

Approved Minutes of HRA Committee Meeting  
Held on 13th February 2017  
At Highfield House Hotel

- Present. Roger Brown, Jerry Gillen, Chris Klewe, Adrian Vinson, Nadine Johnson, Simon Hill, Nicolla Martin, Stephen Connolly, Bryan Wakely
- Attending. Jacky Barnes, Tom O'Connor, Tom Hickman, (Police), Barbara Cendrzak (Police), Jon Walsh, (SU), Nick Bacon, Councillor Matthew Claisse,
- Apologies. Councillor John Savage, Councillor Paul O'Neill, Hayley Morrison (PCSO), Ian Dunn, Steven Johnston, Mark Batchelor, Jill Baston, John Bradshaw.

1. Welcome, declaration of interests.  
The Committee welcomed Tom Hickman and Barbara Cendrzak from the Hampshire Constabulary, and Jon Walsh from the University of Southampton.  
There were no interests declared.
2. The minutes of the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December were approved.
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3. Matters Arising.  
Under Matters Arising it was reported that in spite of prompting, no answers had yet been received from the City Council to the questions the Association had raised in its response on the Cycling Strategy consultation.
4. University Liaison.  
Jon Walsh reported on a number of University activities.  
Over the past year or so, The University had raised £20.5 million towards the Cancer Immunology centre being built at the General Hospital. A further £4 million were still needed. Most donations appeared to have been given by the University's Alumni.  
A senior professor at the Oceanography Centre had been honoured for work carried out there.  
There would be a lecture by Jon Soper on USA Politics on 6<sup>th</sup> March.  
Unfortunately tickets have all been sold, but a simultaneous live broadcast in a larger venue was being arranged.  
There had been discussions with the other higher education centres in Southampton concerning some aspects of student behaviour.  
The planning application for renewing the steps from the University onto Lovers Walk had been refused and the University were still considering their position and not yet decided whether to appeal against the planning panel's decision.
5. Police Report.  
Recent problems in the Portswood Area were reported on and discussed.

There had been a recent spate of burglaries, some of which included forced entry into houses. Any information from the public would be appreciated. There was a general discussion of the main problems in the area, namely cycling on pavements, begging, loitering and drinking in public, no lights on bicycles and vans being parked on the pavements. The police confirmed that for all the warning issued to offenders only five fines had been issued and none paid.

The Council also had responsibilities here and Councillor Claisse agreed to report back. The police representatives were asked to provide the name of a senior officer who could be invited to talk about these matters at the AGM on 20<sup>th</sup> April.

6. The Common.

The Committee discussed a number of items relating to the Common. The Chair reported that the consultative forum for the Common had now been established with HRA as one of the founding members. The Chair was Professor Adam Wheeler. The Forum had identified three main strands of work: widening engagement, a new and up-to-date plan, and a possible new operating model. The Committee agreed that Professor Brown should be its voting member of the Forum. The Committee noted that following intense work with the Council by both HRA officers and local Councillors, the carriage drive south of Highfield Avenue had been properly cleared to grass, and Common Sense would now be planning to consolidate on this. Also, following high level exchanges, the Council had confirmed that the Little Common Action Plan would be adhered to, and the remaining Minor Projects be properly carried through. This suggested that relations with the Council in this area might now be more positive than in the recent past.

7. Reports.

Membership                      Nicolla reported as follows

Total data base membership	508
Rolling Membership	21
Total paid up	374

Finance

No report was available due to Mark's absence.

Planning

A number of planning issues were raised. It was noted that HRA had submitted an objection to a development in Crofton Close because of overdevelopment. It was reported that the Council would be withdrawing the Lawful Development Certificate for a property in Westridge Road. This was

only happening because of pressure by the HRA Vice Chair and local Councillors. It was reported that HRA had been advised that we had a very good chance of reversing the Planning Panel's decision on an application in Russell Place through a possible application for a judicial review. The Committee agreed that we should do so on the basis that the advice came from a highly credible source, that there would otherwise be no point in having an association to protect the area, and that there would be financial contributions (if needed) to our costs from residents in the Residents Gardens area. There were a number of outstanding enforcements and Councillor Claisse agreed to follow up on 28 Brookvale. Finally, views were sought on the redevelopment of the Lloyds Bank site, and it was agreed that the crucial issues were (a) any variations in the height of the proposed development from neighbouring properties, and (b) parking.

Website.

Nadine Johnson and the Vice Chair were commended for their success in generating revenue through adverts on the website.

#### 8. AGM

The Committee discussed the AGM, to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> April what format it should take, whether to have an outside speaker and if so, who. Unfortunately our chief legal adviser, Michael Rudd, was unavailable. There were mixed views about an outside panel of speakers. In the end it was agreed to invite a senior police officer and a senior Council officer and to focus the discussion on the deterioration of the local environment.

#### 9. AOB

Jerry Gillen drew everyone's attention to the forthcoming meeting of the North Southampton Community Forum at the Highfield House Hotel on 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30.

The Meeting ended at 8.55

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