



HIGHFIELD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

**Minutes of the committee meeting held on Monday 14th February 2011
At the Highfield House Hotel.**

Present Jerry Gillen, Chair : Sue Hartley, Vice Chair : Caroline Knight, Secretary, Headley Rossell, Treasurer : Nicolla Martin: Roret Blue : Steve Connolly : Peggy Augier and Matthew Claisse..

Apologies Bryan Wakely: Julia Brooking: Alison Shelly: Adrian Vinson: Billy Fitzjohn: Jennifer Arnold

Attending Barry and Sharon Smith from NEBRA: Nick Bacon: Peter Knight: Declan Hayes.

Minutes of the January meeting

Were taken as read and accepted as accurate with the amendment of the sponsorship of the newsletter.

Matters arising

- Sainsbury's application for an increased store size has been approved. The application for the Petrol Station was refused.
- The Council should be approving the Article 4 Direction amendment tonight.

Correspondence

- Jerry has written to Punch Taverns expressing concern about the future of the Highfield Pub. He voiced his appreciation of the efforts of the new landlord and offered his support. He has since had a meeting with the area manager.
- Jerry has assured EBRA that they have an open invitation to HRA committee meetings.
- Letter from the University re Boldrewood.
- DCLG- relaxation of parking restraints PPG 13 and PPS 3.
- A letter from Jean Wawman reiterating EBRA's stance on applications for public funding but confirming their continued commitment to cooperation between the RAs.

Membership

- At present we have 507 household and 19 renewals for January.

Finances

- Headley reported that finances were healthy. There was a lot of spending in January. The accounts were approved and signed off and will now go to the examiner.
- Milton Keynes council have asked for donations to their fund for judicial review. If it is successful then the Government will be liable for costs. It was felt that a contribution was not appropriate at this time. The NSCF is out of funds so they cannot contribute either.

Planning and Licensing

Monthly list was circulated prior the meeting.

- 32 Highfield Road- an objection was submitted.
- 2A University Road- 7 bed HMO- HRA objected.
- 1 Abbots way- application for installation of solar panels.

A member asked what happens about enforcement against HMOs when planning is refused. There are currently 3 cases where no enforcement has taken place. Matthew will keep pressing the Council and giving them examples of lack of enforcement.

Newsletter

The next newsletter will be delivered during the first week of April. We have advertising and a donation from SCC so costs should be covered.

Website

Tony has rebuilt the website again using Joomla as he feels that this is a more accessible management system. Most of the required information is up and more will go up in a couple of weeks when Tony and Steve will meet. The forum has been taken down for now as it was just getting applications from Russia.

Social events

The grant monies received, is specifically to encourage “new membership” and wider community participation.

The winter / spring function, a joint event with Highfield Church and HRA, to be held in the Church Hall, on 2nd April. Ghandi's are now doing the catering. The church has been slow to respond but Bryan has forwarded to Headley an email from Graham Archer stating the help the church is willing to give.

A flyer is being designed and discussion took place re how to incorporate the booking form.

Nicolla is going to handle ticket sales and also organise the distribution of the flyers.

The disco has been booked.

AGM – Friday 13th May at the Highfield House Hotel, to be held as a form of “Question Time” with an interesting panel of about five people. HHH are going to provide the

refreshments. So far we have a panel consisting of Alan Whitehead MP, a Police Chief Inspector, Deputy Leader of the Council and Adam Wheeler from the University.

Summer event – Saturday 25th June, at Portswood Residents Gardens. Another function to entice new members. Hog Roast, Disco. Ticket pricing needs discussion. Jerry and Caroline are meeting with Pearsons. Nicolla will put diary dates for all 3 events in with the March renewal letters.

Any other business

- Jerry showed the scroll that will be presented to Dawn Jones on behalf of NSCF to the committee. He reminded the committee of the event which will take place at the Municipal Golf Course Pavilion on Thursday 24th Feb with a buffet.
- The NORA AGM is in London on Saturday 26th March.
- There was a report in the Echo of a proposed cut to the Number 14 Solent Blue Line bus service. People are worried about this and Peter Knight will investigate.
- There has been an increase in burglaries recently. 4 lads have been seen around and the Police have asked residents to call them if they spot them loitering around.
- Barry and Sharon Smith thanked the committee for allowing them to attend and will take away some ideas.

The meeting closed at 8.45.

The next meeting is on Monday 14th March 2011.