

Approved Minutes of HRA Committee Meeting
Held on 14th September 2015
At Highfield House Hotel

Present Roger Brown, Jerry Gillen, Jill Baston, Simon Hill, Stephen Connolly, Chris Klewe, Steven Johnston, John Bradshaw, Bryan Wakely.

Attending Councillor Matthew Claisse, Jacky Barnes, Nick Bacon, Graham Linecar, Tom O'Connor, Liz Gates, Ann Wardle, Roret Blue.

Apologies Councillor Linda Norris, Councillor Paul O'Neill, Headley Rossell, Nadine Johnson, Adrian Vinson, Nicolla Martin,

1. Welcome, declaration of interests.
Roger Brown welcomed everybody. There were no special interests declared.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with one name corrected.

3. Matters Arising.
Rats. The Committee noted that the first round of baiting rats on or near the Common appeared to have had some success, but there are still problems with one resident feeding vermin. Steven Johnston confirmed that his contacts with the Police indicated that very firm evidence would be needed before they were able to prosecute.

SUSU Jerry Gillen confirmed that there had been no further contact from Hannah Talbot of SUSU, and that he would make contact as soon as possible.

Newsletter There will not be a printed Newsletter this autumn but the regular Spring issue will appear as usual.

The HRA Planning and Licensing Guidelines are now on the website.

Sainsbury Site Orchard Homes appears to be pressing on with the development of 224 Portswood Road as purpose-built student accommodation.

Noise at events on the Common. There had been a response to the complaint about the noise of a recent rock concert on the Common and this will be followed up. The event had complied with Council guidelines but these will be reconsidered for future events.

4. The Common north of Highfield Avenue and plans for road works.

The committee spent a substantial period discussing what appeared to be two

Council Consultations on this area and the proposed cycle route from Burgess Road to Westwood Road. Simon Hill outlined the proposals in some details and indicated that he felt they would not solve the problems of the substantial pedestrian and cycle traffic between the two University sites and the city centre. After discussion, it was agreed to put all the plans onto our website and ask for comments and proposals from our Members.

Part of the Council proposals for the Junction at Highfield Avenue/Road could jeopardise access to the Little Common Area and a more coordinated plan for the common was called for. It was agreed that Roger Brown and Simon Hill would produce a set of proposals for further discussion and that we should try to set up a meeting with the other interested local associations.

5. Local Plan Consultation.

The Committee discussed and agreed a response to the Local Plan consultation which is also detailed on the website.

It was agreed that we should press for Portswood to be included as a Cumulative Impact Policy Zone in the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy 2016-21.

6. Reports.

Membership. In Nicolla's absence there was no report on membership.

Finance

Due to the absence of the Treasurer, there was no report on the Accounts.

Planning. Adrian Vinson's circulated list of planning applications was discussed briefly. Jerry and had attended a recent DCLG meeting raising the usual problems of HMO's and lack of affordable housing in the area. They had been left with the impression that the Government would make a significant planning announcement shortly.

7. AOB. It was reported that action was being taken under the Public Spaces Protection legislation against a group of drinkers who gather near the bench opposite Tenovus in Portswood Broadway.

There was a request for funding from the Seven Roads Group.

It was reported that the new owners of the Goat were Upham Brewery.

8. Date of next meeting.

This would be on 12th October 2015 at Highfield House Hotel.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm