



**Minutes of Committee meeting held online (using Zoom)
on Thursday 6 January 2022**

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

Item 1: Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Item 2: Minutes of meeting held on 30 November 2021

i. Approval

The minutes were agreed.

ii. Matters Arising

On the issue of the tree felling which had taken place on the Eastwell Estate adjacent to the A251, **DP** said that he had written again to the tree officer at ABC, who had again contacted Simon Ginnaw of Forestry England to request an update on our behalf, having received no reply to his previous enquiry on 8 November 2021. Further matters arising were dealt with under the relevant agenda items.

Item 3: Planning for AGM, 15 March 2022

DP thanked **FD** for establishing that a PA system was available at Sandyacres. **AP** confirmed that he was willing to stand for re-election; the remaining committee members who had yet to be asked to confirm would be contacted shortly. **ACTION DP**

TB would advise a representative of Kent Police as a guest speaker in due course. **ACTION TB**

DP said that the agreed guests would be invited later this month. The draft flyer would be updated and circulated to the committee for approval shortly before distribution in early March. **ACTION DP**

Item 4: Planning for Queen's Platinum Jubilee

FD said that he had held further discussions with the Sandyacres Manager who remained enthusiastic about an event and would do all she could to help, including providing the venue free of charge, but was not in a position to fund the event. It was agreed that it should be funded by ticket sales for the food. **JH**, who had experience of similar events organised by the Rotary Club, agreed to prepare some costings and to join **FD** in further discussions with Sandyacres. **ACTION JH/FD**

BH said that some grants were available and offered to help with an application, if a plan for the event was developed first.

TB said that Westwell PC would be lighting their beacon and explored other ideas for a permanent SLRA memorial of the Jubilee, such as a bench or tree planting. **SW** agreed to look into some of these alternative ideas. **ACTION SW**

Item 5: Planning Issues

A discussion was held on the recently published outline application for development on land at Eureka Park, with all matters reserved except for access. The proposal to have no vehicular access from Sandyhurst Lane, even for emergency vehicles, was welcome. It was essential that good quality permanent barriers were in place. Access for pedestrians and cyclists would inevitably present opportunities for illegal e-scooters etc and measures should be included to discourage this. It was not clear what volume increase of pedestrians and cyclists using Sandyhurst Lane to access the development might arise, but consideration might be given to using Section 106 funding to pay for improvements. The only advantage for SLRA residents would be if a bus service were introduced to serve the new development, given that access through to shops etc at Eureka Place is already provided by PROWs. **TB** said that Westwell PC would be making a response. He and **DP** would draft an SLRA response for circulation and submission by 23 January 2022. **ACTION TB/DP**

[Secretary's note: The deadline for comments has now been extended to 6 February 2022.]

On the issue of the "buffer" between Sandyhurst Lane and the new development, it was noted that whilst the proposals appeared satisfactory in respect of the new dwellings, there appeared to be little or no buffer between the employment areas and several properties in Sandyhurst Lane and properties Goat Lees. The SLRA response would raise this issue and **AP** offered to discuss the issue with a resident particularly affected. **ACTION AP**

All members would be reminded to consider making a response to the application.

ACTION DP

TB said that Westwell PC had asked Ashford Borough Council for an update on enforcement action at Elvey Cottage, following the appeal dismissal in September 2021. This was noted and it was agreed no SLRA action was appropriate.

Item 6: Traffic issues

TB said that, at the Joint Transportation Board meeting on 14 December, KCC had reported that they had resumed clamping of HGVs in breach of the permanent parking ban between 8pm and 7am including the A20 between Charing and Ashford. The 660 vehicle extension of Ashford Truck Stop at Waterbrook had opened on 3 December.

SW raised the issue of illegal e-scooters being used by children in Sandyhurst Lane, often in poor light conditions, causing a danger to themselves and other road users. **TB** said he had discussed the issue with the police, who were taking action, eg by visiting schools and providing advice.

TB confirmed that the measures in the Westwell PC Highways Improvement Plan (as discussed at the previous meeting) were going ahead in the coming months. He also said that, following the issue raised by **DHe** of the state of the footpath on the A20 between Sandyhurst Lane and Watery Lane, the maintenance needs would be assessed at an early site meeting to be arranged by the Parish Clerk with KCC Highways Parish Warden and representatives of the PC.

Item 7: Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Parish

BH said that BA&E PC had held a meeting with Quadrant Estates in July, but the minutes had yet to be published and Quadrant appeared to have ignored the concerns of BA&E PC in their planning application. The PC would be making a response to the application, including environmental concerns.

Item 8: Sandyacres Trustee Board

FD said that, apart from the discussions reported in Item 4, there was nothing further to report as no Trustee Board meetings had been held recently.

Item 9: Consultations

There were no consultations appropriate for an SLRA response. Although the Quadrant Estates "Trinity Lakes" consultation remained open, it appeared superfluous now that a formal planning application had been submitted.

Item 10: Membership

DP said that membership was now 146, down from 147, 1 member having moved away. 74 standing order payments had been received at the beginning of January. Cash members would be encouraged to renew their subscriptions at the AGM, or online.

Item 11: Treasurer's report

The Treasurer was not present. DP said that the current bank balance was £2,768.04, with liabilities of £45.

Item 12: Neighbourhood Watch

The latest Neighbourhood Watch database had been circulated.

Item 13: Other business

There was no further business.

Item 14: Next meeting

There was unanimous consensus amongst those present for a continuation of Virtual Committee meetings but that the AGM should be live if possible to encourage community cohesion.

The next meeting will be held in March, on a date to be decided.

ACTION DP