

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

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on

Monday 14th May 2018

at St Nicolas Church Room at 7.30pm

Present: Peter Seaward (chair), Michael Agius John Allen, Keith Francis, Andrew Freeman, John Howarth, Arthur Field, Julia Dickinson, Ray Pritchard, Chris Pullan, Les Huett, Marian Williams, David Cox, Stan Miles, Michelle Smith, David Smith,

Invited Councillors: Cllr. Clare Curran, Cllr. Metin Huseyin, Cllr. Elizabeth Daly,

Ordinary Members: Paul Kennedy, Mrs. Field

Apologies:, Nick Forrer, Frances Fancourt, Margaret Lawson, Geoff Tranter, Carolyn Elson, Cllr. John Chandler, Tony Alsbury, Liz Pemberton, Cllr Simon Edge, Phil Harris, Michael Anderson, Cllr. Lucy Botting,

1. Minutes

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

2. Matters Arising

2.1 Footpath 75: The Surrey Rights of Way group is out to formal consultation and the final decision will be taken at the Local Committee in September. After a long discussion is was agreed, albeit not unanimously, that the BRA's response would be:

- 1) Request that the footpath remains open;
- 2) To ask that the reported incidents are substantiated.
- 3) If incidents are demonstrated, then request the pathway be fenced off.
- 4) If proven not to be viable, then identify a safe alternative route for the path.
- 5) Reinstate the original footpath following the HoE redevelopment.

3. Correspondence

3.1 Dorking Road - Parking: A resident of Dorking Road had been in contact re. parking near SPACE. When there is a popular activity going on and/or a football match is on, then there is a long line of parked cars. Due to a bend in the road drivers approaching from both ends, often visiting Polesden Lacey, cannot see if the road is clear. **Action: Michael Agius to speak to Highways to see whether any measures can be implemented.**

4. AGM

4.1 Copies of the agenda, minutes of the last AGM and the accounts for 2017 will be made available to members by placing them on the chairs. Peter Seaward said that the guest speakers had all confirmed. They are:

- Karen Brimacombe – Chief Executive, Mole Valley District Council
- Daniel Elkeles - Chief Executive of St Helier and Epsom Hospital Trust
- David Munro - Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey.

5. Group Updates

5.1 Management Group

5.1.1 Accounts: The accounts, as prepared by Chris Pullen and examined by Lawrence Penney will be the version tabled at the AGM. These are separate to those required by Companies House which John Howarth attends to.

5.2 Planning Group

5.2.1 Planning Applications: The Planning Committee had looked at 24 applications but had not felt compelled to comment on any of them.

5.2.2 Leatherhead Road Development: Peter Seaward has received a letter from McCarthy-Stone indicating that the number of car parking spaces has been increased to 28 and some other modifications to the building. The Planning Committee is waiting for a response from Highways before submitting a response to MVDC.

5.2.3 Driveways and Paths: Peter Seaward had met with the Planning Officer to discuss with little progress although clarity is really needed from Highways.

5.2.4 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP): The issue of the Bookham NDP being ignored is ongoing. Bookham Vanguard had spent 20,000 plus hours developing the NDP and no adequate clarifications have been received from MVDC/SCC Highways on a number of issues, e.g. driveways v. paths v. access roads.

5.2.5 John Howarth read out an extract from an Inspector's report on an Ashtead application. This appeared to use non-evidenced reasons for supporting the application and overriding the NDP.

5.2.6 It was reiterated that, if Bookham continues to not have a councillor on the Development Control Committee, then Bookham councillors should lobby Ashtead councillors to speak on the BRA's behalf. **Action: Councillors are requested to lobby Ashtead councillors to take on Bookhams' cause.** Note: Membership of the Development Control Committee will be decided at the forthcoming Council Annual General Meeting.

5.3 Environment Group

5.3.1 Pot Holes: Clare Curran reported that pot holes are being addressed with up to 28 gangs out repairing them. To fix all roads would cost circa £7.2b and take 4½ to complete which isn't viable.

5.3.2 Little Bookham Street: Clare also reported that this road would receive a "patch and seal" solution.

5.3.3 Howard of Effingham (HoE) Safe Road Crossing: It was suggested that children exiting Childs Hall Road do not have a safe crossing point except for the zebra crossing which is 100m in the opposite direction. The question was raised whether the new plans for the HoE had taken this into account.

5.4 Community Group

5.4.1 Crime: In respect to the ram raid on the Coop ATM over the Easter weekend, it was noted that police are investigating ways to increase security. The Patrick Gardner ATM is considered more secure but more CCTVs has been on the BRA's agenda for some time including this site and Church Road. Regarding the latter, the BRA is awaiting costs for a CCTV in Church Road.

5.4.2 Education: There are currently more applications than spaces at the Howard of Effingham. Once the new school is built then there should be sufficient places to accommodate Bookham children, however, in the interim in particular, the school, as an Academy, could amend its admission criteria to the detriment of the villages' children and other developments need to be taken into account, e.g. 300 new homes in Effingham, 400 in Horsley plus other smaller developments. It was agreed that the best approach would be to work with the school to help shape their admissions policy.

5.4.3 It was also noted that there are plans for a new secondary school in Guildford.

5.4.4 Trees: The list of the trees that had been planted has now been uploaded onto the BRA website.

5.4.5 Bookstall: Village Day is on the 16th June and Tony Alsbury is accepting books. **Action: Michael Agius to put a rota together prior to the event.**

5.4.6 Litter Pick: A total of 31 people attended the last litter pick.

5.4.7 Double Yellow Lines: It was noted that double yellow lines had now been painted in Woodlands Road, Eastwick Road, Eastwick Park Avenue, Pine Walk.

5.5 Communications and Membership Group

5.5.1 Membership Secretary: Peter Seaward was pleased to announce that Carolyn Elson had volunteered to become the BRA membership secretary and welcomed her support in her absence.

5.5.2 Road Stewards: Les Huett reported that the BRA is short of 24 road stewards covering 32 roads. Members took additional rounds to help with the delivery of the current newsletter.

5.5.3 Communications Update: Les reported that the membership database is now operational and that visits to the website continues to grow as does the use of other social media. Ray Pritchard reported that the latest Look Local included details of the AGM.

5.6 Business Group

5.6.1 David Smith reported that traffic flow remains an issue as car users park on the double yellow line sections intended as passing places. David urged better enforcement to reduce this problem.

5.6.2 On trade, David said business had dropped since the closure of the bank and with just the one external ATM, cash in shoppers pocket has fallen therefore they will shop elsewhere, where they can easily access cash and spend at the same time.

6. Projects Update

- 6.1 **War Memorial:** Waiting on the Church Chancellor.
- 6.2 **Great & Little Bookham campaign:** Campaign ongoing and is an article within the Newsletter. The deadline for signing the petition is the end of August.
- 6.3 **Weales Clock** – nil to report
- 6.4 **Old Barn Hall (barrier to the field)** – Project Complete
- 6.5 **Benches** (Windsor Castle and Weales) – ongoing
- 6.6 **Lower Shott Planting Scheme** – Action: Peter Seaward to complete the PIC form for funding.
- 6.7 **Jim Smith Memorial Copse** – nil to report
- 6.8 **Bookham Map:** The library holds a 17th century map which could be put on display if an appropriate cabinet could be purchased. **Action: Peter Seaward to investigate.**

7. Any Other Business

- 7.1 **Norbury Car Parks:** Metin Huseyin said that MVDC was actively looking at all potential sites for development across all of Mole Valley.
- 7.2 **Transform Leatherhead:** John Howarth reported that next meeting of the Reference Group is on the 17th May and, following that, there would be a public event in the theatre, Leatherhead, on the 24th May.
- 7.3 **The Grove Estate:** It was reported that several residents on the estate felt intimidated and uncomfortable by the attitude of some residents. **Action: The Joint Action Group (Cllr. Metin Huseyin, Cllr. Simon Edge, Phil Harris) will be meeting on 25th May.**
- 7.4 **Cemeteries:** Keith Francis reported that the East Horsley cemetery was now full and is impacting on Little Bookham burials.
- 7.5 **Sharps Collections:** Keith Francis reported that new 5ltr sharps boxes were being introduced, replacing the much smaller 1ltr boxes. As a result those requiring boxes will have potentially hazardous medical waste products sitting in their house for much longer periods which could be considered a health risk.

8. Next BRA Meeting: Monday 4th June 2018 at 7:30 pm.