

**Minutes of Committee meeting held at the Hare & Hounds
on Monday 14 November 2016**

Present: Tony Bartlett, Joanna Clarkson, Desmond Henley, David Porter and Evan Thomas.

Apologies were received from John Faulkner, Bryan Hall, John Hobbs and Andy Peddle

Item 1: Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2016**i. Approval**

The minutes were agreed and signed.

ii. Matters Arising

Under item 4, **DP** reported that no reply had yet been received from Kent County Council (KCC) following his enquiry on 14 September about ownership of the verges in Sandyhurst Lane.

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

Item 2: Planning Issues**i. Planning applications and outcomes**

It was noted that planning applications had been made for an extension and pool at 2 Potters Close and that there were issues under discussion about earth levels at both 1 & 2 Potters Close. Applications had also been made for a garden room and garden kitchen at 4 Potters Close and for an extension at 106 Sandyhurst Lane. An application had been made for listed building consent for improvement works to the barns at Lenacre Hall Farm, 393 Sandyhurst Lane. None of these applications was considered contentious.

ii. Ashford Local Plan to 2030

Ashford Borough Council (ABC) had published, on 15 September, all comments received in the draft Local Plan consultation. These included comments made in relation to "omission sites", ie development sites originally submitted for consideration but omitted from the draft Plan.

TB summarised the omission sites of particular interest to the SLRA, which are Woodside, Westwell Lane, Beechbrook, Lenacre Hall Farm and the Former Sandpit, Sandyhurst Lane. He said that, since the publication of the draft Local Plan, Ashford Borough Council had come under pressure from the Planning Inspectorate to find a further 1,400 homes, because they considered the present and planned rate of build was insufficient. It was therefore essential to keep a close eye on the omission sites. In particular, Beechbrook may offer a tempting target for development because all 1,400 extra homes could be built there. Beechbrook had received an omission comment only in the context of lorry parking, but this did not mean that it might not be considered for housing development.

The sites at Lenacre Hall Farm and the Former Sandpit, Sandyhurst Lane had been referred for consideration to the Neighbourhood Planning team in Boughton Aluph & Eastwell (BA&E). As the two SLRA representatives in the BA&E area had been unable to attend this committee meeting, the Secretary was asked to write to them seeking any updates on these sites.

ACTION DP

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

This item is included in item 2 ii above.

Item 4: LGBCE Consultation on Warding Arrangements for Ashford Borough Council

Following the consultation, which had closed on 5 September, the draft proposals had been due for publication on 8 November, followed by a public consultation. However, this had now been delayed because of likely changes to the draft Local Plan [see item 2 ii] and a new date for publication of the draft proposals by LGBCE was awaited. A watching brief would continue.

Item 5: Traffic issues

TB said that following the recent damage to the Potters Corner bus shelter by a hit-and-run HGV, the bus stop pole had been reinstated by KCC and the bus stop sign itself would soon be reinstated by the bus company. The bus shelter would be reinstated by Westwell Parish Council (following an insurance claim) and KCC had undertaken to improve disabled access to the shelter.

The problem of lorry parking in the road adjacent to the bus shelter was now even worse. New kerbing had been installed to protect the adjacent gas main and KCC and ABC were actively working on options to solve the parking problem. It was anticipated that a meeting between KCC, ABC and Westwell PC would be held before the end of 2016, to progress the issue. It was also noted that bollards had been installed on the Godinton Lane side of the A20 to prevent illegal parking.

Item 6: Consultations

The only relevant consultation open at present was the online survey by the Kent Police & Crime Commissioner to assist in his development of a five year Plan. Details of the survey, which is open until 2 December, had been emailed to members on 19 October. It was felt that the committee should also make a collective SLRA response and the Secretary was asked to seek members' views to inform such a response.

ACTION DP

Item 7: Membership

DP said that there were now 125 members, following deletion of 9 members who had not renewed their subscriptions for 2016. It was agreed to make further efforts to persuade these members to remain in membership.

ACTION ALL

Item 8: Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer was not present. **DP** said that the bank balance stood at £1931.84. A further £15.00 in cash was due to be paid in.

Item 9: Neighbourhood Watch

The latest database had been issued. It was agreed that those members who had not renewed their subscriptions to the SLRA and had been deleted from the SLRA database would NOT be deleted from the Neighbourhood Watch database.

Item 10: Other business

DHe said that he had received a visit from a community officer following a postal competition scam. Whilst he had not lost money, others had done so by sending cheques to the organisers. If **DHe** sent details to the Secretary, a warning about this scam would be circulated to members.

DHe also said that he had suffered an abusive response from the Golf Club following removal by them of a sign affixed to his back fence, overlooking the golf course. Whilst the committee was sympathetic, it was unable to authorise an SLRA intervention as SLRA policy is to represent collective issues and not individual disputes.

Item 11: Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in January 2017, on a date to be arranged.

ACTION DP