

Approved Minutes of HRA Committee Meeting  
Held on 12th September 2016  
At Highfield House Hotel

- Present. Roger Brown, Chris Klewe, Jill Baston, Adrian Vinson, Nadine Johnson, Steven Johnston, Steven Connolly, Simon Hill. John Bradshaw, Jerry Gillen, Nicolla Martin.
- Attending. Councillor Matthew Claisse, Councillor Paul O'Neill, Jon Walsh, (SU), Emma Pruce, (USSU), Dan Varley, (USSU), Jacky Barnes, Peggy Augier, Ann Wardle.
- Apologies. Mark Batchelor, Councillor John Savage, Bryan Wakely, Hayley Morrison (PCSO), Tom O'Connor, Sarah Watts, Ian Dunn.

1. Welcome, declaration of interests.  
The Committee welcomed Emma Pruce and Dan Varley from SU Students Union university.  
There were no interests declared.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
3. Matters Arising.  
The Committee was updated on progress in countering the activities of the person who feeds rats and other vermin in and around Portswood, against whom a Community Protection Notice had now been served. The Committee received a report on the suffering and distress caused to his neighbours over a long period. It was agreed to place a message on the website asking residents who see any evidence of his activities to ring 101, report this and obtain a reference number. This is now a criminal act and actually witnessing the individual in the act is no longer required. He could then be liable to a significant fine.
4. University Liaison  
Jon Walsh reported on the University's plans for Salisbury Road, following the issuing of planning permission for the new teaching and learning building.  
The University had proposed the de-adoption of the road but there was no intention of restricting access for non-vehicle traffic. He agreed to let HRA have a statement of the University's plans for the road. Jon also reported on a successful 'town and gown' conference at Durham and undertook to see if there were any copies of presentations or other material that could be circulated.  
Dan and Emma outlined various steps SUSU were taking to inform new students of their role as members of the local community. It was agreed that information about this and other initiatives and events should be posted on the website. The Committee hoped that SUSU would keep in touch with HRA as the year progressed.

5. The Common.

Progress with Forum.

The Chair reported that the next meeting of the proposed consultative forum for the Common would take place on 27<sup>th</sup> September at Taunton's College. Beyond the approval of a constitution, the main item would be a presentation and discussion of the Council's responsibilities for the Common and how they are discharged, which could lead to a new Common plan. It would be necessary to appoint a formal HRA representative on the Forum.

Lovers Walk

Following the receipt of legal advice, the Chair had written to the Leader of the Council urging the abandonment of proposals for a widening of parts of Lover's Walk as part of a proposed cycle 'super highway' on the basis that it would waste a lot of time and money against an uncertain outcome. A response had not yet been received.

Highfield Road.

The Committee was pleased that the Council had now accepted the main points of HRA's objections to the original plans for changes to Highfield Road.

Small Projects Bid.

The Chair reported that, in consultation with the Vice Chair and Secretary, and because of shortness of time, he had authorised the submission of three proposals to the Council under its Small Projects programme. All involved work related to the Common. It was hoped that because of the wider public benefits they might stand some chance in the assessment procedure. Simon Hill was commended for his work on the proposals.

Little Common.

Simon Hill reported on a recent site meeting with Council officers and others on the current state of the Little Common. It was agreed that a letter should go to the Common manager seeking information and assurance over the apparent overturning of the previous agreement about the areas that should be kept open as agreed in the Action Plan.

Cycle and Pedestrian Conflict.

It was agreed that a message should be posted on the website suggesting that residents who experienced cycle-pedestrian conflicts on or near the Common should report them on 101 with a copy to Common Sense ([mail@southamptoncommon.org](mailto:mail@southamptoncommon.org)).

## Play Area on Common

The Council has asked for comments on their proposed play area in the Common, but the timescales for this were very short.

### 6. Reports.

Membership Nicolla reported as follows

Total data base membership 508

Rolling Membership 314

Total paid up 400

Finance There was no report available.

### Planning

There had been no significant planning applications over the summer period. However the Committee was gratified at the rejection of the owner's appeal at 14 Westwood and horrified at the granting of a Lawful Development Certificate at 8 Westridge Road.

The outcome of the Tramstop licensing application was also welcomed.

### Website.

Nadine reported that there had now been around 13,000 hits on the website and 36,000 page views, and about a third of the 'visitors' were new.

### 7. AOB

Under AOB Jon Walsh raised the question of whether the Association should respond to the consultation on a new devolved authority for Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight. The Secretary would investigate this.

The next meeting will be on 10<sup>th</sup> October

The Meeting ended at 8.45pm..

.