

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

**Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 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, Margaret Lawson, John Howarth, Les Huett, Stan Miles, Ray Pritchard, Michelle Hudspith, David Smith,

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

**Ordinary Members:** Phil Harris, Win Magyor

**Apologies:** Frances Fancourt, Michael Agius, David Cox OBE, Nick Forrer, Cllr. Lucy Botting, Cllr. Metin Huseyin, Cllr. Simon Edge, Cllr. Paul Newman, Cllr. Jatin Patel

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**1 Minutes**

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

It was noted that Nick Forrer had tendered his resignation as Minutes Secretary for personal reasons. Peter Seaward extended his thanks, on behalf of the committee, to Nick for his excellent minute taking over the years and requested that this be duly noted in the minutes. It was further noted that Nick will continue his good work on the notice boards. Andy Freeman has agreed to be the minutes secretary.

**2 Matters Arising**

- 2.1 1<sup>st</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016 item 6.1 **Speed Cameras.** The speed cameras have been located and Highways will maintain them although it appears that the police will erect them. To be clarified.

**Action:** Clare Curran

- 2.3 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016 item 1.1 **Chrystie Recreation Ground.** It was reported that the planned improvements, funded by the police, have now been completed and thanks to Frances Fancourt for her endeavours. There was a photoshoot prior to Christmas.

- 2.4 4<sup>th</sup> July item 5.4.5 **Bookstall.** There was broad agreement that the BRA should purchase a marquee to cover the books at the bookstall at a cost of around £400 and be stored at the Old Barn Hall. Further investigation will be carried out to see what the best option might be.

**Action:** Peter Seaward

- 2.5 1<sup>st</sup> 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

- 2.6 5<sup>th</sup> December item 4.6.1 **Lloyds Bank:** Following the announcement that the bank is to close Simon Edge had spoken to the bank who were willing to offer private sessions for customers to discuss their future banking needs and services.

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

### **3 Correspondence**

- 3.1 There was no correspondence to discuss.

### **4 Group Updates**

#### **4.1 Management Group**

- 4.1.1 **Finance Accounting Year** with the transfer of the Association to a Company Limited by Guarantee on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016 there has been a shortened accounting year. Chris Pullan said he planned to do three sets of accounts, one for the final 5 months of the association, one for the first 7 months under the limited company arrangements and also a full year as a comparator. John Howarth and Chris to finalise details.

It was noted that £1,000 had been set aside for the No to a Village Council campaign.

#### **4.2 Planning Group**

##### **4.2.1 Planning Applications**

No specific planning applications were highlighted however Stan Miles reported that he had asked MVDC's Planning Policy Team for clarification on procedure. This arose after a decision was taken to approve a 4 bedroomed house plus two other smaller dwellings to be built whereas the NDP specified only small dwellings (no bigger than three bedrooms) would be built in central locations. Guidance is needed on how the BRA can ensure any future representations are correctly presented.

#### **4.3 Environment Group**

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

- 4.3.2 **Drainage & Flood Forum:** Nil to report.

- 4.3.3 **Trees Horticulture:** Nil to report.

##### **4.3.4 Litter Pick**

Margaret Lawson reported that 140 bags of rubbish, 50% of which was recyclable, had been picked up since March 2016. John Chandler agreed to approach the Council for continued funding of £1 per bag.

**Action:** John Chandler

Margaret also reported that there is to be a “Great British Spring Clean” in the first weekend of March and suggested that Bookham might like to participate. Margaret to come up with some suggestions and to include in the next newsletter.

**Action:** Margaret Lawson

#### 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, John Howarth, Les Huett and Ray Pritchard have been working on a campaign to raise awareness and John has submitted wording for an ePetition to be put on MVDC’s website. This had been approved and is now available for the public to sign-up. Residents will also be able to sign the petition in a number of the local shops. The petition closes on the 9<sup>th</sup> March and 800 signatures are needed for it to be discussed by full Council.

Les has drafted some leaflets which will be printed imminently and then distributed to all Bookham households. Other forms of communication will be the BRA website, Facebook, Streetlife and posters.

A further campaign, including at least one, possibly two, public meetings, is planned nearer the election as it’s essential that residents understand the need to vote. It was suggested that tellers outside the polling stations might also be considered.

##### 4.5.2 **Membership**

The BRA membership list is to be computerised and placed on an electronic basis. The cost of this will be some £500. A number of road stewards have been lost for a variety of reasons therefore it was proposed that a letter could be sent to those streets where we need Road Stewards asking for volunteers. John Allen will provide a list of what roads require Road Stewards.

**Action:** John Allen

It was also proposed by Peter Seaward that a small group be established to look at alternative ways to collect fees. It was noted that Fetcham RA do not have subscription and obtain their income through donations and adverts in their newsletter. The group is to comprise of Peter, Phil Harris, Arthur Field, Chris Pullan and David Cox and then to report back.

**Action:** Peter Seaward

## 4.6 **Business Group**

### 4.6.1 ***Bookham Retail and Business Association***

The BRABA AGM is coming up and David Smith will report back at the next meeting.

Also, David reported that the late night shopping had been a success and had a cheque for £400 for the BRA.

## 5 **Projects Update**

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

Pending

### 5.2 **War Memorial** Peter Seaward

A supplier has been identified and a small trial will be undertaken to test out the proposed process for repairing the letter work. There may be an easement cost of £100 but the church has agreed to clean the memorial.

### 5.3 **Trees 2016 schedule** Frances Fancourt

Frances Fancourt has drawn up a schedule of tree activities and funding is expected from SCC for this programme of works.

### 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 should be available around Christmas. Arthur Field has agreed a size and type of noticeboard with the supplier (Coker Exhibition Systems Ltd). It will have a header on the display above the map giving the name of Bookhams Residents Association.

### 5.5 **New Notice Board Lower Road Car Park** Nick Forrer

The notice board near the Co-Op is expected to be erected within the next few weeks.

### 5.6 **3rd CCTV** Peter Seaward

This will require some £4500 for purchase and subsequent installation. This may be available through the Police Commissioner's Budget. This CCTV should also cover the ATM in Lower Road. A new location has been found for the CCTV server at Atwoods above Boots in the High Street.

### 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

Just awaiting delivery and then to be painted and installed. Total cost is expected to be around £1,000 including a contribution from the BRA. Peter Seaward has made an application for Planning Infrastructure Contributions (PIC) to make up the difference.

**Action:** Peter Seaward

## 6 Any Other Business

- 6.1 **Police Issues:** It was reported that Peter Seaward and Phil Harris had met with Police Inspector Hamlyn regarding a spate of issues at Middlemead, the Grove and other areas. From the BRA's perspective policing appears to be reactive only, not proactive, that police are also no longer visible and, whilst reported crime figures may be low, this is probably because the victims of crime are not reporting them for a variety of reasons, the fear of reprisals being one of them.

In response it was reported that recruitment of officers is an issue, especially with the high cost of living in Surrey, but new recruits are coming into post but will take time to be trained, etc. Unfortunately there is no prospect of returning the "officers on the beat" but on the positive side 75% of 111 calls are now answered within 30 seconds.

It was agreed that local residents should be encouraged to report crime and there should be an article in the next newsletter to this effect.

**Action:** Phil Harris

- 6.2 **Speeding Traffic:** Clare Curran and Peter Seward had attended a meeting with about 30 residents of Little Bookham Street regarding speeding traffic. The police and Highways also attended. Various measures to control speed were discussed, e.g. 20 mph zone, road cushions and build-outs.

It was reported at the meeting that the speed limit is 30 mph but when measuring speed limits for safety concerns the bar is set to 37 mph. A survey indicated that 85% of traffic was below that speed and therefore unlikely to be seen as a high priority although a further meeting would be arranged in about 6 months time.

- 6.3 **AGM:** To be held on 17<sup>th</sup> May and Barn Hall booked. Possible to ask Yvonne Reece, CEO of MVDC, to attend as she unfortunately had to cancel last year.
- 6.4 **Bookham Youth Project:** David Cox reported that the Bookham Youth Project will commence next week and be open on Monday and Friday. The BRA's donation has funded a chocolate drink machine.
- 6.5 **Village Clock:** The village clock attached to Weales Stores has stopped working. To look at using the litter pick funds to get it repaired.
- 6.6 **Lights Switched Off:** The plan to switch streetlamps off during the night is going ahead and the BRA has requested that these should remain on in Church Road, Little Bookham Street (including the footpath), the High Street, Lower Road and the A246 and perhaps the Dorking Road up to SPACE.
- 6.7 **Waitrose, Leatherhead:** John Howarth reported that the store would be opening on the 26<sup>th</sup> January and there will be six deliveries per day.

6.8 **Joint RA/Council Meeting:** Peter Seaward said that the next joint meeting between the RAs and the council is coming up and on the agenda are two main items:

6.8.1 Tree Policy to better make use of and engage tree wardens; and

6.8.2 Housing Needs Assessment where there is a need for 400 houses across Mole Valley per annum with most expected to be in the north.

**7 Next BRA Meeting:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017