

Rowly Drive Residents' Association

Minutes of AGM Wednesday 10th July 2013 at 8pm Held in Cranleigh Nursery School

Committee Members Present: John Kearsley (Chair), Sue Barrow (Treasurer), Louise Harbutt (Secretary), Philip Koniotes

Apologies: Jan Sheriff, Ruth & Norman Norton

The meeting was opened by Philip acting as Vice Chairman at 8pm and it was agreed to declare the meeting open with the Chair's report to follow at a later date should the Chairman be unable to join the meeting.

1. Adoption of 2012 Minutes

It was proposed by Les Stanhope and seconded by Sandra Standela that the minutes from the 2012 AGM be adopted.

2. Chair's Report

The Chairman apologised for his late arrival due to a traffic incident, and welcomed the members to the meeting. The main activities of the committee over the past financial year were as follows:

- Repair of potholes and resurfacing of a two sections were carried out.
- Objected to the latest planning application for the derelict land next to Rowly Lodge on the grounds of appearance and siting – the Chair was pleased to note that the application has been refused. An action point from the last AGM was to contact Mr Cookson at East Whitley Farm with regard to a better fence for the plot but he advised this is the responsibility of the plot owners.
- Lobbying of Thames Water to repair the pothole outside Holmside, which has now been done.
- Collection of subscriptions, which yet again has proved time consuming and difficult in some cases.

The Chair also thanked the committee members for their efforts during the past year.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer distributed copies and summarised the main points from the last financial year:

- The main expenditure has been for the repair of the potholes and resurfacing of two sections (£7445.59). This will appear in the accounts for the current financial year as it was paid after 31st May.
- The option for members to pay by BACS agreed at the last AGM has proved successful, as long as the housename is included in the reference.
- Income is derived solely from those members who pay the subscription and was £4835.00 at the end of the financial year. Since then £835.00 has been received which will be included in the current year's balance sheet.
- 17 households have not contributed, an increase of 2 over last year, and 8 of which have not paid for 2 or more years.
- The other expenditure has been £83.10 for the website and £12.99 gift for Mrs Broadhurst which is the only current liability.

.It was proposed by Philip Koniotes to adopt the Treasurer's Report and this was seconded by Bruno Plaskow.

4. Re-election of committee members and officers

It was proposed Tom Cotton that the existing committee members be re-elected and this was seconded by Peter Breakwell. It was asked whether 4 members was sufficient for a quorum and that the constitution allows for up to 10 committee members and this was agreed. It was commented that additional members would allow for more flexibility, and for additional officers such as a Communications Officer, however the committee commented that it can be difficult to find members who are willing to also undertake the necessary role of collecting subscriptions. The committee also agreed that members can be co-opted during the year, and then formally elected at the AGM.

5. Subscriptions for 2013/2014

A number of members have expressed interest in having the whole road resurfaced, however the Chair pointed out that with the difficulty of collecting £55.00 per household this was not feasible and recommended that the subscription remain at £55.00. This was proposed by Jan Lane and seconded by Tom Cotton.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Guildford Road Junction Drains

A member is concerned that the drains in the road by the junction with Guildford Road are not clearing, and it was agreed to follow this up with Surrey County Council, and any assistance with this much appreciated by the committee.

6.2 Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

A question was raised as to whether the road should set up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, especially in view of the recent thefts. Philip advised that he administers the scheme for Rowly Edge which concerns mainly forwarding warning emails from the police re bogus callers etc. It was suggested that members who have paid their subscription could be supplied with a Neighbourhood Watch sticker to act as a deterrent and the committee will look into this. **(Action LH)**

6.3 Purchase of plot adjacent to Rowly Lodge

It has been suggested that the residents should look into acquiring the derelict plot which could then be used as a communal space. Whilst some agreed it was a good idea, others commented it would then be used by people outside of the road. It was agreed in the first instance to lobby the owners to improve the appearance of the fence, and write to the local authority with regard to vermin and health concerns. **(Action JK)**

6.4 Website

It was commented that the website is not up to date, however the committee responded that apart from the recent committee meeting minutes everything else has been uploaded, and this action is now checked upon after the request has been made to the webmaster. **(Action LH)**

Following some discussion it was agreed that the website would continue in its current form. However it was requested to be minuted that the committee look into replacing it with one that could be maintained at no cost by the committee and a link for this will be sent to the Treasurer.

6.5 Drainage Ditches

Once again the question of residents maintaining their ditches in a viable condition was raised to assist with surface drainage. A suggestion was to get in a contractor to rod the ditches and clear them out, however the Chair raised the question of whose responsibility the cost is, whether it is the Sandeman Trust or the owners, and not all households own the access across the ditches. The committee commented that the Sandeman Trust

only have a responsibility to maintain the road as a footpath and their main interest is in selling frontages to owners, and they therefore have no obligation regards ditch maintenance. The committee also commented that in the past residents have been asked to clear out their gullies, and offers of assistance would be given to those who required physical help, however this had not had any effect. The primary objective of the committee remains maintained the road in a good condition.

6.6 RDA

The excessive speed of vehicles by people using the RDA was again commented on, and it was suggested perhaps it should be discussed with them that most residents slow down for their horses along the road so the same courtesy should be extended. The committee advised the RDA do pay 4 times the subscription rate as a contribution to road usage.

6.7 Non-payers

It was asked why some residents will not contribute to the Association, and the Chair gave some of the reasons he has been given. It was suggested perhaps the website be used to communicate with the non-payers or hold an extra meeting. The committee commented in most cases continual reminders had to be sent out, followed by knocking on doors to collect monies, and in some cases receiving abuse when asking for subscriptions. The question again was asked about buying the road from the Sandeman Trust and who would be liable should a claim be made regarding the road condition. The Chair confirmed this would be covered by the contractors insurance.

It was suggested that photos of the road repairs be distributed to households showing how these improve the road, which is now in a much better condition than previous years due to the annual pothole and surface repairs, and that those households who contribute to this be thanked for their subscription and this was agreed. **(Action: Committee)**

The meeting was closed at 9.40 with Bruno proposing a vote of thanks to the committee.

Actions Points Raised

- Website:
 - Treasurer's Report, AGM minutes and June committee minutes to be uploaded. **LH**
 - Clause requiring Deposit Account to be removed from constitution **LH**
- Chair to contact owners and local authority re derelict plot **JK**
- Newsletter to be drafted and circulated **Committee**
- Sourcing of Neighbourhood Watch stickers **LH**.

Attendance Record

Bruno Plaskow	Meadowside
Jim Jennings and Sandra Standela	Rowlybrook
David Goff	Woodlands
Tom Cotton	Rhosilli
Jan Lane	Shooters Rest
Peter and Barbara Breakwell	Littlebrook
David and Pauline Heathcote	Cobwebs
Les Stanhope	Hillview
N Lloyd	Greenways