



**Minutes of Committee meeting held at the Hare & Hounds  
on Tuesday 17 July 2018**

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

**Item 1: Minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2018**

**i. Approval**

The minutes were agreed.

**ii. Matters Arising**

**TB** said that the Rural means Rural campaign had received support from a number of Parish Councils. There were no other matters arising which were not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

**Item 2: Planning Issues**

**i. Planning applications and outcomes**

The planning application for 21 dwellings at Lenacre Hall Farm was to be decided by the Council's Planning Committee on 18 July. The SLRA had nominated **BB** to speak at the meeting with additional objection comments. Cllr Nigel Bunker, Vice Chair of Boughton Aluph & Eastwell PC and Cllr Winston Michael, ward member for Boughton Aluph & Eastwell, would also be objecting to the application. **TB** had drafted the SLRA verbal objection comments, referencing points in the planning officer's report, which had been written in very positive terms. The objection comments were to be circulated to members. **ACTION DP**

**ii. Ashford Local Plan to 2030**

It was noted that the Planning Inspectors' Post Hearings Advice included deletion of all A20 Corridor Sites and that the next stage is a consultation on Main Modifications. **TB** said that he was attending a meeting of the Kent Association of Local Councils on 18 July at which Ashford's Head of Planning Policy would provide an update. **TB** would then advise committee members of any relevant information. **ACTION TB**

**Item 3: Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Residents' Association/Neighbourhood Plan**

No new information was available on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan.

**Item 4: Traffic issues**

**Traffic speed:** **DP** summarised the SLRA report prepared on the analysis of the automatic traffic counter (ATC) data published in the recent Transport Statements for the planning applications for Lenacre Hall Farm and the Former Sandpit, Sandyhurst Lane. The analysis showed that there was not a significant amount of speeding in excess of the 40 mph limit. However, both sites, and in particular the Sandpit site, were located close to features such as bends in the road and a steep winding hill, which may have influenced the results. It was therefore decided to obtain quotations for ATC measurements at two sites in relatively straight sections of the Lane, one in the 30 mph zone and one in the 40 mph zone. **ACTION DP**

### **Item 5: Defibrillator**

Kent Fire & Rescue Service had advised that the SLRA application for one of the 73 defibrillators that they wish to donate to Community groups had been successful. Delivery was now awaited. The defibrillator was to be installed in a location where it would be available at all times and the SLRA would probably need to purchase a cabinet to hold it. Further consideration would be given to the location of the defibrillator at the next meeting. Meanwhile, it would be established where Boughton Aluph & Eastwell PC had defibrillators installed.

**ACTION DP**

### **Item 6: Consultations**

KCC is currently holding a "Big Conversation" on rural transport. **TB** said he would be attending an event in Maidstone on 18 July and a discussion was held on various aspects of rural bus services, including their purpose and benefits.

### **Item 7: Membership**

**DP** said that there were now 147 members, representing 43% of the catchment area. Since the previous committee meeting, there had been a loss of 2 members. There were 19 cash subscriptions due; these members had been emailed or advised via the News Update. A list would be sent to each committee member of subscriptions due from their local neighbours.

**ACTION DP**

### **Item 8: Treasurer's report**

The Treasurer was not present. **DP** said that the bank balance stood at approximately £2757 with a further £15 in cash and outstanding expenditure of £95, giving a net balance of £2677.

### **Item 9: Neighbourhood Watch**

The latest database had been issued. A discussion was held on the likely impact on Neighbourhood Watch and Westwell Community Watch when the properties currently in Bockhanger ward become part of Westwell Parish in May 2019. Thoughts would be developed for a discussion at the AGM in April.

### **Item 10: Member request re garden recycling bins**

A member had asked if there was any mileage in campaigning for a change in the service of garden recycling bins from fortnightly over the year to weekly over the summer half of the year. After debating the issue, the committee came to the view that this was not likely to be adopted because many residents do use their garden recycling bins in the winter and 6 months would be too short a period. It was felt very unlikely that the Council would agree to a borough-wide change of this nature.

### **Item 11: Other business**

**DP** said that a member had requested that the SLRA should review its online profile with particular reference to starting an SLRA Facebook page. It was noted that the Twitter feed introduced 5 years ago had only 31 followers. A Facebook Group might be more successful, but the resources to manage online presence and communication with members were already stretched. It was agreed to ask the membership for a volunteer to join the committee and manage a Facebook page. If the candidate were female this would be even better as the committee's present membership severely lacks gender equality.

**ACTION DP**

### **Item 12: Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 September 2018.

**ACTION DP**