

## Agenda HRA Committee Meeting Tuesday 13 May 2025



### Highfield Church Halls 19:00h

- Annex.i. RB ASB letter to Insp Maidment and Cllr Lambert
- Annex.ii. HRA Crime information sharing WhatsApp Group (NJ)
- Annex.iii. Log of Incidents ATZ
- Annex.iv. Digital Communications
- 11.b. Appeal Decision (attached .pdf)

#### **Prof. Roger Brown will chair the meeting**

1. Welcome Prof. Roger Brown
2. Apologies
3. Declarations of interest
4. Minutes 8 April 2025
5. Matters Arising, not covered elsewhere
  - a. Communication between RB and Inspector Maidment and Cllr Lambert (Annex.i.)
6. Presentation of Research – Abigail Whitehouse, ‘Discussing the antisocial behaviour in Portswood’
7. Information from Councillors
8. Portswood Broadway Bus-gate Trial
  - a. Bus data (BC). The Monthly Interim Report produced by SCC has two pages on Bus Punctuality (buses on time arriving at the Broadway and Buses arriving late at the Broadway). The data in these two pages does not compare month on month increase/decrease due to Bus-gate measures. Rather, the results compare the current month with the equivalent month in 2024. Equivalent data for 2024 has been requested by the Steering Group but not yet received. The link to the April Interim Report will be circulated as soon as it is available.
  - b. If Committee Members and Attendees have any comments on the ATZ or the Broadway Emergency Traffic Regulation Orders (ETRO) please send them to:  
<https://transport.southampton.gov.uk/tro-consultations/portswood-broadway/>
  - c. Cycle and Pedestrian Porosity, Permeability and Mesh Density (BC)
9. HRA Crime Report
  - a. WhatsApp group for Highfield (NJ) (Annex.ii)
  - b. Incident Log Brookvale ATZ area (Annex.iii)
10. University Liaison

## 11. Planning

- a. 4 Leigh Road hardstanding for two cars (HRA Objected)
- b. Appeal Decision 243 Portswood Road (as a .pdf attachment). HRA submitted a statement to the Planning Inspectorate to support SCC's refusal.
- c. 25/00423/FUL - 5 Crofton Close Southampton SO17 1XB (security issues – taller back fence from 1.8m to 2.4m)

## 12. Reports

- a. Finance (MB) – income/expenditure for the last period
- b. Membership (NM) - renewals; new members; not renewed  
Total paid up members 364 (April 2025 paid up members 310)  
Rolling: Jan 23: Feb 15: Mar 50: Apr 82: Total 170. 1 New member this month. 12 members have not renewed in April
- c. Digital Communications Report (Annex.iv.)

## 13. A.O.B.

### **HRA Committee and AGM dates:**

Tuesday 10 June (please will a Committee Member volunteer to take the notes at this meeting?)

Tuesday 1 July (Changed date)

No meeting in August

Tuesday 16 September (Changed date - please will a Committee Member volunteer to take the notes at this meeting?)

Tuesday 14 October

Tuesday 11 November (AGM)

Tuesday 9 December

## Annex.i. RB ASB letter to Insp Maidment and Cllr Lambert

### **Roger Brown**

9 Blenheim Avenue • Southampton • Hampshire • SO17 1DW  
Telephone: (023) 80679247 07775 741702

Councillor Christie Lambert  
Southampton City Council  
Inspector Jeanette Maidment  
Hampshire Constabulary

April 2025

### **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN PORTSWOOD BROADWAY**

I am writing on behalf of Highfield Residents Association which represents over 300 households in Highfield, Portswood and Swaythling.

HRA is extremely concerned about the recent upsurge in anti-social behaviour in Portswood Broadway and the immediately surrounding area.

Specific incidents have included:

- A wheelchair-bound man was in Chaiiwala with his carer. Three males entered and were very loud. The carer asked them to quieten down. They then set upon the carer, including hitting him over the back of the head, causing a large gash on his skull. They then ran away. The carer was badly injured and the disabled man badly traumatised.
- An incident on the corner of the Broadway and Westridge Road: a bare-chested man walked into the road, threw bricks into the road and also hit his head with a brick.
- Three men high on something, waving their arms around, in the bus shelter by Waitrose. Our member had to walk to another bus stop.
- A group of street drinkers in the same bus shelter shouting across to others outside the former Iceland shop.
- Groups of 5/6 drinkers – sometimes more – with open cans/bottles outside this shop, almost daily. Mattresses and bedding are piled up in the shop doorway unable to be moved because they are on private property.
- Loud, intimidating, frightening behaviour. Similarly on the forecourt of the Victory Gospel Church.
- Man walking up the street shouting and swearing.
- One who urinated in front of my wife in the passage by October Books.
- Separate groups along the Broadway between October Books and Boots, some occupying various chairs.
- Possibly zoned out drug users sitting on seats outside Cha Sha.

I am sure you will agree that this is unacceptable in what is meant to be an attractive and thriving district centre. I am now writing to the two authorities to ask you how you plan to tackle it, when we can as a consequence expect to see a reduction in such behaviour, and how the local community – residents and business – can support you in discharging your statutory duties.

This matter is now urgent and I would greatly appreciate a substantive response in time for our next Committee meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May.

Copies go to our Ward Councillors and to our Hon Sec.  
Roger Brown (Professor) Chair, HRA

## **Annex.ii. HRA Crime information sharing WhatsApp Group**

### **Reported incidents since the last HRA Committee Meeting of 8 April 2025: (18+)**

There have been at least 18 reported incidents since the last HRA Committee Meeting on 8 April, compared with 15 reported during the previous period; an increase of 3.

#### **(i) Anti-social behaviour incidents in Portswood Broadway - (10+):**

I understand from Community Safety that they cannot remove any items from private areas without the landlord's consent. Additionally, without the Public Spaces Protection Order, we are unclear what the Police procedure now is. Further, it would appear that the former Iceland site is now empty and I have passed the name of the owner or leaseholder (whichever it is) of the former Blockbusters' site to Community Safety and asked if they could follow it up. I have not yet received a response.

- Groups of men outside Farm Foods with open cans/bottles making a lot of noise (reported to Community Safety/Police)
- Groups of men in the former Blockbusters' parking area with open cans/bottles and full trolleys and one bed (reported to Community Safety/Police)
- Two men with open cans/bottles on the steps near October Books (reported to Community Safety/Police)
- Man urinating against the wall of former Blockbusters' building (reported to Police)
- Lone female at a bus stop put in fear by a drunk male who ran up to the bus stop shouting unknown (slurred) words and was thumping the bus stop. The female ran away
- One silver coloured broken chair and bowl left on pavement between Charcoal Grill and Oct Books (reported to Community Safety/Police)
- 'Camps' of street people and street drinkers in former Iceland store area and former Blockbusters' store area (reported to Police)
- Man sniffing from an aerosol can sitting outside Boots (reported to Police)
- Lone female felt very uncomfortable at the bus stop outside Waitrose near former Blockbusters' building with groups of men there (reported to the Police)
- Three police cars and officers spotted outside the former Iceland store - not sure what incident but it has transpired that they might have been emptying/clearing the area

#### **(ii) Incidents away from Portswood - (7)**

To my knowledge the following incidents were reported to the Police:

- House burglary, Church Lane;
- House burglary, Welbeck Avenue/Upper Shaftesbury Avenue;
- Possible air gun use in garden in Hilldown Road or Glebe Court backing onto garden in Church Lane. Shots heard and flurries of disturbed birds;
- Offensive, racist language and swastikas seen on walls near Common underpass and also on trees. Cllr Savage arranged immediate removal;
- Woman suffering from dementia went missing from Collins flats, Highfield Lane. Cllr Barbour reported later found;
- Car with smashed in window screen parked outside flats at Grosvenor Road end of Richmond Gardens;

- Man made a gesture with his hand to woman leaving her house in Brookvale Road, to show that he was watching her. He raised his middle finger, spat on the floor and went into Highfield Church Centre. She followed him and took photos. Spoke to vicar. Man had been hanging around the Church Centre sitting on the wall for several days apparently watching her house.

**(iii) Reported in Southampton Police on Facebook - (1)**

- 28/04/25: Officers from Southampton North Team did patrols on The Common and addressed issues of ASB in Portswood High Street, where they made an arrest for possession of a controlled substance. Additionally, they spoke to "members of the community on the High Street regarding ASB and asked them to move on."
- All crime and anti-social behaviour incidents are listed here:  
<https://www.highfieldresidents.org.uk/crime-incidents/>

**Membership of Crime information sharing WhatsApp Group**

The representative from the Uplands Way Estate has withdrawn from the Group. HRA would appreciate a replacement if any member would like to volunteer.

**Future PACT Meeting dates**

Monday 16 June, 6.30-8pm 2025 (Hall, Highfield Church Centre)

Monday 8 September, 6.30-8pm 2025 (Lounge, Highfield Church Centre).

*Nadine Johnson*  
*Digital Communications*

**Annex.iii. Log of Incidents ATZ Area**

**ASB/Motoring/Safety Incidents Log in ATZ area in and around Brookvale Road between 11/1/25 and 30/04/25**

This log has been produced by residents who attribute the incidents directly to the implementation of the Portswood Bus-gate Trial.

The log pre-dates the start of the Bus-gate trial on 27/1/25 and was taken from the start of works on the modal filter in Russell Place. We understand that the log is just a representation as it has been impossible for residents to spend all the time recording incidents. However, they do try and capture the more serious events and those they happen to witness.

We also understand that it has been difficult to capture the number of cars speeding; many cars ignore the 20mph limit, especially after being frustrated by slow progress through the road filters or, on occasions, when the road is clearer. The Council has told residents that they are not responsible for speeding drivers and tell them that it is a police matter.

The log has been shared with the police.

The statistical breakdown of incident categories is below.

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Category	Count of Category	%
Accident	15	4%
Near Miss	28	8%
Cyclist Safety	46	13%
Dangerous driving / Driver aggression	88	25%
Emergency Services	2	1%
Littering	1	0%
Noise/Pollution	64	18%
Pedestrian Safety	77	22%
Resident Driver Safety	33	9%
	<b>354</b>	<b>100%</b>

## **Annex.iv. Digital Communications**

### **Facebook/Website**

There are now 1164 followers on the HRA Facebook page, an increase of 2 since HRA Committee Meeting of 8 April 2025.

Thank you to Ken and also Moira Heather (HRA Member) for their photos and Barbara for news items.

### **E-news**

The last E-news was emailed to members on 18/04/25. This was mainly focused on ASB in Portswood.

### **Discounts**

Kate's Café is giving HRA members a 10% discount, valid Tuesday through to Friday inclusive (closed on Mondays).

The Nest Coffee House, which was previously located in the Portswood premises now occupied by Flagship Coffee, is still offering HRA members a 10% discount. They have moved further down London Road into new premises.

The Crown Inn is no longer giving HRA members a 10% discount on food.

### **Local News**

**The Scope charity shop in Portswood** has closed. I understand from the national press that Scope announced the closure of 77 of its 138 stores across the UK earlier this year due to financial struggles, and apparently Scope Portswood was only given 2 weeks to close.

**Sainsbury's Car Park** - A HRA member contacted us to query Section 106 after she received a fine for parking over 2 hours in Sainsbury's car park. Section 106 was the agreement reached with the City Council relating to a number of conditions placed on the Sainsbury's development. Cllr Finn kindly provided the following information:

*"The original S106 (10/01399/OUT dated 21.10.11) for Sainsburys included a Car Park Management Plan (Schedule One Para 14). Further to that a Management plan was submitted and discharged under Condition 30 (Car Park Management Plan dated January 2012 reference 12/00110/DIS), which confirmed that the Sainsbury's Car Park was a short term car park with an enforced maximum 2 hour parking restriction. To vary that condition to allow for a longer duration of stay, Sainsburys would need to apply to vary the condition and the details of the Management Plan."*

*Nadine Johnson Digital Communications*