



**Minutes of Committee meeting held at the Hare & Hounds
on Tuesday 16 April 2019**

Present: Tony Bartlett, Bryan Biggs, Fred Dunkerley, Bryan Hall, Desmond Henley, John Hobbs, and David Porter.
Apologies were received from Andy Peddle.

Item 1: Election of Chairman

DP opened the meeting by saying that, following the re-election of the committee at the AGM, it was necessary, under the Constitution, to elect a Chairman. He proposed Tony Bartlett. This proposal was seconded by **JH** and the vote was then carried unanimously. **TB** then chaired the rest of the meeting.

Item 2: Minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2019

i. Approval

The minutes were agreed.

ii. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising which were not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

Item 3: Review of AGM, 6 March 2019

TB said that he had received good feedback about the invited speakers, both of whom had given interesting talks. There had been a good attendance and the event had gone off well. It was noted that a microphone would be required for future AGMs. **ACTION DP**

Item 4: Planning Issues

i. Ashford Local Plan/Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

It was noted that the Ashford Local Plan 2030 had now been formally adopted. **TB** said that Ashford Borough Council (ABC) would be starting a review of the Plan later this year and that the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) in Ashford had formed a working group of parish councils to talk to ABC about issues such as creeping urbanisation, traffic etc.

It was also noted that Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Parish Council (BA&E PC) had issued their draft Neighbourhood Plan (NP) for public consultation over six weeks until 19 May 2019. Several committee members had attended the exhibition held at Sandyacres on 13 April and established dialogues with members of BA&E PC and local borough councillors (Cllrs Krause & Michael). Various aspects of the Plan were discussed, including Sandyacres and transport issues. **TB** had prepared some comments on the draft Plan which he would circulate to committee members as a basis for the SLRA submission to the consultation. He stressed he believed our contribution should concentrate on the impact of the NP policies on the wider SLRA community. **ACTION TB**

ii. Planning applications and outcomes

It was noted that an entry on the ABC website stated that an appeal has been lodged against the refusal of permission for 21 dwellings at Lenacre Hall Farm, though no appeal documents were yet available. Planning Committee dates were still awaited for the 79 dwelling hybrid application for Lenacre Hall Farm and for the 18 dwelling former Sand Pit application. In the case of Lenacre Hall Farm it was believed that a review is taking place to decide whether to take the case forward.

It was also noted that retrospective approval had been made for a summer house/store at Bears Corner, Westwell Lane, and for a side extension at 354 Sandyhurst Lane.

Item 5: Traffic issues

It was planned to hold a meeting to discuss traffic speed in Sandyhurst Lane with Westwell Parish Council, Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Parish Council, and the local county and borough councillors after the forthcoming local elections. **ACTION TB/DP**

Item 6: Defibrillator

The SLRA defibrillator had now been installed outside the Hare and Hounds. A free training session had been organised for members on 17 April. **JH** proposed and it was unanimously agreed to make a £50 charitable donation to the trainer's organisation, St John's Ambulance Service. **ACTION TB/DP**

Item 7 Sandyacres Trustee Board

Further to the discussion about the future of Sandyacres, as proposed in the BA&E Neighbourhood Plan, held under item 4.i above, **FD** said that a meeting of the Sandyacres Trustee Board was to be held on 18 April to review the Neighbourhood Plan in respect of Sandyacres. **TB** reiterated his concerns about the lack of transparency in respect of the Trustee Board.

FD also reported that a complaint had been received about litter at Sandyacres. The staff regularly cleared any litter from the pitches etc, but not the undergrowth. **JH** reported that his son and another resident had recently picked up a bag-full of litter in the area.

Item 8: Consultations

There were no current consultations relevant to the SLRA.

Item 9: Membership

DP said that there were now 151 members. The recent AGM and an email/News Update to members who had not yet paid for 2019 had reduced the number of outstanding subscriptions to 21.

Item 10: Treasurer's report

The Treasurer was not present. **DP** said that the financial assets were a bank balance of £1917.87 and £45.00 cash.

Item 11: Hedgerows

An email from a member had raised the issue of the poor and declining state of the hedgerows along Sandyhurst Lane and sought action from the SLRA in pursuing local land owners to improve hedgerow management. Following discussion, **BH** agreed to take the issue forward, in conjunction with his wife, who is a qualified environmentalist. **ACTION BH**

Item 12: Neighbourhood Watch

The latest database, containing several updates, had been issued. It was agreed dissemination of relevant crime alerts and prevention advice should be extended to the wider Westwell Parish through Westwell Events.

Item 13: Other business

FD said that his wife had responded to the request, recently circulated by the Secretary, for help for a member who had suffered health problems.

TB raised the issue of litter picking. After some discussion, it was agreed that, given that the SLRA has no public liability insurance, the SLRA position should be to support fully initiatives such as those of local parish councils and Keep Britain Tidy, but not to organise directly any litter picking events.

Item 14: Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2 July 2019.

ACTION DP