

Sandyhurst Lane Residents' Association

Minutes of SLRA Committee meeting held at Sandyacres Clubhouse on Wednesday 30 January 2013

Attendees: John Hobbs, Tony Bartlett, Norma Devereese, John Faulkner, Doug Harman, Desmond Henley, Andy Peddle, David Porter, Evan Thomas.

Apologies for absence were received from Don Murrell and Howard Preston.

Item 1: Minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 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

An application had been made for a single storey rear extension at The Nook, 388 Sandyhurst Lane. Several neighbours had lodged objections and **ND** had submitted an objection on behalf of the SLRA, after consulting several local residents. The plans did not accurately reflect the work which had already been carried out and the privacy of neighbours was compromised.

An application for a conservatory and kitchen extension at Springbank, Westwell Lane was noted.

Item 3: Traffic issues

i. A20/Sandyhurst Lane junction

No further news had been received from KCC about the scheme proposed for the current budget year. **JH** said he would write to them again, seeking information on progress. **ACTION JH**

ii. Parking at Faversham Road end of Sandyhurst Lane

Following the refusal by KCC to impose parking restrictions in Sandyhurst Lane, no further action was appropriate at this time, but the issue would be reviewed when the parking restrictions planned for the Trinity Road area had been implemented.

It was noted that the proposals for parking restrictions in parts of Faversham Road (to which the SLRA had objected) had been rejected by the Joint Transportation Board at their meeting on 11 December 2012.

iii. M20 Noise Action Group

AP had been unable to attend the meeting on 24 January 2013. The minutes recorded that only three members were present. Finance was being sought for a noise survey and a contribution had been received from Westwell Parish Council. **ET** said that the Highways Agency currently had no plans for any significant noise reduction work on the M20 for the next few years.

AP and **DHa** agreed to liaise to try to ensure that an SLRA representative attended the next meeting on 28 February 2013. **ACTION AP/DHa**

Item 4: Refuse Collection

The Committee debated the pros and cons of the new waste and recycling service to be introduced in April 2013. Some members opposed the introduction of wheelie bins, whilst others supported the scheme. It was recognised that the Council had now contracted for the new scheme and there would be little opportunity for opting out of wheelie bins unless, for example, properties did not have sufficient space to accommodate them.

Item 5: Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Residents' Association

There was no new information to report. It was noted that the clerk of BA&E PC was no longer in post.

Item 6: Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer had provided a list of bank transactions; the current balance is £547.11.

Item 7: Membership

DP reported that 43 standing order payments had been received since the start of the year. Together with 2 standing orders which had been paid in June and October, and one cash member who had paid in advance, there were currently 46 paid up members. Two standing orders had not been paid and enquiries would be made to determine the reason. Those members who pay by cash or cheque would be encouraged to renew their subscriptions at the AGM, when we would also hope to recruit some new members. **ACTION DP**

It was suggested that SLRA should start using its Twitter account to generate member interest, and possibly open a Facebook account. **DHa** offered to start operating the Twitter account; **DP** would send him the account details. **ACTION DP/DHa**

Item 8: Planning for AGM, 13 March 2013

i. Agenda

The agenda was agreed, subject to the addition of the speakers, once they had been signed up. **ACTION DP**

ii. Flyer and its distribution

The draft flyer was agreed, subject to the addition of the speakers, when known, and the Twitter account. Distribution would be carried out by those committee members available, about two weeks before the event. **ACTION DP/ALL**

iii. Speakers and invitees

DP reported that all the county and borough councillors representing the SLRA catchment area had been invited. All except Richard King and David Robey were able to attend. Invitations to speak had been sent to a representative of the local police/neighbourhood watch, the two KCC councillors who were retiring and a representative of a local business. So far, acceptance had been received from Cllr. Elizabeth Tweed and conditional acceptances from the local business and neighbourhood watch. **JH** would follow up the former and **DP** would follow up the latter. **TB** would speak to Christine Drury to coordinate with the activities of Westwell PC regarding neighbourhood watch. **ACTION JH/DP/TB**

Meanwhile, committee members agreed to email, within a week, any ideas they may have for further or alternative speakers. [Please email to JH/DP and copy all]. **ACTION ALL**

iv. Admin

Elections – all committee members present were willing to stand for re-election. The flyer would include an invitation for any further nominations.

Reception desk – It was necessary for this to be adequately staffed as there tended to be a 'rush' just before the meeting started. Attendees (other than those who had already paid) would be encouraged to pay subscriptions/sign up for membership. **DHa**, **AP** and **ET** offered to staff the desk. **ACTION DHa/AP/ET**

Raffle – **JF** kindly donated a prize. All members were invited to donate raffle prizes. **DP** would also procure the raffle tickets. **ACTION ALL**

Set up – Committee members would arrive by 7.00 pm to assist in setting up the room with at least 50 seats. **DP** would re-confirm the booking and ensure that the bar would be open. **ACTION ALL**

Item 9: Other business

DP reported that a letter had been received from the bank about a request for a standing order in favour of a cleaning company. It was agreed that any such request was erroneous or fraudulent and the bank would be informed to that effect. **ACTION DP**

ND asked if there was any progress on the vehicle activated speed signs planned for Sandyhurst Lane. **DP** said that the matter was in the hands of BA&E PC, but their meeting minutes were currently unavailable on their website. **ND** said she would ask Derek Anthony for an update. **ACTION ND**

TB said that the SLRA may need to give some thought to the consequences (eg M20 traffic noise) of the planned 80,000m² distribution warehouse planned for Sevington. He would bring further information to the next meeting. **ACTION TB**

ET gave an update on the Westwell St Mary's Restoration Fund, which had now reached £22,000. He would circulate details of the forthcoming programme of events as they became available.

DHe said that he had new neighbours who might be recruited as new members. **DP** agreed to forward him the necessary forms. **ACTION DP**

JH raised the issue of lorry parking in the A20 lay-by near the end of Sandyhurst Lane. It was noted that restrictions had been imposed at a lay-by further along the A20, by a Chinese restaurant. However, this may be because that lay-by also includes a junction.

Item 10: Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 27 March 2013 at Sandyacres Clubhouse. **ND** agreed to chair this meeting, in the absence of **JH**. **ACTION DP/ND**