jatin Patel,

**1. Minutes**

Several typos were noted but otherwise the Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record.

**2. Matters Arising**

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

**3. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence of note.

**4. Group Updates**

**4.1 Management Group**

Finance: Chris Pullan, in his absence, had supplied some information to be read out, namely:

- Royal British Legion: £100 for a wreath had been [paid];
- Trees: £1,500 had been received for tree work;
- Hospital meeting: Invoice had been paid.

**Expenses:** Chris also requested that if anyone had any expenses to claim please do so soon.

## 4.2 Planning Group

**Planning Applications:** The Planning Committee had written to MVDC, within the last month, on three applications.

Also discussed were:

- 1) The Old Gallery: There is an application to convert this building into flats although there was concern that the parking spaces would be unsightly.
- 2) McCarthy-Stone: There is a potential development of retirement properties by McCarthy & Stone on the site of 3 Properties on the Leatherhead Rd. No application had been submitted yet but the site was thought rather isolated for elderly people and parking would potentially be an issue as there is no street parking available.

**MVDC's Future Plan:** There was no further news to report on the Plan.

## 4.3 Environment Group

**Flooding:** It was noted that flooding in Little Bookham Street was still an issue with perhaps a collapsed drain or spring. Although Thames Water had undertaken some work on a pinch point, several other sites also needed attention.

**Litter Pick:** Margaret Lawson reported that she had again be joined on the recent litter pick by 17 other people, including two from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Twenty bags had been collected, of which nine were recyclables, plus one bike.

**Trees:** Frances Fancourt confirmed that £1,500 had been received and DB commissioned to undertake the required work.

## 4.4 Community Group

**Health:** The BRA's public meeting regarding the Epsom and St. Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust's consultative document, Epsom and St Helier 2020-2030, at the Baptist Church on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November attracted about 60 people. Daniel Elkeles, CEO, addressed the meeting and invites comments. In response, Peter Seaward sent the following message:

*"Thank you for coming to Bookham this week to explain this strategy to local residents. As a residents association we recognise the need for a new strategic approach to address the ever increasing demands on the health service but would caution that should the new Acute Unit be located at Sutton or St Helier then it is likely that Bookham residents might prefer to be seen and treated at the Royal Surrey County Hospital in Guildford and assurances would be required to ensure that they have the capacity to handle the additional demand that an extra catchments population of circa 11,000 would require. This option, I understand, will be included in the next phase of the consultation documents from the Trust."*

**Education:** A decision on the Howard of Effingham will be announced by 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at the latest. Also, SCC are out to consultation re. the Dawnay School and the introduction of a feeder link from Polesden Lacey Infant School at Year 3.

## 4.5 Communications and Membership Group

**Bookham Question Time:** The BRA will be organising a Question Time event in the Barn Hall on the 30<sup>th</sup> November starting at 7.30pm. Starting with some drinks and nibbles, there

will be a range of subjects, to be agreed, but could include the local plan, health, education, policing, etc. Alan Jenkins has agreed to chair the session.

**Communications Update:** Les reported that:

- The BRA now has a Next Door account;
- The Directory is being updated and will be circulated shortly;
- Database of Members – Les was now inputting data himself but will continue to seek out additional help;
- Twitter, Facebook and website improvements had also been made.

**Newsletter:** The latest version was now at the printers and will be distributed to deliverers soon.

**Look Local:** Ray reported that the recent article had been disappointing in that it was to focus on seeking additional help but this message had been diluted. Ray to re-submit next month.

**Membership:** There is consensus that a new process is needed. Peter Seaward suggested that Geoff Tranter, being a new member, could give it some consideration. Ray has also been giving it some thought so Peter asked if Geoff and Ray could discuss ideas.

#### 4.6 Business Group

**Late Night Christmas Shopping:** This will take place again this year and the date was thought to be the second Thursday in December. To be confirmed.

### 5. Projects Update

**War Memorial:** The trial was a success but progress is slow as there is a need to get approval from the PCC. It was noted that there were also 3 WW1 graves in the St. Nicolas churchyard and one at All Saint's Church, and these are inspected every 5 years.

**Great & Little Bookham:** No update.

**Weales Clock:** This has now being repaired and is waiting to be put back in place. It was also noted that a couple of people had shown an interest in taking over the shop once refurbished.

**Barn Hall Field:** No update.

**Silent Soldier:** There is a British Legion initiative to place a "silent soldier" in different locations, with three in Bookham. Suggested sites are at the Barn Hall, by the village sign and by the Crown in the High Street.

### 6. Any Other Business

**Village Calendar:** Clare Curran wondered whether there would be interest in a village calendar. She had seen one elsewhere which had been very popular. It was noted that the Grange does a local calendar so the idea was dropped.

**Library:** Clare reported that some charges were to be introduced in the library for overdue returns and reservations although people on low incomes would be exempt.

**SCC Savings:** Clare also reported that minor jobs such as white lining, signage and other small jobs were being deferred to save money.

**Grass Cutting:** Margaret reported that quite a few home owners in Hilltop Rise cut the grass outside their houses, however, not all do and the Council's grass cutting team obviously didn't go down the road to check and therefore some areas weren't cut.

**Bookham Station Footbridge:** Keith Francis reported that a request to refurbish the footbridge had been turned down.

**Remembrance Sunday:** Additional help would be appreciated on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 11.00am at St. Nicolas Church.

7. **Next BRA Meeting:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 7:30 pm.