



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2012

ACTION

Present: Philip Mills (Hampshire County Council Trading Standards), Rebecca Adams (SCC Trading Standards), PCSO Helen Kemble, Nadine Johnson, Jill Baston, Jackie Barnes, Nicolla Martin, Roret Blue, Jerry Gillen, Simon Hill, Keith Reed, Alison Farmer, Steve Connolly, Bryan Wakeley, Cllr Adrian Vinson.

Welcome and Apologies: The Chair was taken by Nadine Johnson, who welcomed members. Apologies were received from Caroline Knight, Sue Hartley, Peter Knight, Matthew Claisse, Headley Rossell, and Frankie Fry.

Minutes of last meeting: Nicolla pointed out that, while the database was 633, unfortunately it was not the case that 500 were paid up, as recorded. The rolling was 74 paid up

Matters arising:

- The proposal to establish an email database was discussed further. There is an acknowledged need to communicate better with members via email.
- It was agreed that the Treasurer will formally apply for database protection.
- Nicolla felt from experience that sending out large numbers of emails did not necessarily produce a greater response from members.
- Keith will discuss a suitable package with Nicolla.
- It was suggested that it may be better for subscriptions to be paid by standing order/direct debits. Nicolla pointed out that this had been discussed many times previously, and rejected, due to the importance of the donations. This was confirmed in the last two bankings where the donations were more than the subscriptions.
- The committee approved the establishment of a email database, and that it should move forward in a considered way.

Headley

Nicolla
Keith
Nadine

SU and University Liaison:

Frankie Fry had given her apologies, but she hoped to attend the next meeting with Chloe Green, her successor.

No Cold Calling:

- Philip displayed the notice that could be displayed in a Cold Calling Zone (CCZ) e.g. on a lamppost to act as a deterrent to potential unwanted callers. If cold calls still happen, then they should be reported.
- Helen described the types of crime that could result if vulnerable people were cold called by rogues – doorstep crime, distraction burglary, rogue trading.

Only 4% of doorstep crime is reported to the police, because of victims' sense of shame at having been taken in. A CCZ is not an exclusion zone – callers such as the Avon lady and charities would still be able to call – but residents find that they have the confidence to say no.

- There are currently 500 CCZs across Hampshire. To establish one, 66% of the area needs to be in favour, whether it's 4 houses or 650.
- The process is as follows:
 1. A lead person sends a request form, which can be submitted online, with details to Rebecca at SCC.
 2. A consultation pack, with leaflets to go through residents' doors, is sent.
 3. The information gathered is returned, to be verified by HCC.
 4. Stickers are then sent out to residents.

Q. Are there any unintended consequences?

- More reporting meant more enforcement by Trading Standards.
- HMOs might prevent the 66% return rate necessary. PCSOs can help contact students by canvassing and usually found a favourable response.
- Rebecca will leave request forms. All information can be found on the HCC website.
- Jerry suggested that **Oakmount Triangle, Crofton Close** and **Woodstock Drive** would be suitable areas, and will contact OTRA to discuss the idea.
- Jackie will take the idea to **Portswood Residents' Gardens**.
- Roret will discuss with the **Seven Roads** group.
- Alison will arrange to consult **Welbeck Avenue** residents.
- Bryan felt that part of **Winn Road** might make a suitable area.
- This item will return to the next committee agenda for follow up. A booklet and other information was left with Jill for our records.
- The three advisors were thanked for coming. Thanks are also recorded to Ridgemount Avenue Residents' Association, who brought this to our attention.

Jerry

Jackie
Roret
Alison
Bryan

Jill

Neighbourhood Plans:

- Jerry reported that within the North Southampton Community Forum, Bassett Ward was forming a Neighbourhood Plan. HRA was exposed on planning protection under the National Policy Framework, and he felt that we need a Neighbourhood Plan for Highfield.
- Chris Lyons leads at SCC on this, but there was no blueprint to follow – the plan has to come from us, though some standards still applied, such as density. We have to take into account the most productive use of land, and the housing target for the city. There is a need to accept development but we could state which type we thought acceptable within our area.
- Jerry, as NORA representative, will attend a meeting at the DCLG. The senior planning officer will be present, and Jerry will ask for planning guidelines.
- Simon said that the necessary work and consultations would strain local government resources. Neighbourhood Plans would have the same status as the Development Plan, which will become the Core Strategy; the Local Plan will apply till then. He suggested a working group should be set up.

This item will return to the next agenda.

Jill

Membership: Nicolla reported that there are 633 people on the database, with rolling total of 225 paid up which is an increase on last year (including 151 from March).

Sub-committee reports:

- Finance: Headley was absent but had reported finances as 'still healthy'.
- Planning: Keith circulated an updated list of applications with their current status.
- 13 Grosvenor Road - Jerry had sent Sarah Clover's submission on our behalf to Bristol for the appeal. He will circulate the report via email.
- Highfield Pub – there had been no contact from the Regional Manager.

Jerry

Committee jobs: deferred till next meeting in the absence of Sue and Caroline.

Steve

Website: It is out of date. Steve will contact the webmaster.

Common Sense: Rain had interfered with progress. It may be possible to organise student help in the summer via Chloe Green. The work had been very well received locally.

AGM Feedback:

- Nadine said that it had been excellent, well organised and with good speakers. Unfortunately her written question, sent in beforehand, had disappeared somewhere in the system.
- Nadine also added that the AGM had been promoted as a Question Time. However, only 15-20 minutes, out of a possible 1 hour 15 minutes approximately, had actually been devoted to questions from the audience because the speakers had exceeded their allocated 5 minutes. It is important to recognise that members only have one chance every year to raise questions publicly and that the time provided for audience questions may not have been sufficient. It was therefore noted that this would be borne in mind for the next AGM and the allocated times tightened up accordingly.

AOB:

Jerry

- Jerry noted that funds were needed to pay for Sarah Clover's submission to the planning enquiry on 13 Grosvenor Road. He will write to Grosvenor Road residents who had not so far contributed with an update and an appeal for donations.
- A plant sale by OTRA in aid of the Stroke Association would take place on 15 May at 4 Blenheim Avenue.
- A good source of cupcakes and larger cakes for celebrations etc had come to Jerry's attention. He had the details if anyone was interested.
- Roret reported on the Friends of Seven Roads subgroup. Two meetings had been well attended. The next will take place at 2-3pm on 9th June, at 94 Shaftesbury Avenue. Their aim is to improve the area. A meeting with the University is planned.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

