



## APPROVED MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

12 FEBRUARY 2018, HELD AT HIGHFIELD HOUSE HOTEL

**Present:** Jerry Gillen, Steven Johnston, Adrian Ford, Steve Connolly, Simon Hill, Nicolla Martin and Nadine Johnson.

**Attending:** Cllr John Savage, Alison Titheridge, Jon Walsh, Tom O'Connor and Simon Fitz-John (Outer Avenue R.A)

**Apologies:** Jill Baston, Chris Klewe, Bryan Wakely and Adrian Vinson.

1. Everyone welcomed and introduced.
2. **Minutes of last meeting** taken as read, without any amendments.
3. **Matter arising:** Cllr Savage confirmed that he had had a conversation with the Leader of the Council regarding correspondence and contact had been made and confirmed with Jerry Gillen.
4. **University Liaison:** The University is celebrating hitting its £25 million fundraising target to support our new cancer and immunology building on the Hospital site.

The Music and History departments working with the Turner Simms and the BFI are running a fortnight of silent films from WW1 with expert analysis, the last two are:

Dawn - February 13<sup>th</sup> 7.30 pm at Turner Simms, free tickets available online.

At home, At war - February 22<sup>nd</sup> 7.30 pm at Turner Simms, free tickets available online.

Chinese New Year - the University's Confucius institute with the Chinese Association of Southampton are celebrating the start of the year of the Dog with performances calligraphy lessons and various other activities Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February from 11 until 4 pm in West Way.

John Hansard Gallery are celebrating moving into their new premises in Guildhall square Friday February 16<sup>th</sup> 6 pm until 9 pm, an outdoor dance performance and firework display. Which marks the beginning of a series of free events running until February 24<sup>th</sup>.

Physics Steps - the plan to replace and widen these steps is going ahead, preparatory works should start on February 28<sup>th</sup> with the Steps being closed from 7<sup>th</sup> March for 6 weeks.

Meeting Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 10 am in Mr Dunn's office with Jerry Gillen, Simon Hill, Graham Linecar and others. It was confirmed that Jean Warman from East Bassett had been invite but had declined. All minutes will be

forwarded on to her. Jerry Gillen will try to persuade her to attend. Discussion of the Service Road, Steps and Common.

The height of the wooden fence at Highfield Hall Residence, Highfield Road was 2m high requires planning permission. It should be 1m. Jon Walsh said that he would investigate the matter.

5. **AGM and Newsletter:** Roger Brown (past chairman) will chair the AGM.

The deadline for articles for the newsletter must reach Steven Johnston on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February when it goes to print. The number of copies has been increased to 4000. Pearson have donated £170 towards the cost. The delivery of this newsletter will be done by the voluntary Street Representatives and to be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> March.

6. **Little Common:** They will be a working party Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

7. **NORA meeting in Bath:** Jerry Gillen attended. A list was prepared to go to Government. HMOs and Air B & Bs causing concern particularly in Bath. It was again stated that all local Councils have the authority to enforce situations especially when family housing is being deprived. Business rate taxes should be imposed.

8. **Reports:**

**Finance:** Bank balance healthy. Reserve fund shrinking and requires topping up.

2017 AGM cost of wine £111.00 and fruit juices £26.00. Alison Titheridge was going to see if Mayflower Court would consider a donation for beverages for this year's AGM.

Adrian Ford to be made a signatory. He will do the day to day book keeping work, paying bills, writing cheques, invoices etc., while Mark Batchelor will continue to produce the balance sheet, but is unable to attend meetings.

Internet banking, the committee members are divided on whether this should go ahead.

The concern is that voluntary donations will disappear.

Prior to the AGM, there will have to be an Extra Special meeting to solve the matter of signatures. At present the Treasurer, the past Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary able to sign (4). With internet banking there will be only one person signing. The Constitution requires amending.

**Membership:** Database 508. Total paid up members 350. Rolling 28.

**Planning:** There are two local applications of concern. An HMO application at 8, Blenheim Gardens and large extension at 8, Highfield Crescent. Jill Baston is dealing with both. Jerry raised the matter of local HMOs being converted to Air B & Bs type accommodation for which there appears to be no legislation for control. It was pointed out that the previous "London Rule" of letting, not being allowed for more than 90 days, had been rescinded.

A member of the Outer Avenue RA, spoke about the unauthorised development taking place at 111 and 89, Alma Road. The relevance to HRA being that this is the same landlord, where we have had problems at 28, Brookvale Road and PCRA at 8, Westridge Road, all of which remain unresolved, after several years of unauthorised work or occupation.

9           **AOB:** Bins are being left on the pavements for a long time if the incorrect items are placed           in the wrong bins. The Council should send letters. HRA have been asked to write to           October Books, supporting their plan to move into the old Nat West Bank building. Alison           Titheridge was asked if she would like to join the Committee, she is considering it.