



COMMITTEE MEETING

13th MAY 2013

Highfield House Hotel

Present: Roger Brown, Jerry Gillen, Simon Hill, Bryan Wakely, Peggy Augier, Nicolla Martin, Keith Reed, Julia Brooking, Nadine Johnson, Steve Connolly, Alison Farmer, Roret Blue, Headley Rossell, Jill Baston.

Attending: Farooq Ahmed, Jacky Barnes, Cllr Adrian Vinson, Jackie Foster.

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received from: Tom O'Connor, Caroline Knight, Cllr Linda Norris, Cllr Matthew Claisse, John Bradshaw.

2. Minutes of last meeting, taken as read

The reference to Russell Place in Item 8 was corrected to No. 8.

3. Matters arising

Freida Stack will not now take on the planning role.

Cllr Adrian Vinson has taken up the issue of the poor resurfacing of Brookvale Road.

4. AGM follow-up

- Attendance was very good.
- Extra invitees posed problems for the committee members on the doors. Alternative arrangements may need to be put in place next year.
- No new members were recruited on the night.
- Sarah Clover gave an excellent talk and was undoubtedly a draw. Roger took notes and has asked approval for her comments to go on the website.
- All guests were grateful for the invitation and were favourably impressed by the meeting.
- Eighty seats were insufficient. For next year, we will reconsider whether Highfield House Hotel is the most suitable venue, if they cannot accommodate greater numbers.

5. Database and website

There are 644 people on the database; 131 do not have an email address. Ways of communicating with people without email were discussed.

- We still have one printed newsletter a year. We have 12 street reps, who are distributing the Hog Roast flyer.
- Some of the 131 may have access to email, or a close relative who does, but have not informed us yet.
- It was felt that the street reps offer the best way to communicate with all residents, email or not.

There will be further discussion with Solent about the new website. The current website is still under contract, and will continue until the new website is fully operational.

6. Reports

Finance. All bills have been paid to date, with some income due.

Membership. Renewals from January now total 234 paid up.

Planning. An objection has been made to 37 Church Lane, and another will be put in against 82 Welbeck Avenue. We are not sure currently if objections have gone in against applications in Sirdar Road.

Jerry attended the Liaison Meeting at SCC. Among topics discussed were enforcement and landlords. On that day the Minister Eric Pickles announced that 8m extensions will be allowed, with immediate neighbours notified and allowed to object. This is not useful where the neighbours are themselves HMOs. Jerry asked the council for a new Article 4 direction.

Simon pointed out the need for more help on planning matters.

Roger spoke at the Planning Panel meeting on 75 Upper Shaftesbury Avenue, but the decision went against us.

7. AOB

a) Summer Social. The Hog Roast is planned for 29th June, at £12.50 per ticket, payable to Nicolla. Plates, cutlery etc will be hired. Bring own drinks and glasses – ideally picnic style.

Bryan asked for volunteers on the day as follows:

- 5.30pm Around three people to lay out the hall and to receive food to be delivered from Ceno at 6pm.
- 6.45pm People to lay out tablecloths and napkins on serving tables and collect food from servery.
- 7.00 – 11.00pm Music player (offers welcome for loan of up to date equipment) - background music to be set up and looked after.
- 9pm Three people to clear tables after hog roast.

AFTER EVENT

- Cleanup of hall (black sacks)
- Clean/load plates etc for return Monday

SUNDAY am

- Clear Marquee of rubbish
- Take black sacks to Portswood refuse

MONDAY am

- Return plates/bowls/cutlery

The profit margin is very small. We need a take up of 85-100.

We will reconsider vegetarian options/halal meat for next time.

PLEASE LET BRYAN KNOW IN GOOD TIME IF YOU CAN HELP, WITH YOUR AVAILABILITY Email: ph55bw@tiscali.co.uk Tel: 8055 4844

b) Simon reported back on consultations by SCC on the proposed cycleway from Burgess Road to Northlands Road junction. Two options are currently under discussion: improve existing routes on the east side of the Avenue or narrow the existing traffic lanes, with cycle lanes on each side.

He explained the points he had made to SCC officers, especially around the campus, on behalf of HRA, while acknowledging that there will be different views among residents about the best way to proceed.

The committee agreed to invite the project leader to the next committee meeting. Simon will email contact details to Jill to arrange.

c) Cllr Adrian Vinson attended a site meeting with a resident and a senior traffic officer at the Sainsbury's crossing. Several safety issues were raised e.g. timing of the signals and the fact that there is no sound signal alert. Adrian awaits feedback.

d) Morrisons intend to set up a supermarket in the former Blockbuster site. Planning permission is not required as the use class is the same (retail). They have applied for a liquor licence from 6am to midnight. Keith will write a letter of objection on behalf of HRA. Adrian will also write in, despite the possible disadvantage that the site is not within Portswood Ward.

e) We should request the Council to develop a new Article 4 restriction against the government's relaxation of regulations on 8m extensions. We are taking advice from Sarah Clover.

f) The three houses at the bottom of Highcrown Street are not accessible via Highcrown Street itself since it has been blocked off. There is no indication anywhere that they can be reached via Roselands Gardens, which is causing some confusion among deliverers etc. Adrian Vinson undertook to follow this up.

The meeting finished at 8.55pm.