



Highfield Residents' Association
Committee Note in lieu of June Committee Meeting

<https://www.highfieldresidents.org.uk/>

facebook.com/Highfield-Residents-Association

Chair's Comments:

I am sorry to have to report that The Association's Examiner (in effect, Auditor), Olliver Dicker died on 20th May. As well as acting as our Examiner, Olliver was a dedicated Street Rep and a strong supporter of HRA. HRA is very grateful for his many years of service and has sent condolences to his next of kin.

HRA Consideration of Planning and Licensing Applications

In the normal course of events HRA Committee Member, Angela Seymour, produces a schedule of outstanding applications for each monthly Committee meeting on the basis of information provided by the Council. The Committee can discuss these and agree any HRA response taking into account the recently (February 2019) revised Planning Guidelines. Any official responses would normally be sent by the Hon Sec with the outcomes subsequently reported to the Committee.

However, the flow of applications never stops and the deadlines for responses – usually, 3 weeks - do not always fit in with the Committee schedule. There are also months – April, August and possibly June – when the Committee is not scheduled to meet, as well of course, under present circumstances.

In these cases, there would be consultation between the Chair, Hon Sec and Planning Support (currently Jerry Gillen) about the need for, and the terms of, any HRA response. This will take account of any comments that may have been raised by local HRA members or other local residents' groups. If it is decided to write to the Council, the letter would again be sent by the Hon Sec. In all cases the HRA response and outcome would be reported to the Committee.

At the end of the HRA year, and before the AGM, the Hon Sec produces a summary of the applications that have been the subject of any HRA responses together with the known outcomes. This can then be included in the Chair's annual report to the AGM.

Roger Brown Acting Chair

Secretary's Update:

Towards the end of May, I received notice from an HRA member who was concerned that trees fronting a property on Brookfield Road had been severely cut and whether these trees were subject to a tree preservation order. Using the guidelines described above, I contacted SCC Planning who quickly referred the concern to the Tree Team. I was able to supply photographs to show the trees and the location. Within two days it was officially confirmed that, "These trees were not covered by a TPO, however they are covered by the Portswood Resident's Gardens Conservation Area. I have examined the photos and believe that the work falls into the exemption category part 3, 15(d) (i) that the diameter of the trees does not exceed 75 millimetres of the Town and Country planning act 1990 as amended".

The trees in question are yew and this tree has the capability of regrowth from even severe 'pruning'. I think this was originally a yew hedge that has grown out of hand. In time, now that it is at hedge height, I think it will improve the appearance of the house frontage.

Can I remind all members that if they have a planning query HRA does have a process of liaising with SCC Planning, so please make contact.

Barbara Claridge Secretary



Councillors' Reports for HRA:

This text from SCC Officers about the cycle lanes on Basset Ave may be of interest to the HRA. I've had a few enquiries from people in the area.

"Bassett Avenue and The Avenue is a key strategic route into Southampton for all modes of travel, including for cycling. It has been identified in the Southampton Cycle Strategy as route SCN5 and connects the City Centre, University of Southampton, Southampton Common, with Chilworth and Chandlers Ford in Hampshire. It is a busy corridor but during the Covid lockdown traffic levels decreased by up to 59%, although as lockdown is eased and traffic levels are increasing, they are still a third lower than in early March. Across Southampton cycling levels during lockdown have increased significantly with double the amount of cycle trips being made in May compared to March.

As the lockdown eases and more people are looking to travel again for work, to school or for leisure, and as people are being asked to avoid public transport, the Department for Transport have asked local authorities to look at ways of help people to continue to travel actively and support social distancing. The Southampton Green Transport Recovery Plan is the Council's response to this. It looks at temporary measures that reallocate road space from motor vehicles to help people cycling and walking while traffic levels are lower than normal. This looks at what can be done on the main corridors in the city and in areas where people live. The measures we are implementing are to support social distancing and active travel and we will continue to closely monitor usage of the different modes of travel and how social distancing is being observed.

The Bassett Avenue scheme helps to create a safe cycle route by re-allocating road space to create two 'with traffic direction' cycle lanes. These provide viable alternatives for people travelling into Southampton who currently don't have access to cycle routes. The cycle lanes also allow people cycling to



come off the footway between Chilworth Roundabout and Burgess Road which is narrow and helps social distancing. The Avenue section connects the temporary section with the recent investment on The Avenue south of the Common. Consultation on this section was held earlier in the year and a decision on this is due later in the Summer.

Bassett Avenue and The Avenue is a vital route for many key workers in the city and whilst officers have worked quickly to design these changes, care has been taken to ensure safety risks have been identified and managed. The speed limit on Bassett Avenue and The Avenue has also been dropped from 40mph to 30mph with support from the Police.

This is an experimental scheme and as such is under constant review. The Council has automatic traffic counters in various locations across the city, including counters using loop detection on Bassett Avenue. In addition, the Council has access to journey time and air quality data collected across the priority corridors into and around the city. These sources, along with regular site visits, enable the Council to assess the scheme and its impacts. Additional signage will be included to iterate the status of the cycle lane.

The no right turn and speed limit are being implemented through a process call a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO). People are able to comment on the scheme throughout the period the TTRO is being run. This can be done in writing or email, any if you wish to comment on the Order must write to the Highways Legal Team at Southampton City Council, Civic Centre, Southampton, SO14 7LY (Traffic.Orders.Legal@southampton.gov.uk quoting the Order Title you are commenting on and reasons why) and these will be considered as part of any final decision will be made on the scheme, or parts of the scheme, in due course. "

Cllr. Gordon Cooper

Labour Member for Portswood Ward
0771 880 9668

Planning:

The Planning Report for June 2020 is attached. There are four approvals and three re-submissions this month.

Angela Seymour

University Liaison

No Report. See additional university information on the website from liaison member Kate Fay.

Jon Walsh University Liaison

Finance Report: No report.

Martin Benning Treasurer



Membership Report:

Database	498
Paid Up Members	387
Rolling	206

Nicola Martin Membership Secretary

Report on Social Media

The 'Useful Links' page of the website has now been completed, see here: <http://www.highfieldresidents.org.uk/useful-links/>

Kate Fay, from the University of Southampton, has very helpfully updated the section on the University and all other sections have been updated with the exception of 'Residents' Associations (local)', which is very probably still out of date. Could members please read through all sections of this page and let me know of any further updates, together with website links as appropriate.

The number of facebook followers now stands at 460, an increase of 22 since the Committee Notes of May 18th.

I have been receiving regular posts / photos from Barbara for posting on our facebook page and website. It would also be helpful if other members could let me have any News and Events updates, including any crime information they are aware of and photos they have taken. Posting our own information is much better than sharing information provided by other sites and more appreciated by our followers. Please think of fresh news to send me for posting. Thank you!

Nadine Johnson Social Media

Any Other Business

Please mail back Any Other Business, comments or local news of interest to Committee Members and it will be included in the next *Committee Notes*

Barbara Claridge Secretary

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