



## **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Held at Highfield House Hotel**

**10 DECEMBER 2012**

### **1. Welcome and apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Claisse, Police representatives, Nicolla Martin, Peggy Augier, Peter Knight, Alison Shelly.

Present: Roger Brown (Chair), Jill Baston (Minutes), Roret Blue, Keith Reed, Nadine Johnson, Simon Hill, Bryan Wakeley, Steve Connolly, Jacky Barnes, Sue Hartley, Jerry Gillen, Julia Brooking, Cllr Linda Norris.

Attending: Cllr Adrian Vinson.

### **2. Minutes (taken as read)**

### **3. Matters arising**

Further to his correspondence with Cllr Thorpe following the September meeting, Roger Brown (Chair) has received a reply from Chris Lyons (Planning) stating that evidence indicated that 25 Roselands Gardens was not an HMO.

- 33 Highfield Road has been approved.
- 158-169a Portswood Road. The application for privately owned student accommodation has been refused at panel.
- The appeal on 53 Shaftesbury Avenue has been refused.

The committee agreed a contribution to assist EBRA with barrister's fees for 30 Glen Eyre Drive. 6 Denbigh Gardens awaits the Inspector's report.

Jerry has arranged the Committee Social for Thursday 24 January 2013, 7.30, in the upstairs room at Mango.

- It was agreed that the cost will be £25 per person, as last year. The maximum number is around 26.

- Members should notify Jerry as soon as possible if they are coming but by 31<sup>st</sup> December at the latest. He will also need a cheque, made payable to HRA.

Headley reported that our insurance is covered for another year.

Caroline has emailed to let us know that a Facebook page for HRA already exists. Nicolla emailed to report that the database was at 633, the rolling total 432, and that the new member had in fact complimented the Facebook page.

Sue said that the Mayor is not free for the Committee Social but can attend the AGM.

Nadine has talked to Keith about the proposed email database. She is willing to populate the site but does not wish to set it up. It was agreed that there is no urgency, and that we can think again about it in the New Year.

#### **4. Appointment of: Vice-Chair Planning Co-ordinator**

Roger proposed Jerry Gillen as Vice-Chair, at least until the AGM. The proposal was duly seconded and agreed.

Keith will step down as Planning Co-ordinator in the New Year because of illness in his extended family with consequent childcare pressures, coinciding with a very busy period at work. Roger thanked Keith for his contribution to the work of the committee.

Simon and Roret agreed to work together on planning applications, with Roret as the main point of contact for the council. She will talk to Keith in the handover period.

#### **5. Subcommittee reports:**

##### a) Finances

- Headley reported that finances continue healthy, with no outstanding major bills.
- Local residents had agreed to pay an amount towards barristers' fees for 53 Shaftesbury Avenue. Headley requested an invoice for this amount, which Jerry will pass on.
- Money is available from a lottery grant, 'Awards for All', for community newsletters. Jerry will work with Headley on the application; Julia will help on her return from India in mid-January.

##### b) Planning

- Keith gave an update on current planning applications.

- Jerry has organised a letter objecting to the application at 5 Crofton Close. Planning officers have visited the site.
- The latest application from 13 Grosvenor Road, for flats, was refused.
- Jerry noted that there are currently 7 HMOs in the area awaiting enforcement action. Roger will write to the council to ask why no enforcement is taking place, and will request a list of the HMOs in the area needing enforcement.
- Adrian informed the committee that an application had been received to convert the former trophy shop at 517 Portswood Road into 3 flats and a 1 bedroomed house.
- Officers had said at planning panel, with reference to the proposed student accommodation in Portswood Broadway, that there is no policy in place on standards for interior facilities in this type of building. Roger will write to the planning and housing departments to clarify if such a policy is needed.
- Cllr Norris asked the committee for our views on the proposed relocation of the Portswood Broadway Post Office to 41 Addis Square. It was felt that this could only be an improvement on the current inadequate situation.

## **6. AOB**

- Steve reported that James has updated the website and is now in a position to give it more attention. One of the problems is the shortage of interesting items being submitted.
- Bryan noted that if we are intending to put on a summer event, the Residents' Gardens will have to be booked early. Jacky will find out about bookings for Saturday evenings in the first half of July, before school holidays begin, or in early September.
- Simon has been invited, as a representative of Common Sense, to a consultation meeting on Southampton City Council's budget. He fears that there will be major cuts, of a kind not seen before. He will attend for information. Jerry will attend a similar meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> December.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.