



**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013**  
**HIGHFIELD HOUSE HOTEL**

**Present:** Roger Brown, Nicolla Martin, Jerry Gillen, Alison Farmer, Simon Hill, John Bradshaw, Steve Connolly, Headley Rossell, Jill Baston.

**Attending:** Jacky Barnes, Cllr Adrian Vinson, Roret Blue, Graham and Karen Bartlett (Ridgemount Avenue), PCSO Helen Kemble, Nick Bacon, Sam Goold (journalism trainee).

**1. Welcome and apologies; declarations of conflict of interest.**

Roger welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Tom O'Connor, Julia Brooking, Keith Reed, Cllr Claisse, Nadine Johnson.

**2. Safety in Portswood. PCSO Helen Kemble.**

Helen spoke about a Christmas Fair planned for Portswood Broadway on 7<sup>th</sup> December by the police, Southampton City Council, and the Fire Service.

The section of St Denys Road next to the Trago Lounge will be closed off between 10am and 6pm for craft stalls, information on crime prevention, Santa Claus and a choir. It is hoped to raise funds for CCTV and radios for the Shopwatch scheme, to enable fast reporting of incidents. They wish to bring new people to the area and to encourage all the shops to work together for the benefit of Portswood Broadway.

Roger offered support and publicity via the website.

**3. Minutes of last meeting.**

Taken as read and agreed.

**4. Matters arising.**

- No further news on the proposed changes to the underpass on the Common..
- A meeting about the new cycleway proposals will be held soon.

- Work on the new website is proceeding well.
- The clearance of the Little Common was successful.
- SCC have not yet responded to enquiries about the funding of the Residents' Parking Scheme. The Leader of SCC will ask the University about the charges, and Cllr Vinson has requested a breakdown of the costs. There were 800 responses to the consultation.
- Waitrose will give us one of their charity contribution slots in November to help with costs for the Children's Party.
- Punch Taverns have informed Jerry that there will be news about the Highfield pub in the New Year.

## **5. Reports:**

### *a) Finance*

Little activity; a contribution to support of the website. Slight fall in income compared to last year.

### *b) Membership*

Database 560. Rolling paid up members 360 from January to now. Including Nov 43 and Dec 17, total paid up households number 420.

### *c) Planning*

- Jerry noted some new applications.
- Jacky gave an update on 253 Portswood Road (student accommodation over shops). The latest application has been substantially amended. Roger will write to the developer. Cllr Vinson has met with the developer, who explained that his main interests do not lie with development but, having divided the site into two shops, the accommodation above should be redeveloped. Currently 8 units are proposed, not 11. There will be an entrance on Portswood Road, but cycles will access via the rear. The committee felt that although there is a need for student accommodation, this proposal is not of good quality, and that we should support Portswood Residents' Gardens with their objection.
- It was suggested that the threshold for new HMOs should be revised to 10% in a new Supplementary Planning Document, with 100m radius not 40m. There will be a limited consultation.
- Cllr Vinson drew the committee's attention to an SCC enquiry on quality neighbourhoods, which begins in November.

- Gardens are being concreted over to provide parking, but little can be done to combat this.

## **6. AOB**

Roger has received a letter from residents of Northcote Road asking for HRA support of a residents' parking scheme. Cllr Vinson said that he had conducted an informal survey about two years ago, but few responses were received and among those, opinion was evenly balanced. Roger will reply to the letter.

Cllr Vinson reported that Brookvale Road will be resurfaced at the contractors' cost after many complaints about the rapid breakup of the new surface. The road will be closed for the works to take place.

The main business of the committee was completed at 8.30pm.

## **7. Item for committee only.**