

**Minutes HRA Committee Meeting  
Held on 9 September 2019  
At Highfield House Hotel 7.30pm**



*Many thanks to Andi Sutcliffe for taking the notes of the meeting*

**Committee members present:** Jerry Gillen (Acting Chair), Nicolla Martin, Martin Benning, Stephen Johnston, Ken Burtenshaw, Stephen Connolly,

**Attending:** Dave Tyrie SCC, Andi Sutcliffe, Ward Cllrs Gordon Cooper and John Savage, Peter Etheridge NSCF & Holly Hill RA, Kate Fay (SU), John Walsh, Kasia Stanisiz, Alec Withers, Anita & Pravin Sood, Sanjay Ramamoorthy, Nick Bacon, Tom O'Connor, Balbinder Bari, Sue Ingham

1. **Welcome, declaration of interests:** none recorded
2. **Apologies:** Nadine Johnson, Roger Brown, Adrian Vinson, Dave White, Angela Seymour, Simon Hill, Barbara Claridge  
Post meeting note – James Burgess has resigned from the Committee
3. **Minutes and Amendments of the meeting held on 8 July 2019**  
The minutes had been circulated previously
4. **Matters Arising:** See items 6a, b & c
5. **Presentation** - Dave Tyrie (SCC) outlined the draft plan for the Little Common new entrance and path

The vast majority of committee members present were in agreement that the new plan is suitable. One late arrival questioned need and cost.

**Statement in support of SCC Proposal from Roger Brown (SCF):**

Very regrettably, Southampton Common Forum is unable to be represented this evening. However we welcome the City Council's response to the problem and the solution that is proposed. We believe that it is fully in line with one of the aims of the new Common Plan, namely to make the Common more accessible whilst safeguarding the Common's natural resources. We therefore commend it to the Committee

## 6. Communications to HRA (see supporting paper for details)

- a. Nuisance gatherings in Omdurman Road -  
Councillor Savage has written to local police, but he and chairman recommended that the complainants keep reporting all disturbances directly
- b. HMOs in Highfield:  
Lists of HMO are not up to date as situation changes continually, and many properties are unregistered. Chair suggested max allowed should be the 10% threshold for the whole Ward.  
**Action: HonSec to contact Planning / HMO to invite a representative to make a presentation at the next HRA Meeting**
- c. Multiple Planning Application Furzedown / Oakhurst Road. Concern raised by HRA Member: Multiple and similar applications should be discouraged by the city planners. Chair will assist the complainant. (Post meeting note – Chair sent objection letter re-latest application)

7. **The Local Plan 2022** (*Cllr. John Savage*): Cllr John Savage outlined future engagement with local people direct and through Associations, churches etc., to assist with shaping future planning – ‘Co-production’ is being rolled out between September and November. Included will be green spaces, traffic, city centre re-development etc. ABP have signed up to the Green Charter, and many other are coming on board. Money is coming from the government and highways England

8. **University Liaison** (*JW*): Old Hansard Gallery building has been knocked down for parking spaces

## 9. Reports

### a. Finance (*MB*)

Finances are healthy although there remains a need to reach the K20 target for our Contingency Fund

### b. Membership (*NM*)

Membership database 494; Paid up members 444; Rolling 348. The database has increased again thanks to the Newsletter. The July edition brought in 9 new memberships

### c. Planning Issues (*AS*) Angela had prepared a Planning Report

Chair highlighted 5 cases:

12 Russell Place have lost their appeal and the offending wall now awaits Enforcement

5 & 62 Highfield Lane: unauthorized change of use to HMO but Council list cases as closed

30 Brookvale Road: application to convert garage to living accommodation. Chair and Tom O'Connor has met Manageress of property now owned by Yellow Door Charity saying application would be opposed and asking for it to be withdrawn

28 Brookvale Road: accommodation in rear of property and large tree and hedges overgrown and strewn with litter. Suggestion that a Sec 214 might be issued?

(Post meeting note – following visit by Enforcement they report that the House and outbuilding are currently unoccupied and other concerns have been reported to relevant depts)

Chair to write to Planning Dept on both 28 & 30. (Post meeting note - objections sent)

Cllr Savage raised issue of unauthorized ‘quick getaway car wash’ which will be addressed shortly

Post meeting follow-up from *SCC Planning* (via Cllr John Savage):

*'In response to your email I can confirm the following:*

- 1. Enforcement visited the rear outbuilding last month following allegations of non-compliance with an Enforcement Notice (EN). The outbuilding had been tenanted but is now vacant.*
- 2. A site meeting is still required for 12 Russell Place and will hopefully take place next week – Andy Amery is leading on this with Planning Enforcement. If these discussions are not successful we intend to serve an EN.*
- 3. We are dealing with a planning application at 30 Brookvale (19/01403/FUL) and HRA have raised an objection – Anna Coombes is the case officer should you require further info.*
- 4. Land adj. 15 Oakhurst has a history of refusals - 17/01674/FUL and 18/01823/FUL - 19/01127/FUL is currently pending consideration with John Fanning as the case officer, and 9 objections meaning a Panel determination should officers wish to support it. As there hasn't yet been an appeal on this site we cannot 'decline to determine' (under s.70) what appears to be a very similar scheme to that refused under 18/01823/FUL.'*

#### **10. Website / Facebook (NJ):**

Post-meeting note from Nadine: There is nothing new to report on the HRA Website. HRA Facebook has 273 followers with 238 'likes'. Nadine reminds all attendees at committee meetings who have a personal Facebook presence to make sure they 'like' HRA!! It would be great to have as much support as possible.

#### **11. Summer Social report / any recommendations for future events? (SJ)**

Thanks were offered to the organisers and helpers and it was suggested that this is repeated around the same time each summer; numbers need to be limited to pavilion capacity of 80 people in event of inclement weather! Overall a very successful event and a surplus was made

#### **12. July Newsletter report (SJ)**

Nine new members joined as a result of this and the next one due around November

#### **13. A.O.B.**

Martin mentioned Highfield Bread Club in Church Hall  
Steve queried loss of zip wires, but these will be re-instated shortly  
Steve mentioned working party for the north side Little Common coming up  
Sue queried the illuminated hand rail for the University steps from Lovers Walk – these are being re-instated

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm. **Members were reminded that all supporting papers and reports were to be treated as confidential within the Committee**

The date of the next meeting is Monday 14 October at 7.30pm, Highfield Hotel.