



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2013

HIGHFIELD HOUSE HOTEL

Present: Roger Brown (Chair), Keith Reed, Cllr Adrian Vinson, John Bradshaw, Peggy Augier, Headley Rossell, Simon Hill, Nick Bacon, Steve Connolly, Bryan Wakely, Cllr Linda Norris, Nadine Johnson, Jill Baston, Cllr Matthew Claisse, Tom O'Connor, Roret Blue, Julia Brooking.

Apologies: Jerry Gillen, Jacky Barnes, Nicolla Martin, Alison Farmer.

1. Welcome, declarations of interest.

Roger explained the Reserved Business item on the agenda. Attendees will be limited to members of the committee, local Councillors, and others specifically invited.

He noted with sadness the death of Peter Knight.

2. Minutes of last meeting (circulated and taken as read).

Two amendments were agreed.

3. Matters arising, excepting agenda items.

None.

4. Website.

Roger reported that the website is progressing well. The launch awaits news of the grant application. We should hear by 18th November, so the beginning of December will be an appropriate launch date. The process of preparation is very labour intensive; Nadine and Elly have worked hard on it.

5. Little Common.

- Roger attended a meeting about the proposed cycleway. SCC are moving towards a solution but currently this is still work in progress, so it is difficult to form a view just now. We will keep a watching brief.
- Simon reported that the second stage of Little Common improvements will include thinning out of the greenery around Lovers' Walk.
- The proposed water pipe through the Underpass has shrunk to 10cm, with a pump. The pipe will need to be enclosed, but Simon feels that this will not incommode walkers. We will keep a watching brief.

6. Reports.

a) Finance

Finances are healthy. Headley noted that we will have to take out public liability insurance this year, which will include OTRA.

b) Membership

Nicolla, via email, reported that the database now has 560 names, rolling paid up membership from January 13th totals 389, and the total paid up is 449.

c) Planning

Jerry and Roger, on behalf of HRA, attended a meeting with Cllr Jacqui Rayment, the Cabinet Member responsible for Planning, at the end of October. They flagged up several local issues. Discussion on the SPD at the council is taken over for the time being by the Scrutiny Panel enquiry.

The North Southampton Community Action Forum will discuss the SPD at a meeting next week. Roger will attend.

Cllr Vinson reported that the first meeting of the Scrutiny Panel will be in the last week of November. He is pressing for an official invitation to HRA. Their report is due in March 2014.

The committee looked at the October/November list of planning applications for the area.

Cllr Vinson, with Trevor Foster, is to host a meeting with residents concerning 13 Grosvenor Road, in the hope of finding an acceptable way forward about the type of occupancy. Simon will attend on behalf of HRA.

7. AOB

- The Council has responded rapidly to complaints from a resident about wheelie bins and pavement refuse in Sirdar Road and Granby Grove, indicating strong action, monitoring and a fine if necessary.
- Cllr Norris reported that the garden waste service was well received. Glass for recycling will be collected from flats, and from houses starting next year. Student households will be targeted.
- An HRA Committee Christmas lunch will be held at Ceno on Wednesday 11th December, 1pm. All are welcome.
- Help towards the expenses of the Childrens' Party will be available from HRA funds, and from the current collection at Waitrose.
- Peggy is working on the bin problems in Roselands Gardens.
- Roret noted that To Let signs are already appearing.
- Bryan noted that cycling on Portswood pavements is increasing again.
- Nick reminded the committee that a community room is available at Sainsburys without charge, which, if the room is suitable, would be a considerable saving. We need to check the size of the room.
- Simon pointed that cuts at SCC pose a problem for the Little Common working party, as Saturday supervision is no longer possible, resulting in public liability problems.
- The whole of Highfield Road is currently being surfaced free to SCC by Virgin as restitution.

7. Reserved business.

The main meeting finished at 8.30pm.