

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

**Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 8th May 2017
at St Nicolas Church Room at 7.30pm**

Present: Peter Seaward (chair), Michael Agius, Chris Pullan, John Allen, Julia Dickinson, Keith Francis, John Howarth, Michelle Hudspith, Stan Miles, Ray Pritchard, David Smith, Nick Forrer, Andrew Freeman, David Cox OBE, Arthur Field, Phil Harris

Invited Councillors: Cllr. Lucy Botting, Cllr. Clare Curran,

Ordinary Members: Clifford Wright, Geoff Tranter, David Williams, Liz Pemberton, Steve Parr

Apologies: Michael Anderson, Les Huett, Cllr. Metin Huseyin, Margaret Lawson, Frances Fancourt,

1 Minutes

1.1 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 one was reported to have been put up in Lower Road Surrey CC has previously indicated it will maintain and mount the signs. Inspector Hamlin look to see whether they require maintenance and, if so, he will make contact with Clare Curran to seek some assistance. **Action:** Peter Seaward

2.3 6th March item 4.4.6 **Neighbourhood Policing:** Peter Seaward reported that Clare Curran and he had met with the Police Commissioner and discussed various issues including the need to local policing and their contribution to crime reduction.

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

4 Correspondence

4.1 There was no correspondence to discuss. It was noted that a number of messages had been received via the website of the 0300 telephone number. These were mainly from people wishing to join the BRA, messages of support. Relatively few were raising new issues and Andrew re-directed these as appropriate. Unfortunately there are also a number of junk emails.

5 Local Advisory Poll (to note the result)

5.1 The result of the advisory poll was noted with circa 80% opposing the establishment of a Village Council (No 4,114; Yes 815). The final decision will be taken by MVDC on 11th July 2017.

5.2 There were various comments aired but the main ones were:

- to re-engage with the proponents of the VC and work together for the wider betterment of the community;
- to make better use of social media and other communication channels to raise the profile of the BRA and other voluntary organisations and encourage volunteers.

6 Neighbourhood Planning Referendum (to note the result)

6.1 It was noted that there was a clear majority to accept the plan (Yes 3,853; No 986) and it will now be incorporated into the MVDC planning policy. It was noted that there will shortly be a new consultation on the Local plan which will inevitably be seeking additional housing across Mole Valley.

7 Group Updates

7.1 Management Group

7.1.1 *Annual General Meeting*

Our AGM will be held on the 18th May in the Old Barn Hall at 7:30 pm and Nick Gray, Deputy Chief Executive at MVDC, will be speaking afterwards.

7.1.2 *Finance*

The Treasurer reported that the 2016 accounts have been completed and a surplus of approximately £1,300 will be reported at the AGM.

7.2 Planning Group

7.2.1 *Planning Applications*

There were 21 planning applications for review this month of which the Committee decided to write to MVDC on three applications, namely Ref. Nos. 17/0413, 17/0089 and 17/0392.

7.3 Environment Group

7.3.1 *Roads*

Eastwick Drive is awaiting resurfacing.

7.3.2 *Drainage and Flooding*

Michael Agius will be attending the Flood Forum shortly and the “square-about” is top of the list as a result of a number of damaged gullies. Further investigations are required which will delay repairs and it was suggested that publicising these, and costs, might be a good idea to set public expectations. **Action: Les Huett to consider comms.**

7.3.3 *Tree Policy*

A constructive meeting had been held with MVDC, which only has the one tree officer covering all of Mole Valley, to discuss an urban tree policy which included TPOs, tree planting and listing of circa 100 significant trees.

7.3.4 *Litter Picking*

Another busy Litter Pick the day before with 21 bags of rubbish collected.

7.4 Community Group

7.4.1 Transport

Nil to report

7.4.2 Education

It was reported that the outcome of the Howard of Effingham inquiry is not expected until July at the earliest.

7.4.3 Disability Support Services

David Cox reported that SCC had recently tendered for several services, including services currently provided by Disability Challenges which provides a range of services including a respite service to give parents a break. The contract had now been awarded to a new supplier. However, Disability Challenge was keen to continue operating and, if they couldn't remain at the Bookham Youth and Community Centre, they will be looking at alternatives. The charity was also concerned as to whether the new contractor would be able to manage the needs of their most challenging clients. Discussions between interested parties continue.

Clare Curran added that it had been a county-wide procurement exercise undertaken within OJEU regulations and that no cuts had been made, indeed the outcome was a wider range of locations from which services would be provided.

7.4.4 Bookstall

Tony Alsbury had agreed to support this year's bookstall by storing books, etc. as per the previous year. **Action: Michael Agius to devise a rota for the day.**

7.5 Communications and Membership Group

7.5.1 Communications

Suggested a Look Local article on the outcome of the village council advisory poll. **Action: Les Huett to progress if deemed appropriate.**

7.5.2 Membership

There is a diminishing number of road stewards but alternative mechanisms are being considered to ensure subscriptions continue at their present levels.

7.6 Business Group

7.6.1 Bookham Retail and Business Association

David Smith reported that the closure of Lloyds Band would be challenging to traders, particularly as the ATM at Patrick Gardner's is struggling to cope with demand. A second ATM at the PO would help.

8 Projects Update

8.1 War Memorial

Work ongoing.

8.2 Bookham Business Map

Nick Forrer reported that the business map was nearing completion and should be printed imminently.

8.3 Village Bench

It was reported that the village bench had now been painted which should have been the end of the project but, unfortunately, the painting hadn't been completed satisfactorily.

Action: Michael Agius to speak to the contractor.

8.4 3rd CCTV

No update but project ongoing.

8.5 Electronic Sign

Nil to report

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Anti-Social Behaviour: Phil Harris reported that police were taking action and sending out letters via an anonymous reporting system.

9.2 Bookham Vision: Jim Pritchard reiterated that this document may provide some important pointers for activities that could be progressed and urged all members to review the document. **Action: All**

9.3 Christie Rec Defibrillator: The defibrillator has now been installed and is operational.

9.4 Local Council Structure: Following a query from a Bookham resident to Cllr Vivienne Michael, Leader of the Council regarding the future of MVDC and possible mergers, Cllr. Michael replied to say:

"No such discussions have taken place and nor are they likely to in the foreseeable future. MVDC's Administration presented a balanced budget for 2017/18 and our Medium Term Financial Strategy includes measures to ensure the sustainability of our services as the council moves towards self-sufficiency in future years."

9.5 Significant Issues: Clare Curran reported that in recent weeks she had spoken to a number of residents and the top issues were:

- State of the roads and pavements
- Parking issues, e.g. Pine Walk, Fife Way, Vicarage Close, Lower Shott/Dorking Road
- Speeding traffic/inconsiderate driving

9.6 Food Waste: It was reported that a waste collector was seen taking the food-waste bag out of the food-waste bin and placing it in the black bin for landfill. **Action: Clare Curran to investigate.**

9.7 AGM: John Howarth reported that there had been no proxies nor volunteers to be a director. All preparations are in hand.

9.8 Dumped Cars: Cliff Wright reported that there are often cars dumped in White Way and that he had also noticed broken glass in the High Street.

9.9 Fly Tipping: Cliff Wright suggested that perhaps a motion sensitive CCTV could be place in vulnerable positions to capture fly-tippers.

10 Next BRA Meeting: Monday 5th June 2017 at 7:30 pm.