

**Minutes of Committee meeting held online (using Zoom)
on Tuesday 12 April 2022**

Present: Tony Bartlett, Fred Dunkerley, Bryan Hall, John Hobbs, Graham Mullaly, Andy Peddle, David Porter.

Apologies were received from Doug Harman and Sue Wood.

Item 1: Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Item 2: Minutes of meeting held on 6 January 2022**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, **TB** said that, in the light of the lack of response from Forestry England and Ashford Borough Council, the matter should be raised with Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Parish Council (BA&EPC). **DP** agreed to send details to the BA&E parish clerk. **BH** said that he would also try to get a further response from Forestry England.

ACTION DP/BH

Item 3: Review of AGM, 15 March 2022

DP said that the AGM had been well received, with a total attendance of 43 and a number of positive emails received subsequently. Tara Hall's talk had been well received. **TB** said he would draft a letter to the member who had raised the issue of road markings and speed limits in Sandyhurst Lane.

ACTION TB

Item 4: Planning for Queen's Platinum Jubilee

TB said that Westwell Parish Council (WPC) were now planning to light their beacon on Thursday 2 June and hold a "a picnic in the park" event on Friday 3 June, starting at 1pm. He had attended the BA&E PC meeting on 6 April and said that this PC was not holding any events but was planning to commemorate the Jubilee by tree planting.

FD said that he and **JH** had recommended that the SLRA did not hold an event at Sandyacres as it was previously thought that BA&EPC were planning an event. It was decided to re-visit the SLRA plans for a "bring your own" picnic at Sandyacres with access to the bar and facilities. **FD** agreed to have a further discussion with the Manager at Sandyacres and **JH** agreed to draft a further email to members to gauge the level of interest. If the event were to go ahead, a flyer to all residents would be necessary.

ACTION FD/JH

[Secretary's note: Post meeting, **FD** has advised that Sandyacres is no longer available]

Following discussion, it was decided not to install any SLRA permanent memorial for the Jubilee. **TB** said that Ashford Borough Council (ABC) were planning large scale tree planting and encouraging parish councils to participate. He would raise this with WPC and see if they would support tree(s) planting on the Hoads Wood Gardens Green.

ACTION TB

Item 5: Planning Issues

It was noted that the SLRA response to the outline planning application for land at Eureka Park had been submitted. The outcome of the application was now awaited. **TB** said that he had been pleased that representatives of the Eureka Park developers, Quadrant Estates, had fully participated in the Open Forum at the AGM.

GM felt that there was a likelihood that residents or workers in the new development might create a car parking problem near the pedestrian access points in Sandyhurst Lane. It was agreed to bear this issue in mind and remind ABC and Quadrant as appropriate.

Item 6: Traffic issues

TB confirmed the measures in the WPC Highways Improvement Plan (HIP) and said that the Chair of WPC was in correspondence with KCC on the detailed plans. He also said that BA&EPC had not yet submitted their HIP but were still in dialogue with neighbouring PCs on the A251 about safety measures. There were no plans for the BA&EPC HIP to include Sandyhurst Lane. **FD** said that there were speeding traffic problems in the BA&E part of the Lane, referring to a recent incident in which a hit & run driver had injured a woman who was loading a baby into her vehicle. The police and ambulance service had been involved. It was agreed to write to BA&EPC referring to this incident and seeking their views on campaigning for the 40mph limit to be reduced to 30mph. **JH** referred to his correspondence with the KCC Councillor David Brazier in which organisations and PCs were encouraged to put the case for highways improvements.

ACTION DP/FD

After discussion it was agreed that the implementation of a 30mph (or 20mph) speed limit along the length of Sandyhurst Lane should be a declared objective of the SLRA.

[Post meeting note: **TB** requests that ALL Committee members be asked to confirm or otherwise their commitment to this.]

A discussion was held on salt bins. There were only two in the SLRA area, both in Hoads Wood Gardens. Overall, it was felt that, given that snow and ice are becoming less common, it was not necessary to pursue this issue.

An email from a member living on the A20 had raised the issue of noise and traffic, which had become worse due to Operation Brock. It was agreed to examine the case again to campaign for the 40mph speed limit to be extended from Orchard Heights to beyond Potters Corner.

Item 7: Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Parish Residents' Association

In view of the fact that this Association appeared to be inactive, it was agreed to drop this standing item from the agenda for future meetings.

ACTION DP

Item 8: Sandyacres Trustee Board

FD said that the Sandyacres Trustees had not met recently. Whilst football & rugby teams were back using the facility, general bookings were still slow.

Item 9: Consultations

There were no consultations appropriate for an SLRA response. The KCC Bus Funding Reduction consultation, which threatened route 123, had not produced any reaction from members.

Item 10: Membership

DP said that membership was now up from 146 to 148. Cash members were being encouraged to renew their subscriptions and there were now 29 outstanding. **AP** agreed to chase up a member.

ACTION AP

Item 11: Treasurer's report

The Treasurer was not present. **DP** said that the current bank balance was £2768.34, with liabilities of £148.63 (£2619.71 net).

Item 12: Neighbourhood Watch

The latest Neighbourhood Watch database had been circulated.

Item 13: Other business

FD raised an issue relating to a resident running a business from their home. **DP** said that the SLRA did not get involved with local disputes between neighbours, but that an approach to ABC could resolve the issue.

TB said that BA&EPC were planning to employ a “caretaker” to maintain their assets and carry out litter picking, including their part of Sandyhurst Lane.

Item 14: Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 27 June 2022.

ACTION DP