

Sandyhurst Lane Residents' Association

Minutes of SLRA Committee meeting held at Sandyacres Clubhouse on Tuesday 30 April 2013

Attendees: John Hobbs, Tony Bartlett, John Faulkner, Desmond Henley, David Porter, Howard Preston and Evan Thomas.

By invitation: Alexandra Harrington, Kent Police, Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator, East Kent Division

Apologies for absence were received from Norma Devereese, Doug Harman, Don Murrell and Andy Peddle.

Item 1: Minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2013

i. Approval

The minutes were agreed and signed.

ii. Matters Arising

It was agreed that the AGM had been successful, with good quality speakers.

TB said that the planned 80,000m² distribution warehouse planned for Sevington was on the "back burner". The planned motorway junction 10A was being reassessed in the light of costs and Section 106 funding may be sought from developers, opening up new considerations for the whole area. A watching brief would be kept.

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

Item 2: Neighbourhood Watch

Alex Harrington introduced herself as a retired police officer with 30 years' service who was now the Neighbourhood Watch (NW) Coordinator for East Kent. This was one of three Kent divisions and comprised five NW Associations – Thanet, The Weald, Canterbury, Dover & District and Shepway. These Associations supported local NW coordinators in various ways.

A new messaging system, linked to the Kent Police website, was being introduced in May. Messages about crime and anti-social behaviour in the area would then be available to those registering on the site.

Alex Harrington said that if SLRA wanted to run a NW scheme, it was necessary to gauge local interest, determine 'street coordinators' and their deputies and set up an inaugural meeting. Alex would then arrange for the local PCSO to attend, provide information and act as a conduit for police information.

If SLRA wished to pursue such an initiative, Alex would provide 'road slips' and information sheets to distribute to residents. She could also supply window stickers. Coordination with Westwell PC and Boughton Aluph & Eastwell PC may be appropriate as they are also interested in revitalising the NW scheme.

Following this presentation, the Secretary was asked to obtain further information for the next meeting, when the issue would be considered further. **ACTION DP**

Item 3: Planning Issues

The application for a single storey rear extension at The Nook, 388 Sandyhurst Lane had been permitted despite numerous objections from local residents and from the SLRA. **JF** had circulated an anonymous critique which indicated dissatisfaction with the planning process. It was felt that the Planning Department was impotent when faced with a *fait accompli* which it had chosen to approve it in retrospect.

It was noted that applications had been made for a garage conversion at 47 Sandyhurst Lane and a two storey extension at 72 Sandyhurst Lane. It was also noted that applications had been permitted for a side extension at 350 Sandyhurst Lane and a conservatory & kitchen extension at Springbank, Westwell Lane.

Item 4: Traffic issues

i. A20/Sandyhurst Lane junction

JH had received a reply from KCC, in response to his enquiry on 18 February 2013 seeking an update on progress. The scheme was being slightly revised and would be sent out for public consultation. The funding had been transferred to the 2013-14 budget.

Following the close involvement of Richard King and Elizabeth Tweed in this issue, it was agreed that a letter would be sent to the new KCC councillors, seeking their support, after the election on 2 May 2013.

ACTION DP/JH

ii. Parking restrictions

It was noted that KCC had held an informal consultation in March on two schemes for parking restrictions in Goat Lees, including the possibility of both double and single yellow lines in Sandyhurst Lane, in the vicinity of Sandyacres and the footpath to Goat Lees. A report on the consultation was now awaited, following which formal public consultation will be held if one of the two schemes floated has conclusive support. If the results are inconclusive, a decision will be made by the Ashford Joint Transportation Board.

iii. M20 Noise Action Group

AP was not present, but **DP** said that he was aware that the M20NAG meeting originally planned for 28 February 2013 had been cancelled.

Item 5: Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Residents' Association

JF reported that meetings about the new recycling and refuse collection service had been held on 27 April 2013.

BA&ERA, together with BA&EPC, had circulated a flyer including a proposal to undertake a traffic survey in the parish in response to residents' concerns. So far, a limited number of responses had been received.

Item 6: Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer had provided the following information:

- the bank balance on 29 April 2013 stood at £608.52
- the raffle held at the AGM yielded £37.80

Item 7: Membership

DP reported that, since the last meeting, 12 members had renewed their subscriptions and 3 new members had joined. There were currently 62 paid up members, compared with 69 at the end of 2012.

Item 8: Sponsorship

Following the distribution of the AGM flyer, an offer had been received from a local business for sponsorship of SLRA newsletters. However, apart from the annual AGM flyer, all news was now sent to members by email (except 7 members without email facilities) and, in obtaining those email addresses, an undertaking had been given not to use them for commercial purposes.

It was agreed, therefore, to politely decline the offer at the present time.

ACTION DP

Item 9: Future events

The Sandyacres manager had enquired whether SLRA might be interested in holding an event at Sandyacres in the summer (eg a fete, BBQ or family fun day). On consideration, it was felt that the committee members did not have sufficient time available to commit to such an event.

However, it was agreed to offer Sandyacres the facility to publicise their events calendar, eg on the SLRA website. **ACTION DP**

Item 10: Other business

DP submitted an expense claim for website renewal fees and purchase of raffle ticket and receipt books. This was approved.

JF had received an offer from a neighbour, who is a trustee of Sandyacres, to address a future meeting on the history of the social club, how it operates and its future plans. It was agreed to put this on hold for the present time.

Item 11: Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 26 June 2013 at Sandyacres Clubhouse. **ACTION DP**