

**Amended Minutes HRA Committee Meeting
Held on 10 December 2018
at Highfield House Hotel 19:30**



Present:

Jerry Gillen (Chair), Barbara Claridge, Stephen Connolly, Adrian Vinson, Steven Johnston, Nicolla Martin, Nadine Johnson

Attending:

Dr G Dekel (Presentation), Angela Seymour, Leigh Seymour, Tim Patten, Nick Bacon, Matthew Claisse

Apologies:

Jill B, Adrian Ford, Ken Burtonshaw, John Walsh, Councillor John Savage, James Burgess

1. Welcome, declaration of interests:

Barbara Claridge was introduced to the committee as the new secretary. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 November 2018

The minutes had been circulated previously and were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Presentation by Dr Gil Dekel

Gil, who works at the university, introduced himself and passed round a leaflet and prototype newsletter. He is proposing to develop a localised community network based around the streets close to where he has moved, just south of the university. (This area was formerly known as The Friends of Seven Streets). It is a defined area within Highfield with a mix of private residential and significant student housing. His aim is to create the conditions for students and residents to live in a calm partnership to prevent issues before they start by working together.

- a) To create a real local sense of community
- b) To have a representative from every street

His actions had had a recent success, whereby an advertised student party, with the potential to cause huge disruption had been abandoned. Cooperation had been established with the PCSO, the City Environmental Agency, and the University Public Affairs office.

Councillor Claisse commented he was impressed with the initiative. The Chair suggested to keep it small and if it worked it might be possible to duplicate the idea in other student/residential areas. There was a need to acknowledge that HRA was a community focussed association and there was a need to work cooperatively, not compete. Nicolla asked Gil if he would like to enlist members to HRA.

At the end of the presentation, the Chair thanked Gil for his input. Dr Dekel left the meeting at this point.

5. University Liaison

As the university representative was absent there was no business.

6. Reports

a. Finance

The Chair reported that Adrian had said the accounts remained in a similar position to the previous month, but as always there was a need to top up the Contingency Fund.

b. Membership

Nicolla reported membership as follows:

On the database	470
Paid up members	399
MAT Rolling	399 (Households)

23 new members (households) had been recruited from the latest Newsletter, totalling approximately 50 from March and November Newsletters. Street reps, with additional helpers, had managed the deliveries and there were not many Newsletters remaining. Special thanks were given to two distributors who had delivered to 500 and 400 doors. 4000 was the total Newsletter run. Everyone concerned was pleased with this effort. A sub-meeting for the next Newsletter, which would need to be produced and delivered approximately six weeks before the AGM, was being organised.

7. Planning issues

a. 11 Heatherdeane Road

One outstanding issue was where a two-storey side extension had been proposed increasing the HMO from five to eight. Angela and Leigh Seymour and Tim Patten who are close neighbours and objectors to the proposed development, attended the meeting and their concerns: bins (obstruction to prams and wheelchairs), overgrown hedges, student disengagement in their locality etc HRA were aired. Angela reported that she had recently made the Council HMO Department aware that not all of the large student houses on Heatherdeane Road were on the list of licenced HMOs (only 3) as this could affect the planning application. The Chair stated that he had been in contact with Anna Coombs of the Council, and as there had been many objections (22), she had extended the period for objections. The Chair stated that HRA would represent the residents' objections and liaison was suggested. Angela and Leigh agreed.

Adrian reminded the meeting that problems with bins should be reported to the council.

b. Highfield Hotel

A planning application had been made to build an extension for 30 further bedrooms. This proposal was supported by HRA as there was need for hotel accommodation in the area.

c. Lovers' Walk

The Council had agreed to hold off this planning proposal until March 2019 to allow the Common Forum to provide feedback on how the planned improvements to the path relate to the wider aspirations for improving accessibility and safety through the common (a collaborative approach to secure mutually agreed action).

d. Other items

Matthew reported that a planning application for a one-bedroom bungalow at the back of

The issues of high fences (corner of Westwood Road and Brookvale) and walls being knocked down (Mountwood Avenue) were generally discussed with no committee action recommended.

8. Website / Newsletter / Roles and Responsibilities

a. Nadine reported that the Website was 85% in place to make it more mobile

friendly. The Chair asked if she had current data on the number of hits. Nadine agreed to supply this for the next meeting.

- b. The next Newsletter team would be meeting shortly to plan it.
- c. Roles and Responsibilities. Nadine expressed that there is a heavy responsibility on a few members of the committee, especially the Chair. There was a need to share more of the workload and it was good news that a secretary had been recruited. A note is made in these minutes that there is a need for more volunteers and that this appeal could be advertised on the HRA Website. Angela and Leigh Seymour, who attended the meeting for the first time tonight, will consider the Planning role vacancy on the committee.
- d. The Chair reported on his role on the national committee of NORA (National Organisation of Residents Associations). This is important work where local associations have a voice into national government.

9. AOB

- a. The careteam app. University research project led by Dr Philip Turner. An information leaflet was shared and discussed positively. It was agreed that the Secretary would invite Dr Turner to present at the next meeting in January. Nadine requested details in order to post on the website.
- b. Air Quality in Southampton invitation 12 December 2018. The Secretary had received an invitation to this event. No-one present at the meeting was able to attend. The Secretary would reply to the invitation.

10. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:45

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