

# Sandyhurst Lane Residents' Association

## Minutes of SLRA Committee meeting held at the Hare & Hounds on Wednesday 6 November 2013

**Attendees:** John Hobbs, Tony Bartlett, Norma Devereese, John Faulkner, Desmond Henley, David Porter, Howard Preston and Evan Thomas.

**Apologies for absence** were received from Bryan Hall and Andy Peddle.

### Item 1: Minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2013

#### i. Approval

The minutes were agreed and signed.

#### ii. Matters Arising

**JH** said that the new notice board was almost ready and would be erected in the next few weeks.

**ACTION JH**

**DP** said that he had responded to the member about difficulties exiting from their drive safely. There were no other matters arising which were not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

### Item 2: Planning Issues

#### i. Planning applications and outcomes

It was noted that planning permission had been granted for an extension and basement at 1 Potters Close and a first floor rear extension & side first floor bay window at Cumberland, Westwell Lane. A new application had also been made for the erection of a rear extension, side extensions and covered porch, together with roof extensions with dormer windows and the erection of a new chimney at Fieldfares, 356 Sandyhurst Lane.

#### ii. Other planning issues

A discussion was held on the recently published sites submitted by land owners and developers to Ashford Borough Council for consideration for inclusion in the Ashford Local Plan to 2030. The seven sites in the vicinity of Sandyhurst Lane all posed a threat to the rural character of the area. It was agreed that a letter would be drafted and sent to the Council to notify them that the SLRA would vigorously oppose the adoption of any of these sites into the Plan. SLRA members would also be encouraged to make their views known to the Council.

**ACTION DP**

It was noted that Boughton Aluph & Eastwell PC were to hold a meeting on 11 November at which opposition to sites in their area would be debated. They had invited SLRA to nominate two representatives to join a sub-committee on this issue; **ND & JF** agreed to be the representatives.

**ACTION ND, JF**

**TB** agreed to approach Westwell PC to suggest that they should also develop a position on the sites in their area and make representations to Ashford BC.

**ACTION TB**

### Item 3: Traffic issues

#### i. A20/Sandyhurst Lane junction

It was noted that KCC had now installed the 'SLOW DOWN' interactive signs, but that one of them was not working and appeared to be awaiting connection to the electricity supply. It was agreed that an email would be sent to KCC Traffic Schemes asking why there was such a delay and when the installation would be completed.

**ACTION DP**

#### ii. M20 Noise Action Group

**AP** was unable to be present, but it was believed that there had been no recent activity by the M20NAG.

#### **Item 4: Membership**

**DP** said that, since the last meeting and the launch of Neighbourhood Watch, 29 new members had joined, bringing the total to 98, a 42% increase on the level at the beginning of September. 29% of all properties in the SLRA area were now in membership.

#### **Item 5: Neighbourhood Watch**

The local schemes appeared to be working well. The road signs had been manufactured and erected by Medash Signs and some of them would be further adjusted. A vote of thanks to **JH** was recorded for the work done by his company for the SLRA. **JH** also offered to produce a supply of 'door caller' stickers, as the police were no longer able to supply these. **TB** agreed to supply **JH** with a spare sticker. **ACTION TB, JH**

#### **Item 6: Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Residents' Association**

**ND** said that the main items of interest to the BA&ERA at present were the Ashford Local Plan to 2030, the proposed traffic survey and the structure of Sandyacres. As noted in Item 2 ii, the BA&E PC was holding a meeting on 11 November at which a robust opposition would be proposed to the Submitted Sites in the BA&E area for the Ashford Local Plan.

With regard to the proposed traffic survey, some adjustment in timing may need to be considered in view of the extensive road works currently taking place in Sandhurst Lane.

[Subsequent to the meeting a formal approach from the Chairman of BA&E PC has been received, seeking nominations to the proposed sub-committee for the Ashford Local Plan to 2030 and the SLRA Chairman has replied with the nominations agreed in Item 2 ii.]

#### **Item 7: Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer was not present, but **DP** reported that the Treasurer's office had advised him that the bank balance on 30 October 2013 was £724.87. **DP** had a further £40.00 and some standing order forms to be passed to the Treasurer in the next few days. [this was done on 7 November 2013]

#### **Item 8: Education on Twitter and Facebook**

This item was carried over to the next meeting.

#### **Item 9: Other business**

**ET** gave an update on the fund raising and work to restore St Mary's Church in Westwell. Over £23,000 had been raised so far and the roof and spire had now been completely refurbished with oak shingles.

#### **Item 10: Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 29 January 2014. The venue is to be confirmed.

**ACTION DP**