



Minutes of Committee meeting held at the Hare & Hounds on Wednesday 10 December 2014

Attendees: Tony Bartlett, Joanna Clarkson, John Faulkner, Doug Harman, Desmond Henley and David Porter.

Apologies for absence were received from Bryan Hall, John Hobbs, Andy Peddle and Howard Preston.

In the absence of the Chairman, the meeting was chaired by Tony Bartlett.

Item 1: Minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2014

i. Approval

The minutes were agreed and signed.

ii. Matters Arising

There were no 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 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 begins consultation in 2015. It was agreed that Cllr David Robey, Ashford Borough Council's Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development, should be invited to update members at the AGM in March 2015.

ACTION DP

Item 3: Traffic issues

Following the retexturing and grooving of the London bound carriageway of the M20 between junctions 9 and 8, between 20 and 31 October 2014, SLRA had carried out an opinion survey of residents on the perceived level of traffic noise. 58% of respondents thought noise levels were unchanged, 39% thought they had increased and 4% thought they had decreased.

A recent accident involving two SLRA members and a foreign lorry had highlighted the need to continue to press for road safety improvements at Potters Corner. It was also recognised that road safety was an ongoing issue along the whole length of Sandyhurst Lane and at the junction with Faversham Road. There were also problems with noise from refrigerated lorries parked in the A20 layby overnight. It was agreed that road safety should be a topic for the AGM.

JF said that Boughton Aluph and Eastwell Parish Council (BA&EPC) had commissioned a traffic survey throughout the parish, which includes a substantial part of Sandyhurst Lane. The study had now been completed and submitted to BA&EPC. It was agreed to write to the Chairman of BA&EPC to request sight of the report so that SLRA could provide comments in relation to any findings relevant to the SLRA area.

ACTION JF

Item 4: Membership

DP summarised the membership report that had been circulated. One past member had re-joined since the previous meeting on 8 October 2014 and two had moved out of the area. Following action by committee members, the number of outstanding membership subscription payments for 2014 had now been reduced from ten to four. These four members were sent an email on 4 November thanking them for their past support and advising that they would receive no further email bulletins. It was agreed that, where appropriate, committee members would make further efforts to persuade these four members to renew their subscriptions.

ACTION ALL

Item 5: Neighbourhood Watch

The latest updated list of members had been circulated with the agenda. All local coordinators were now receiving messages from Kent Police Neighbourhood Watch volunteers. It was noted that the Weald Neighbourhood Watch Committee is planning to hold a meeting of Weald Co-ordinators and others in the spring of 2015 at the Julie Rose Stadium.

Item 6: Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Residents' Association

JF said that matters were dominated by the Neighbourhood Plan. The committee responsible for this had now developed a very comprehensive questionnaire which **JF** had circulated to SLRA committee members, who were invited to email any comments back to him (copied to other committee members).

ACTION ALL

The Parish Design Statement would also be revised to bring it into line with the Neighbourhood Plan.

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 £1,256.01, with an outstanding liability of £90.00 for repairs to the notice board. This sum had now been recovered from Eastwell Estates.

Item 8: Planning for AGM, 25 March 2015

i. Agenda

The first draft agenda was agreed. It now required details of speakers.

ii. Speakers and Invitees

Road safety had been identified as a topic for discussion at the AGM (see item 3 above). This would be reviewed after **JF** had contacted BA&EPC about the results of their traffic survey.

Westwell Wines would be invited to give a short presentation.

ACTION DP

A further speaker would be sought on the subject of health care. It was suggested that Dr Bill Warrilow of the Charing Practice would be a good choice. **TB** agreed to contact him.

ACTION TB

Invitees would include all the relevant county and borough councillors. David Robey would be asked to update the meeting on developments in the planning issues for the Ashford Local Plan to 2030.

ACTION DP

iii. Admin

DHa offered to man the reception desk (hopefully with **AP!**).

ACTION DHa

It was agreed to serve tea and coffee at the end of the meeting and to investigate the cost of serving a glass of wine or soft drink on arrival.

ACTION DP

DP would draft the flyer, for approval by the Committee, and distribution to all properties would be carried out by Committee members using Neighbourhood Watch areas about three weeks before the event.

ACTION DP

Item 9: Other business

TB said that he had attended recent meetings of the Kennington Community Forum. It was agreed that **TB** should be the official SLRA delegate to this Forum.

ACTION TB

DP said that one member had asked what could be done to discourage a resident from cutting back hedgerows which they did not own, in order to create a vehicle parking space. As this was a specific issue rather than a collective one, it was not felt that it would be appropriate for the SLRA to take action at this stage. However, it was agreed that the member should be advised to draw the attention of Boughton Aluph and Eastwell Parish Council to the matter by writing to them.

JF said that an item on Meridian News had reported that KCC were not planning to cut back on the number of Community Wardens, but would make savings on their administration costs. **DP** confirmed that, after consultation with members, he had lodged an SLRA response to the recent KCC consultation on Community Wardens.

TB said that a member had raised the issue of broadband speed with him. **JF** said that this issue was part of the BA&EPC planning consultation. It was agreed to review this issue when the results of that consultation become available.

TB said that he had received a complaint that a resident was trading used cars by exhibiting them outside his property. It was not known whether any laws or covenants were being broken and it was agreed that this was a matter for the individual unless a more widespread issue arose.

Item 10: Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 4 February 2015 at the Hare & Hounds.

ACTION DP