

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

**Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on**  
**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018**  
**at St Nicolas Church Room at 7.30pm**

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

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

**Ordinary Members: None**

**Apologies:** Tony Alsbury, Cllr. John Chandler, Liz Pemberton, David Cox, Cllr. Metin Huseyin, Cllr Simon Edge, Cllr. Jatin Patel, Phil Harris, Michael Anderson, Michelle Smith, David Smith

**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 not elsewhere on the agenda.

**3. Correspondence**

**Manor House Lane:** A concerned resident had complained of speeding traffic in Manor House Lane and that one car had lost control and demolished a wall. The committee felt that there was nothing that the BRA could do except to monitor any other incidents.

**4. Group Updates**

**4.1 Management Group**

Finance: Chris Pullan reported that:

- The year end accounts (to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017) shows a slight overspend of circa £470.
- £7,500 had been received through membership fees (down £1,200 on the previous year)
- £2,800 was spent on newsletters
- The accounts needed to be audited prior to the AGM in May. **Action: Chris to progress.**

## 4.2 Planning Group

**Planning Applications:** The Planning Committee had considered 22 applications and had written to the Council on two of them.

## 4.3 Environment Group

**Litter Pick:** Margaret Lawson reported that 29 people had been on the recent litter pick, collecting 30 sacks of rubbish plus a bicycle. It was also noted that:

- More picks and rings need to be purchased;
- That in future only children will receive a free drink following the litter-pick;
- the scouts and Young Mums' group were also doing litter-picks;
- Margaret has been invited to give a presentation to children and the harm discarded rubbish can have on the wildlife.

**Trees:** Frances Fancourt reported that:

- Approval from the NT is awaited re. a small grove of trees in memory of Jim Smith;
- 11 trees had been planted so far and 3 more are planned;
- £193 had been raised by selling wooden Christmas trees on at the late night shopping evening;
- The £1,500 allocated for tree-works had now been completed

**Best Trees:** The RAs and Tree Wardens have identified some of Bookham's "best trees" with a view to getting MVDC to place a TPO on them.

## 4.4 Community Group

**Buses:** Keith Francis reported that:

- The 489 will cease on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January;
- A new timetable will be issued in January;
- Timetables are missing from a number of bus stops and he is taking this up with the relevant authorities; and
- There are concerns that double decker buses are being used when a single decker would suffice.

**Police:** It was noted that the police had not been in attendance for a long time so Peter Seaward will contact them and reiterate that they are welcome to attend at any meeting.

**Action: Peter to extend an invite to the police to attend a BRA meeting.**

## 4.5 Communications and Membership Group

**Road Stewards:** All Road Stewards have been invited to an informal discussion evening on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February in the Harrison Room, Old Barn Hall. Items for discussion include communications (is the Newsletter and our online service a success in promoting the BRA? and the Green Belt (the Local Plan and current housing figures).

**Membership:** The membership group had met, and ideas included:

1. Meeting with road stewards to find out what they are prepared to do;
2. Use of envelopes to drop through doors to encourage online payments
3. To bring formal ideas to the March committee meeting with a view to presenting them at the AGM in May. **Action: Sub-Group to present findings at the March BRA meeting.**

**Newsletter:** The Autumn newsletter will help to advertise the Question Time event on the 11<sup>th</sup> November.

**Communications Update:** Les reported that:

- The Directory has now been updated and circulated;
- Database of Members was now complete;
- Presented his communications plan for the year ahead (to be circulated with the minutes);
- Visits to the website was up with a number of complimentary comments received.

**Look Local:** Article to include silent soldier campaign and the litter pick.

#### **4.6 Business Group**

No report.

#### **5. Projects Update**

Nil to report on:

- War Memorial
- Great & Little Bookham campaign
- Weales Clock
- Barn Hall Field
- Little Bookham Street Bench

#### **6. Any Other Business**

**Surrey County Council Update from Cllr. Clare Curran:**

- East Street: Speed monitors were now in place for one week;
- Council Tax is likely to increase by 6% in the coming year;
- The Horizon project is being delayed year-on-year to save money;
- A Parking Review has identified new parking restriction measures are required in Eastwick Park Avenue, Pine Walk, Woodlands Road, East Street and Dorking Road. It was also noted that Parking Enforcement Officers are visible but are not issuing many tickets despite offences taking place, e.g. parking on the double yellow lines in the High Street and there are suspicions that the blue badge scheme is being abused in some cases.
- Switching off the street lamps at night is saving £240k per annum;
- Leatherhead tip is now closed on Fridays;
- She attended at meeting for County Councils in November and all the counties has said similar things to the minister present in that the lack of funding was a real issue.

**Retail Vitality in Bookham:** John Howarth reported that the vacancy rate was about 1% in the High Street whereas it was 6% across Mole Valley.

**Christmas Trees:** Keith Francis reported that several Christmas trees had been dumped in the Lower Road Recreation Ground rather than at the official collection point at Lower Road Car Park.

**7. Next BRA Meeting:** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7:30 pm.