

Rowly Drive Residents' Association

Minutes of AGM

Thursday 9th July 2015 at 8pm

Held in Cranleigh Nursery School

Committee Members Present: John Kearsley (Chair), Sue Barrow (Treasurer), Philip Koniotes (Committee Member),

Apologies: Roy Collison (Hopwood Cottage), Bernise Harris (Aviary Moor), Jo and Peter Eva (Hunters Lodge), John Webster (Lane End)

The meeting was opened by John who welcomed all those present, especially new residents.

1. Adoption of 2014 Minutes

With the exception of an error in the year of the AGM minutes, which should be changed from 2012 to 2013, and that Mike Golding lives at Rowly Barn, not Rowly Brook, it was proposed by Jim Standela and seconded by Norman Norton that the minutes from the 2014 AGM be adopted as a true record.

2. Chair's Report

The main activities of the committee over the past financial year were as follows:

- The committee's work during the year centered mainly around collecting subs and investigating road repair options

- It was originally proposed that the committee arrange for potholes to be repaired. After much effort, Alan Aldred, the contractor who has previously carried out repairs, walked the road with Philip and John but was very unresponsive so clearly doesn't want to do the work any more. Quotes were obtained from Tidy & Webb and EP Clark for resurfacing the road end to end, both of which were around £100,000, and also filling potholes. Mr Clark suggested we would be better off just filling all potholes with cold fill, as a temporary measure, and then spending most of our money on resurfacing sections whenever possible. A trade price quote was then obtained by one of the residents from Drivepoint, which would cost £34,200 including VAT, so if it lasted 5 years we would all have saved money. The committee met with them and residents were notified of the proposal. Responses were collated and 79 out of 93 households have agreed to make a one-off payment of £250, although some have raised queries. Only one person gave a categorical 'no'. The committee will continue to chase those houses that have not responded.

- The new planning applications during the year were all for extensions or alterations to existing properties and none were considered sufficiently significant to advise residents.

- The issue of flooding at Littlebrook at the far end of Rowly Drive was due to two issues – the brook overflowing at times of heavy rain and also a leak under the road but it is not known who the leaking pipe belongs to. Thames Water claims it doesn't belong to them and the RDA are looking through their records to see if they can find any indication of ownership.

The Chair also thanked the committee members for their efforts during the past year and he especially thanked Louise Harbutt who, having served on the committee for ten years, no longer wished to serve as Secretary.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer distributed copies and summarised the main points as shown on her report for the year ending 31 May 2015.

Mrs Holden asked whether the previous occupants of Durdle Dore had paid their subscription for the last year and Sue confirmed that they had not paid.

It was proposed by David Palmer and seconded by Jan Lane to adopt the Treasurer's Report.

4. Re-election of committee members and officers

Dave Fuller commented that he thought we were lucky to have the committee and he proposed, and Rachel Harwood seconded, the motion that the existing committee members be re-elected.

5. Appointment of additional committee members

John explained that, as Louise Harbutt had resigned as Secretary, he was looking for a volunteer to take over that role. Unfortunately, nobody in attendance offered to take on the role so it was going to be necessary to co-opt someone to replace Louise.

6. Road resurfacing and Subscriptions for next year

Of the 93 households in Rowly Drive, 79 have agreed to the proposal to make a one-off payment of £250 in order to facilitate the total resurfacing of the road. 3 of those could not afford to pay the lump sum of £250 but would continue to pay installments of £60 per year for the next four years. 13 have not responded and 15 of those in agreement have raised queries. John was pleased to report that Dick Lane had offered to pay four times the amount, ie £1,000, due to his use of the road with horseboxes, as have the RDA, in keeping with their usual principle. We do, therefore, have enough funds promised to resurface the road with around £3,000 left over.

The three strips that have been done in previous years are still good and we should get in excess of ten years before we need to do any serious work on the road. After 4 years we would break even and after 5 years we would be in profit.

The queries raised were as follows, with answers where known:

- Is there a guarantee?
 - *The company would guarantee the work for one year but would consider any issues for ten years.*
- Should we wait until the RDA have completed their works?
 - *This will not be for at least a year and possibly 2, depending on fund raising, during which time the resurfacing cost will increase and potholes will have to be filled.*
- Will we need to close the road completely whilst the work is being undertaken?
 - *The road would have to be closed from approximately 8/9am until 3/4pm – Dick Lane has kindly offered parking facilities at his Santa Fir site. Some preparatory work would be done prior to the resurfacing work taking place. Iron work would also be raised, where necessary.*
- Can Thames Water put new water mains in before we carry out the work?

- *At the present time, there are no leaks on the road and no proposals for replacement.*
- Do we need permission from the road owners?
 - *John is in discussions with them and has asked whether they would be prepared to contribute to the work but they are not prepared to do so*
- Should the businesses in the road pay a larger contribution?
- What happens if not everyone pays?
 - *Some people have never paid subs so we would not expect 100% take up.*

- 2 residents suggested we continue to collect a small sum from households every year – say £10
 - *This was put to the vote by a show of hands and unanimously agreed. 13 voted to pay £10 and four voted to pay £20 so it was decided to collect £10 from each household for every year from 2016*

Jim Jennings from Rowlybrook asked whether the spec for the new surface would be the same as the three sections previously resurfaced. John replied that, from memory, the previous resurfacing was done to 40mm but the new road would be to 30mm. The committee will investigate the benefits versus cost of the extra 10mm thickness.

Investigation is ongoing as to the cause of the leak in the lane adjacent to Littlebrook. Dick Lane has offered to investigate the leak further and repair same. In heavy rain the road floods, due in part to the culvert leading into Norther Farm land being too high. It was suggested by one of the residents that the earth deposited in the adjacent field by Sarah Morgan, when having her swimming pool dug out, might be causing extra run-off.

Re-assurance was sought as to the reliability of the proposed contractors, especially in view of the price. A couple of the residents present stated that they knew of the contractor's work and considered it to be of good quality.

7. Any Other Business

7.1 Website

Tom Cotton asked whether to website could be kept more up to date and John undertook to ensure that happened in future.

7.2 Thefts from driveways

Residents should be aware that there have been several instances of theft from cars left unlocked on driveways during the daytime.

7.3 20mph road signs

A discussion was held on having 20mph signs half-way along the Drive, as a reminder to motorists to adhere to the speed limit. This was a contentious issue and was not resolved at this meeting.

7.4 Bonfires

David Palmer felt that the one-time ‘gentleman's agreement’ that bonfires should not be lit on warm summer evenings had lapsed somewhat. John agreed that he would remind residents of this request via the website and/or newsletter.

The meeting was closed at 9.10 p.m.

Attendance Record

Colin Russell	RDA
Allen Igglesden	Lyhope
Paul and Margaret O’Hara	Long Copse
Judy and Dave Fuller	Hartley
John Smith	Novello
Sandra Standela and Jim Jennings	Rowlybrook
David Goff	Woodlands
Mrs Holden	Durdle Dore

Jan Sherriff

Craster

Tom Cotton

Rhosilli

Ruth and Norman Norton

Pembury

David Palmer

Littlefield

Rachel Harwood

Field Gate Cottage

Alan Page

Broadmead

Jan Lane

Shooters Rest

Annette and Ian Hood

Benmore

Christian Martinsen

Oakdene

Linda Koniotes

Southcroft, Rowly Edge