



Minutes of Committee meeting held at the Hare & Hounds on Wednesday 8 October 2014

Attendees: John Hobbs, Tony Bartlett, Norma Devereese, John Faulkner, Bryan Hall, Doug Harman, Desmond Henley, Andy Peddle and David Porter.

Apologies for absence were received from Joanna Clarkson, Don Murrell and Howard Preston.

Item 1: Minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2014

i. Approval

The minutes were agreed and signed.

ii. Matters Arising

JF had delivered the welcome letter to two new residents, so far without response. A further one would be delivered to a property which had recently changed hands.

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 a rear single storey extension at Longfield, 390 Sandyhurst Lane, for a garage conversion and extension, first floor extension over garage and single storey rear extension at Bear Corner, Westwell Lane and for a two storey side extension incorporating an integral garage and single storey rear extension at Segarron, 63 Sandyhurst Lane.

ii. Site Submissions for Ashford Local Plan to 2030

No further activity was envisaged until Ashford Borough Council begin consultation in 2015.

iii. Lenacre farm

The owner had approached **JF** about his plans to build an Oast House and residential dwellings. No planning applications had yet been made and the site was one of those being considered by Ashford Borough Council as a 'submitted site' for the Local Plan. It was agreed to keep a watching brief.

Item 3: Traffic issues

An email dated 7 October from contractors, on behalf of the Highways Agency, had advised that the London bound carriageway of the M20, between junctions 9 and 8, was to be 'retextured' and have grooves installed, to improve skid resistance. The work would involve overnight closure of the carriageway on weekday nights between 20 and 31 October 2014.

There was concern on the effect this might have on the already intolerable levels of traffic noise. The Secretary had written to the contractors seeking clarification.

DHa said that he would ask **ET** about this. **ET** had advised in April about noise trials on the A12 involving a new technique for scarifying the surface and installing longitudinal grooves. **ACTION DHa**

DHa also advised that he was experiencing increased levels of abuse from motorists when walking in Sandyhurst Lane with his dog. He was planning to raise the issue with the police.

Item 4: Membership

DP summarised the membership report that had been circulated. Two new members had joined since the previous meeting on 25 June 2014 and one other had moved out of the area. An email reminder had been sent to 11 cash/cheque members who had not renewed their subscriptions for 2014, but this had resulted in only one renewal. It was agreed that committee members would approach the remaining 10 members in person. **ACTION ALL**

JF provided the completed membership form for a further resident in his area who had re-joined the SLRA.

Item 5: Neighbourhood Watch

All the necessary road signs had now been installed and were well placed.

There was concern that some local coordinators were not consistently receiving the email alerts from the police and **DP** agreed to contact the police to resolve. **ACTION DP**

In the light of the forthcoming departure of **ND** (see item 10), **JF** agreed to become the local coordinator for Area J in addition to Area H. **ACTION JF**

Item 6: Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Residents' Association

ND and **JF** said that matters were dominated by the Neighbourhood Plan, for which slow progress was being made. A meeting was planned for 20 October 2014.

DP tabled a notice about the BA&E traffic survey, the results of which were to be made available to residents at Sandyacres on 19 October (1200-1600) and the Iron Room on 27 October (1800-2200). He agreed to circulate the notice. **ACTION DP**

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 was £1,126.01.

Item 8: Oil syndicate

No progress had been made on the oil syndicate, but **JF** was trying out a commercial website offering significant savings in group buying of gas and electricity. He would report back in due course.

Item 9: SLRA Notice Board

The SLRA Notice Board had been severely damaged by a hedge cutter on 15 August 2014. All attempts to seek compensation from the Director of the estate concerned had been ignored. Nevertheless, the invoice for the repair costs would be sent to him in the hope that he would respond.

JH said that the replacement notice board would be installed in the near future.

Item 10: Other business

ND said that, as she was moving away from the area at the end of the month, she would have to leave the Association and the position of Vice Chair. The committee recorded a vote of thanks to her for the contribution she had made to the SLRA and wished her well for the future. **DHe** proposed that **ND** should remain an honorary member and continue to receive news about the SLRA; this was agreed. **JH** reminded the committee that he would be standing down as Chairman at the AGM in March 2015, so it was important to find a successor. An offer by **TB** to fill the post was warmly accepted.

TB drew attention to two consultations, one on the Kent Community Warden Service and one on Westwell village Hall. It was felt that the SLRA should consider making a response to the former, but not the latter. **DP** agreed to canvass residents' views on the Community Warden Service. **ACTION DP**

JF raised the subject of the AGM, due to be held in March 2015. A preliminary discussion about the arrangements, including possible speakers ensued. It was decided to make AGM planning the main focus of the next committee meeting (see below). **ACTION DP**

Item 11: Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10 December 2014 at the Hare & Hounds. **ACTION DP**