

Sandyhurst Lane Residents' Association

Minutes of SLRA Committee meeting held at Sandyacres Clubhouse on Wednesday 26 September 2012

Attendees: John Hobbs, Tony Bartlett, Norma Devereese, Andy Peddle, David Porter, Howard Preston.

Apologies for absence had been received from John Faulkner, Don Murrell and Evan Thomas.

Item 1: Minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2012

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 the most recent planning application for Carpenders, at the junction of Sandyhurst Lane and Faversham Road, for modifications to the existing dwelling and the construction of three detached dwellings, was still in the appeal procedure. [Note: It has subsequently emerged that the appeal had been dismissed earlier in the day].

It was noted that permission had been granted, unopposed, for the following applications:

- summer house and patio at The Pines, Westwell Lane
- first floor extension at Wight House, Lenacre Street

ii. Ashford Local Plan to 2030

Information was tabled on the first call by Ashford Borough Council for submissions by 31 October 2012. This was on the subject of projected jobs growth and new homes. The committee took the view that it was essential that any growth in housing was geared to a growth in employment; houses should not be built unless justified by economic growth. **TB** offered to circulate some data to committee members as background to these issues, to help inform individual responses. **ACTION TB**

Item 3: Traffic issues

i. A20/Sandyhurst Lane junction

A reply had been received from KCC Traffic Schemes, dated 21 August 2012. Subject to final budgetary assessment and consultation with affected parties, KCC have now secured funding in 2012/13 for the installation of new signage for the junction, including two electronic crossroads junction warning signs with SLOW DOWN underneath, to be triggered at 55mph. These will be located either side of the westbound carriageway of the A20, about 180 metres before the junction. This is the position currently occupied by the 'end of No Stopping' (Clearway) signs.

Three points were raised in discussion:

- there should be signs on both carriageways, rather than only the westbound carriageway
- what are 'stack signs' and why was it necessary to use them to replace the existing 'map signs'?
- the proposed electronic crossroads signs are too close to the junction

The Chairman said he would reply to KCC on these points

ACTION JH

ii. Parking at Faversham Road end of Sandyhurst Lane

As the original letter to KCC (on 19 May 2012) had not been received, **JH** had re-sent it and a reply was awaited. If no reply was received by the end of October, he would chase it further. **ACTION JH**

iii. M20 Noise Action Group

AP would be attending the next meeting of the M20NAG, scheduled for 18 October 2012. Meanwhile, an email had been received pointing out that planned works on the M25 All Lanes Running 'managed motorways' scheme do not include resurfacing of the concrete, emphasising the challenge for the M20NAG Group. **ACTION AP**

iv. Vehicle-activated speed indicator signs in Sandyhurst Lane

DP had been in touch with the Parish Clerk at Boughton Aluph & Eastwell PC to try to establish the timescale for the installation of these signs. The PC has agreed to fund the signs and KCC have agreed to install them, but there is apparently some delay whilst power supplies are determined. No firm timescale is yet available. **ND** offered to raise the issue with KCC Councillor Richard King at the BA&ERA AGM on 12 October. **ACTION ND**

Item 4: Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Parish Proposed Split and Residents' Association

ND said that the proposed split was now a less pressing issue in BA&E PC. Further discussion would probably occur at the BA&ERA AGM on 12 October.

Item 5: Treasurer's Report

In the absence of the Treasurer, this item was held over. No significant expenditure was known to have occurred since the last meeting.

Item 6: Membership

DP reported that there were now 76 members, and several of them had recently paid outstanding subscriptions for 2012. However, 6 members had not yet paid their 2012 subscriptions and these would now be removed from the email bulletin list. Attempts to persuade them to continue in membership would continue to be made by **JH** and **DP**. **ACTION DP/JH**

It was agreed that an approach should be made to the 'Westwell Eye' with a view to raising the profile of the SLRA by including occasional SLRA reports in this publication. The SLRA would also be brought to the attention of all residents by the leaflet planned for distribution ahead of the AGM in March 2013. **ACTION DP**

Item 7: Other business

HP noted that funding of remedial works to eliminate a slope in footpath AE210 was on hold. Part funding had been offered by Winston Michael, ward member for Boughton Aluph and Eastwell, but the balance was still sought.

JH said that Winston Michael had asked whether the SLRA would assist him in the application for a grant of £10,000 for a youth project in the ward. The application had to come from a non-profit organisation such as a parish council or residents' association. **JH** had already received assurances that there were no legal or financial liabilities which would fall on the SLRA, but the committee sought to know why the application was not being made by BA&E PC or BA&ERA. **JH** said he would discuss the matter further with Winston Michael. **ACTION JH**

Item 8: Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 21 November 2012 at Sandyacres Clubhouse. **ACTION DP**