

Approved Minutes of HRA Committee Meeting
Held on 8th February 2016
At Highfield House Hotel

Present. Roger Brown, Jerry Gillen, Jill Baston, Steve Johnston, John Bradshaw, Simon Hill, Stephen Connolly, Nicolla Martin, Mark Batchelor, Adrian Vinson, Nadine Johnson.
Attending. Jacky Barnes, Tom O'Connor.
Apologies Councillor Matthew Claisse, Chris Klewe.

1. Welcome, declaration of interests.
Roger Brown welcomed members and attendees to the meeting.

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. Matters arising:
Police contact – Jill has received no replies to her emails. She will inquire further to see if the commitment they are able to give to meeting with residents' associations has been reduced.

Social event - Jerry reported on plans for 1st July. The venue will be the hotel's function room, capacity 80 people. Ticket price £15 for starters and paella. There will be a cash bar and possibly a musician. HRA will need to subsidise the event – bar, music, and perhaps extra staff. Publicity will appear in the newsletter, at the AGM and on the website. The committee approved the plans.

Common Forum - A meeting of interested groups will be held on 16th February to discuss the founding a group supporting the Common. Roger will chair the initial meeting. He will report back to us, though this is not an HRA initiative.

University - Roger has written to the University's Vice-Chancellor and the Leader of the Council about further growth in student numbers.

'Studentification' - Jerry noted a letter published in The Observer about the problems in areas where large numbers of students are housed. He will take this up with NORA.

AGM. The committee approved the same set-up as last year. Jerry and Roger had been tasked to look for possible speakers, but with no result, for various reasons. The Council elections will be held in May, so it was suggested that we invite the candidates of the major parties to give a brief description of what they hoped to do for the area. The committee were happy with this, so Roger and Jill will take this

further, including any legal aspects.

Fly tipping can be reported via the SCC website, or phone 8083 3005. If rubbish collects in cutways, SCC will not clear it but if residents gather it up, SCC will take it away; the Community Payback scheme may also be useful. Fly tipping is illegal so if residents know who left it, they can report to the police.

Underlying conditions are blamed for the continuing poor state of Brookvale Road. It will be very expensive to fix, but a one-off scheme will be designed and costed later this year.

Steven has met with Ratman's neighbour. Twelve bags of seed are delivered every week. A final warning has been served on him, and the next stage will be a Community Protection Order. Photo/video evidence is needed but it's acknowledged that he is very elusive.

4. Reports.

Membership

Nicolla Martin reported by email as follows:-

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Data base records | 507 |
| Paid up total | 417 |
| Rolling paid up | 417 |

.. Finance – Mark will meet with Headley for a handover.

. Planning – Adrian presented an update. The appeal on 91 Welbeck Avenue was refused. Jerry noted the pressing need for enforcement at 28 Brookvale Road, and at 16 Heatherdeane Road, where the alleged fitness suite is now bedroom accommodation.

A meeting will be held with Sam Fox, Head of Planning, next week.

Tom, on behalf of Portswood Residents' Gardens, noted that at 8 Brookvale Road, a fence has been left in situ and trees chopped down, in apparent contravention of approved plans. PRG are investigating.

John, on behalf of OTRA, noted that the application to demolish the garage at 8 Blenheim Avenue has been withdrawn, and that a new one will be built at the side of the house.

Website – Hits are now at over 7,000. Problems from the past weekend have been fixed. Nadine is trying to get discounts from local businesses for members and will be glad of any tips from the committee about likely sources.

5. AOB

Jerry received a letter, addressed to HRA, from Parent Support Link, with news of a lottery grant for a Family and Friends Support Group (for family and friends of people who abuse drugs and alcohol). Contact: 023 80399764.

Further HV cable is to be laid in Portswood Road. Bus stops will be suspended in Portswood Broadway. The work will be done at night over 8 weeks .

6. Reserved business: None.
The next meeting will take place on 14th March.
The meeting ended at 8.25pm.