

Sandyhurst Lane Residents' Association
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Held on Wednesday, October 22nd, 2003 at Towers School

Attendance: 34 members attended, including Howard Preston (Chairman), Kevin Saunby (Vice Chairman) and David Hilliger (Treasurer). Also present were Dr. Celeste Muir (guest speaker, representing the Beechbrook Farm project), C Cllrs Richard King and Mike Angell, Cllrs Rita Hawes Mick Hubert and Noel Greaves.

Apologies: were received from Cllrs Neil Wallace and John Kemp, Tim and Jo Harley, Dennis Fricker, David and Barbara Harvey, Mr and Mrs Hall, Ron Butcher and Denzil Wood. + 13
residents on holiday.

Minutes of the last AGM: were proposed by Kevin Saunby and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Chairman's report: The Chairman opened the meeting by explaining that the meeting was being held at Towers School because Sandy Acres was undergoing refurbishment and Goat Lees Community Hall was not yet in use. He then welcomed Dr Celeste Muir as the guest speaker before presenting his report.

He began by announcing his intention to step down as Chairman at the end of 2004 and asked residents to consider putting themselves forward.

Among the Association's concerns over the past year had been Highways, Planning, Footpaths and the school at Goat Lees.

Highways

Trinity Road: Adoption is late.

Sandyhurst Lane signage at Faversham Road: The finger post at Lenacre Street has been removed but although a replacement at Faversham Road had been promised for April 2003, it had been omitted from the revised schedule.

Lack of speed restrictions in Sandyhurst Lane: These had been a concern for over 25 years. Speed counts taken in May were not yet available but those from September 2001 by Sandy Acres showed that calming measures were needed. The current 40mph design is unacceptable for the safety of children using the Sports' Ground. The Association recommended a 30mph limit starting before the crossing. The lack of footpaths between 300 and 99 (where the existing 30mph limit starts) has been pointed out.

Sandyhurst Lane closure 3-9 November: The Lane will be closed to allow the construction of a sewer between 326 and 316. Concern has been expressed at the lack of notification to residents.

Road safety: Overgrown trees and hedges on Tile Lodge Hill are in need of work. In particular, need for coppicing of trees, on Sandy Acres bank, which now reach the road and prevent the use of the verge to escape road traffic. Lowering of hedge opposite Vine Cottage, 202, which obscures cars going uphill from fast downhill traffic tending to cut the bend by the 'slow' sign. Most unreported crashes/near misses occur at this point. The Association has asked if this work could be carried out during the Lane closure.

Crossing at Sandy Acres: There is a cycle track at this point to allow access from Goat Lees to Sandy Acres. Although there is a barrier to prevent cars using the track, there is no barrier on the other side to stop children running across. Lack of lighting has been raised.

Footpaths AU5/AU4 upgrade: The Association has asked for news of progress.

M20 junctions 8-9 blacktopping: The Association has pressed for updated information.

A20/Potters Corner junction: Improved lighting has been requested.

