



HIGHFIELD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting held at 7.30 p m on Monday 10th August 2009
At the Highfield House Hotel.

Present: Sue Hartley – Vice chair, Nicolla Martin, Bryan Wakely, Adrian Vinson, Steve Connolly, Roret Blue and Rafeal Persaud.

Apologies: Jerry Gillen – Chairman, Caroline Knight – Secretary, Headley Rossell – Treasurer, Josie Brown and Alison Shelly.

In Attendance: Cllr. Vincenzo Capozzoli, Cllr. Matt Dean, Matt Martin – University liaison, Matthew Claisse – Russell Place, Jean Wawman, James Cox and Derrick Warcup of EBRA, Steve O'Reilly – Student Union President, Becky Maclean – Student Union Vice President, Education & Representation, Jacky Barnes – PRG and Sara Rasmussen – Northcote Road.

Minutes of last meeting – 13th July: 34 Granby Grove, should read 32 Granby Grove.

Matters arising and not on the agenda: Jerry called on Mr & Mrs Pullen of Highfield Crescent to ask them to write in with their concerns on HMOs issue. Denise Long of Holyrood Avenue was out.

Correspondence: Letter received from Mr. J. Symes of Winn Court, Winn Road, requesting the Council to re-surface the pavements in Winn Road. The letter was given to Cllr. Matt Dean, who said that he would write to him / visit him. Cllr. Capozzoli also offered to visit Mr. Symes.

Southampton University, Community Liaison – Matt Martin: Matt said that he had been to look at 32, Granby Grove which is a very nice house. The furniture had been removed from the garden, but the garage door should be repaired.

The next meeting with the Community Liaison Panel will be 18th November.

The students residing at 28 and 28a Brookvale Road had been reassured by Matt, that the residents of Highfield did not have an issue directly with them. The issue was with their Landlord and building that was not licensed to be a HMO. One appeal had been held in July and one is due in November.

Police Liaison – Removal of car in Brookvale Road: A letter received from PC Steven Ashe was read to the meeting setting out the legal position regarding the car parked partly on the pavement. PC Ashe and PC Andy Alderson have looked at the vehicle parked partly on the pavement on Brookvale Road and considered, although it is not parked ideally, it is not causing a “serious obstruction”.

The Police will be calling on the registered keeper of the vehicle and advising them about the way the vehicle is parked. If this does not result in the vehicle being moved, the Police will fine the owner.

Application to extend opening hours at SUSU: The Students' Union President, Steve O'Reilly confirmed that the application had been submitted on the 7th August.

The Cube close time 1am extend to 3am Friday and Saturday
The Stags Head close time 10.30pm extend to 11pm Sunday

PC Steven Ashe's stated: "Many of you will have been present at the meeting at the Cube, and will have heard my colleagues and I seek clarification and raise general concerns over the request. In essence whilst we do not support the application, as the Police, we have no grounds to object, unless we have evidence to support such an objection. This would, for example, be crime or disorder at the club or outside, or crime and disorder attributable to the Cube away from the premises. The club operates in a professional way. I am mindful to the anti-social behaviour that many of you have experienced, but this is very difficult to attribute specifically to these premises. This in the most part is due to the fact that the route along Portswood Road, Church Lane, University Road and Glen Eyre Road is also frequented by students making their way back from the Bevois Valley area to their places of residence.

Whilst I have articulated to the University the concerns of the Police and residents, we cannot object to this application. I am adamant that we will continue, resource dependant, to Police the areas that are affected by anti-social behaviour and work with the University to minimise any such behaviour. There are a number of initiatives that were tested last year that will be tested again this. We will also be putting signs up during peak times of the year, reminding students to be mindful in residential areas".

Cllr. Capozzoli asked if any minutes of the consultation meeting regarding the SUSU's licensing application had been circulated?

Mr. Warcup of EBRA expressed his disquiet that not more people had been informed about the meeting.

Special events will be an occasional temporary license up to six times a year and the Police grant the license. Late night sports television coverage comes under the special events, if alcohol is served. The building may be open to the public and drinking up time applies as a private members club. There is confusion, as often the "sports" is not a single match but a series of games.

Steve O'Reilly said that there was a reduction in numbers of students using the Cube on a Saturday night from 800 down to 300 and they wished to provide a better service to the students, in a safe environment, whilst denying the licensing application was for financial reasons.

Cllr. Dean said that The City Council Central has produced a statement of licensing policy. Key to this, is the promotion of the four key licensing objectives, as set out in section 4 to the Act, which are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- Prevention of public nuisance, and disturbance
- The protection of children from harm

The council's web page on these matters can be viewed at:

<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/licensing/alcohol-licences/licensingpolicy.asp>

While the central government guidance can be found at:

<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/licensing/alcohol-licences/licensingpolicy.asp>

Adrian Vinson stated that HRA's representation would be one of strenuous objection to the increase of opening to 3am. One possible option was that we could seek the restoration of the license hours for the Cube to 1 am.

The committee present, voted unanimously, to ring fence £1,000 + VAT for No 5 Chambers legal fees regarding our objection to this application.

East Bassett Residents' Association was asked if they would contribute to these legal costs. As EBRA had no mandate for any money to be available, they were requested to consider the matter.

Brookvale Road

Cllr. Dean said that the road would be repaired.

Membership:

Database 631. Paid up membership for 2008 remains at 491

Current paid up households 2008 / 2009

AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
19	24	23	46	18	130

Renewed & new members paid up for 2009 / 2010

This is a **rolling figure**.

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	
14	29	41	agm	273	299	346	365	365

TOTAL PAID UP HOUSEHOLDS 495

Finance: Healthy.

There is an outstanding invoice of £804.00 to be paid for the summer newsletter

Budgeted £1,000 + vat for the SUSU extended opening hours.	Committee a unanimous, yes
£1,000 + vat for 1, Crofton Close for fighting the appeal	“ “ “
£1,000 + vat for 28a Brookvale Road for fighting the appeal	“ “ “

- The Council may well use HRA's barrister for 1 Crofton Close, as the preparatory work has already been done.

Planning:

- 28 Brookvale appeal went on all day and the Council's barrister exposed inaccuracies especially when it came to the electrician's work and electricity bills. The radio 4, "You and Yours" programme, described these strategies as common.
- 28a Brookvale appeal will be on 3rd November.
- 2 Hilldown Road – part 2 storey, part single storey side extension. Response by 4 Aug.
- 12 Highfield Close – single storey rear extension. Response by 14 Aug.
- 13 Church Lane – Landscaping & timber cladding details. Response by 24 Aug. This is going to be looked at by the enforcement officer.
- 2 Richard Taunton Place – single storey rear extension + single storey side by window. Decision conditionally approved.
- 1 Crofton Close – conversion of garage. The response: The Planning Inspectorate, Attention Mr Paul Eland, 3/26b, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN. Comments: Appeal against enforcement notice served following Planning decision, supported by HRA.
- Champagne Charley's, 23 Portswood Road. Description: Licence application to retail alcohol from 0800 to 0100 Mon – Thur + Sun and 0800 to 0300 Fri – Sat. Response by Hayley Clowes 10 Aug. AV to object to the sale of alcohol in glass bottles and has a large glass front window, although these premises are outside of HRA's area our objection may be disregarded.

- 47 Highfield Lane, The Highfield. Description: License variation for music / dancing 1000 – 00.00 Thur – Sat & 10.00 – 23.00 Sun – Wed; late night refreshments 23.00 – 00.30 Sun – Wed & 10.00 – 00.00 & Thur – Sat 00.00 – 01.00

It was held that The Highfield should have the same opening times as the The Crown.

HMOs consultation responses:

Cllr. Matthew Dean handed HRA his HMOs & possible planning responses consultation, with attachments: Appeal decisions.pdf: HMO consultation response – final – Cllr Dean (4) doc.

He also said that he had attended the National conference in June, with Jerry Gillen spending some time with Mr. Tyler, Dr. Shrank and No 5 Chambers legal team and how impressed he was.

Both Adrian Vinson and Jerry Gillen had sent in excellent reports, by the closing date of 7th August.

Web site:

Progressing well. The new website is up and the contents are being transferred over, with most recent things up first. The membership form has been up dated with the Highfield News address.

Summer event: This will be a Hog Roast, salad, potato salad and pudding, taped music, on Saturday 19th September, 7pm – 10.30pm, at the Residents' Gardens Pavilion, Abbots Way. £10.00 per person, limited tickets for members and guests to 70. Bring your own drinks and picnic blankets/chairs. Provision for all empty bottles to left and collected the following Monday.

Any other business: Jacky Barnes of Portswood Residents' Gardens thanked HRA for all their hard work, especially on 28 and 28a Brookvale Road.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.44pm.

The date of the next meeting is Monday 14th September 2009.