



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13TH AUGUST 2012

Present: Sue Hartley (Acting Chair), Caroline Knight (Vice-Chair), Jill Baston (Secretary), Jerry Gillen, Peggy Augier, Nicolla Martin, Steve Connolly, Nadine Johnson, Julia Brooking, Roret Blue, Bryan Wakely, Simon Hill.

Attending: Chloe Green, Cllr Linda Norris, Cllr Matthew Claisse, Jacky Barnes, Lyn Hand and Dave Johnston (Pointout Close), John Boys (Life-Long Learning), John Dyke and Jane & Dick Cervantes (53 Shaftesbury Avenue).

1. Welcome and Apologies: Sue Hartley welcomed all to the meeting, especially Julia Brooking, returning after illness. Apologies were received from: Cllr Adrian Vinson, Peter Knight, Alison Farmer, Jean Wawman (East Bassett), Chris Lyons (Deputy Head of Planning), Keith Reed, Headley Rossell.

2. Minutes of last meeting: taken as read.

3. Matters arising (except listed elsewhere):

Jerry reported that he had received two donations as a result of his appeal letter to residents of Grosvenor Road re the planning application at No.13.

4. Correspondence:

- A thank you card from George Martin had been received following his recent surgery.
- Jerry reported three letters on planning applications - at Highfield Lodge, 27 Blenheim Avenue, and 2a University Road.

5. Life-Long Learning: John Boys advised the meeting of opportunities available at the University of Southampton. There is a portal on the website for the public to access, with information about events and classes. He gave examples such as a philosophy session on Sunday at the Art Gallery, and free concerts by professional musicians at the Turner Sims on Monday lunchtimes. The website address is: www.southampton.ac.uk/lifelonglearning. Telephone contact: 023 8059 7261. This information to be published on HRA website.

6. SUSU:

- Chloe Green gave notice of a community meeting in mid-September. She will notify Jill of the date, for distribution.
- SUSU are writing a Community Strategy, which will be circulated in the coming year.
- Chloe has another regular commitment on Monday nights, but is easily contacted by email - vpwelfare@susu.org She will consider if there could be a nominated person to stand in for her at HRA meetings.

7. Membership:

- Nicolla reported that the paid-up rolling list stands at 357, and that the database remained unchanged at 633.
- She will be away during September and October, but had sent out the renewal letters for that period at the end of July.
- Sue thanked Nicolla for her foresight.

8. Sub-committee reports:

a. Finance

Headley was away. £200 had been received in donations towards our expenses re 13 Grosvenor Road.

b. Planning

- Sue thanked Jerry for his valuable work on planning.
- Jerry reported that John Dyke and Simon had helped, at short notice, to prepare our submission on 53 Shaftesbury Avenue. He had been informed late on the previous Friday that HRA had not been granted 3rd party rights by the Planning Inspectorate, and that the deadline for submissions had now passed. After further advice, our objection had now been sent off to Bristol, but without seeing the Council's or appellant's papers.
 - Jerry considered that there are two main issues with planning – the lack of adequate enforcement, and the over-rigid application of the new guidelines on HMOs.
 - Dick Cervantes mentioned that he had put in a freedom of information request to the council and had received all the planning papers re 53 Shaftesbury Avenue. He recommended this method of getting information if planning officers were tardy in supplying it.
 - Sue felt that people who wanted to protect their area were treated shabbily.

9. Website: Steve said that the website was up and running. Information for the site should be sent to him.

10. Newsletter: the next edition will go out in late October.

11. Common Sense:

- Simon was finalising the programme for helpers to go in the newsletter.
- He noted the apparent shabbiness of The Hawthorns, and was concerned that the facility could be at risk. Caroline will find out if this could be an item for the newsletter.
- Nadine suggested that a coffee area where dog walkers could sit may be helpful.

12. AOB

- Peggy had noted that bins at the corner of Highfield Lane and Portswood Broadway near the kebab shop were constantly overflowing. She had contacted the council.
- Nadine expressed concern at the failure to adequately fit out the Post Office premises in Portswood. She has written to the Post Office. Unfortunately the premises are rented so are the responsibility of the owner.

- Caroline told the committee of the recent death of Bert Baker. She and Jerry had attended the funeral on behalf of HRA.
- Sue noted that the next meeting will be on 10th September, when the Cabinet Member Cllr Asa Thorpe will attend to discuss planning issues.

The meeting ended at 8.37pm.