



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON 10 JUNE 2013

HIGHFIELD HOUSE HOTEL

Present: Jerry Gillen, Roger Brown, Jill Baston, Simon Hill, Bryan Wakely, Steve Connolly, Headley Rossell, Roret Blue, Peggy Augier, John Bradshaw, Keith Reed, Julia Brooking, Alison Shelly.

Attending: PCSO Hayley Taite, PC Shelley Shaladan, Robert Stanley, Cllr Linda Norris, Cllr Matthew Claisse, Jacky Barnes, Cllr Adrian Vinson, Farooq Ahmed.

1. **Apologies** were received from Nicolla Martin.
2. **Minutes of last meeting (taken as read)** No comments.
3. **Matters arising**

Roger is due to hold another meeting with Solent about the new website, and will report back to the next meeting.

4. **University Cycle Link project**

Robert Stanley from SCC attended to brief the committee. Three consultation events have been held and a drop-in. Lots of feedback from residents and interest groups has been received.

It is proposed to complete the cycle route between the City Centre and the University's Highfield campus via the existing track on the Avenue and Lovers' Walk path, emerging in Burgess Road, opposite Glen Eyre Road.

There are two possible options for the North section of the route between Highfield Road and the Highfield campus, and three for the South section of the route between the existing Avenue cycle track at Westwood Road, and Highfield Road.

Highfield Road will link the North and South sections and will be improved for cyclists in any case.

Ecology issues will be taken into account; permeable surfaces will be used for any widening of tracks and mitigation surveys for the benefit of wildlife will be undertaken.

The consultation ends on 14 June. The consultation summary will be sent to Residents' Associations in two weeks' time. The recommendations for Cabinet will be sent out before the Cabinet meeting, probably in the autumn.

The resulting proposals will not be implemented until 2015.

Additional item: Police report

PC Shelley Shaladan and PCSO Hayley Taite told the meeting that burglaries are currently the main problem. The summer spate has lasted a little longer than usual. Police have been door-knocking to warn and advise residents. Students are particularly vulnerable in large shared houses where people come and go routinely. Theft of laptops is common. The main areas affected are Grosvenor Road, Upper Shaftesbury Avenue and Alma and Gordon Roads. Arrests have been made.

The 'Speedwatch' scheme for checking the speed of local traffic was recommended. HRA will investigate; the scheme runs with the help of local volunteers. To go on website.

5. Hog Roast

Bryan gave an update. Five volunteers have come forward. No MP3 player has as yet been offered. Reminders have been sent out. Twenty tickets have been sold, with six promises – about the usual number at this stage. Another reminder will be sent out. Payment must be sent to Nicolla in advance of the event (29 June). Past experience suggests that we should hit our break-even target of 60.

Ceno's have been very generous with their help.

6. Reports:

Finance Still healthy. Headley compared the amount given in membership fees and the very considerable amount in donations to illustrate the point that an increase in fees risks a drop in donations.

Membership Nicolla sent an update via email. Paid up rolling membership now totals 273. She has started to reduce the HRA membership database to get it to a more realistic number. Teething problems with the database will be reported to Caroline.

Planning

- Owners of the cycle shop at 3 St Denys Road have been told informally that they can replace it with a block of flats. Simon is sure that this information is not correct.

- Morrisons' do not need planning permission to take over the former Blockbuster site, as the use class is the same. Minor alterations have been put before planners; Simon has objected to the placing of the air conditioning outlet directly behind the bus stop, and the poor access arrangements.
- Adrian and Jerry will attend the licensing hearing on Thursday to support the case for limiting Morrisons' hours.
- HRA opposed the plans for 5 and 7 Blenheim Gardens but the panel gave permission.
- SCC have put out a statement that HMOs do not have permitted development rights.
- It is felt that planning officers accept flimsy evidence on dates of establishment of HMO's. Occupancy is the test not the date of contracts. Landlords have to register students or they pay council tax, so the date of registration may be more reliable, but council lawyers do not accept council tax evidence.
- The appeal on 1 Blenheim Gardens has failed.
- A proposed large development at 11 Westwood Road will be checked by HRA.
- HRA will object to the proposed plans for 6 Richmond Gardens.
- The extension at 3 Abbots Way was granted on appeal, but the owner has now put in for alterations which go against the Inspector's decision. Portwood Residents' Gardens Association will object.
- Roger is planning to put to SCC possible amendments to the SPD.

7. AOB

Cllr Norris reported that a bus service, run by Wheeler's Travel of Romsey, has been restored to Westwood Road.

Peggy reported on continuing problems with obstructive wheelie bins.

The meeting finished at 8.50pm.