

# SLEEPERS HILL

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## ASSOCIATION

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SLEEPERS HILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

**DATE:** Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2006

**TIME:** 1200 hrs

**LOCATION:** Highcroft, Sleepers Hill

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Present: Jeremy Ouvry, Matt Johnson, Don Midgley, Sue Ouvry, Margaret & Peter Gilliat, Joan Elliott, Elizabeth Archdale, Pam & Bob Jones, Pam & Tim Jones, John & Mary Pattinson, Peter Federico, Clive & Tessa Tulloch, Elaine Carp, Hamish Adair, John Stanning, Brisbane, 'Tasha Lawton, Derek O'Neill, Catherine Proctor, Alun & Eira Parry Jones, Mike Mulrooney, Rolf & Ewa Stahel & Georgina Harvey-Wright

#### 1. Apologies

Paul Barlow, Chris & Britt Croft, David & Millie Bruce, David & Mary White, Lesley Cranham, Jill Bath, Stephen & Chrissie Hart, Christina & Tim Stanley and Celia Smith.

#### 2. Welcome to new members

#### 3. Adoption of minutes of the previous AGM

Previous minutes were adopted.

#### 4. Matters arising

- Speeding. Mike Mulrooney spoke regarding his concerns that drivers were still driving up and down the hill too fast. The Chairman responded that the police had been present over the past year and found that most people did in fact drive under the speed limit, and that the narrowness of the hill and narrow pavements often gave the illusion that cars were actually travelling faster than they actually were.

The question of a 20 mph speed limit and rumble strips were also brought up, and a motion was passed instructing the Committee to investigate the practicalities of these alternatives.

- Thanks to Highcroft
- Treasurer's report - The Hon. Treasurer noted that 94 houses had contributed to the association funds in 2005 / 06, with only the Dudgeons at Milnthorpe refusing to participate. Highcroft and Westacre kindly contribute larger amounts and Beechcroft has undertaken to pay the aggregate amount for King's Crescent on an annual basis – drawn from their service charge.

The summer party was self financing, and Matt Johnson, Margaret Gilliat and Pam Jones were thanked for helping with the organisation.

Since the association's year end a further £1,116 has been paid out on a road report commissioned as a submission to the LADS scheme, plus additional funds for the clamping scheme (£519) and minor road repairs (£128).

Balance is currently £12,400. The expected cost of resurfacing the hill is £15 –17,000, so 2008 looks a possibility.

The meeting thanked the Hon Auditor

- Proposed harmonisation of subscription rates to £40 for all members - It was proposed that the rates for all houses be the same, at £40. The Chairman explained that the subscription was essential for the upkeep of the hill. A priority was to encourage the residents of Dawn Gardens to join, and a wish were expressed from the floor that the new residents of Kings Crescent be encourage to participate in the association.
- Committee Officers *Matt Johnson* (Hon Sec) and *Don Midgley* (Treasurer) retired by rotation and were re-elected without opposition.
- Committee Members *Margaret Gilliat* and *Paul Barlow* retired by rotation and were re-elected without opposition.
- Candidates standing for election to the committee – *Elaine Carp* was elected unanimously
- Amendment to constitution – The amendment to the constitution that was proposed some years ago that authorizes the committee to spend up to 50% of the annual income of the association in special circumstances was formally adopted by the meeting. Secretary agreed to update the constitution and circulate to committee members and via email, along with an updated members' list.

## 5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman called for comments on his report, previously circulated. The following were made;

Margaret Gilliat spoke regarding **neighbourhood watch** and her role as co-ordinator. The police report that Sleepers hill is a very low crime area, although Mike Mulrooney stated that he had recently had an attempted break-in into his bicycle shed. Mike suggested that we install CCTV cameras at the top and bottom of the hill as a security precaution, however in a vote on this proposal the meeting was unanimously against it.

Ray Cherritt was thanked for his contribution as the previous neighbourhood watch cornet.

**Local area design statement** - Tim Jones stood up and spoke on the subject giving an update on events. He informed the meeting that the report having been committed to the council, and having completed its consultation period, we were now waiting for a meeting of the Cabinet expected at some stage in December. However the process has been slow due to a series of personnel losses at the council. He went on to say that the association has done all it can do to influence the process and is now awaiting the outcome.

The chairman added that the highways authority now appeared to be taking a stronger stance over the need to improve the junctions and the road before further development can take place.

A vote was taken in the meeting regarding the stance of the association to oppose development this was carried. The meeting thanked Tim Jones, Peter Gilliat and Derek O'Neill for their work in pushing the lads project forwards.

Pam Jones made a comment that it was not made clear at the beginning of the Kings Crescent development that it would be a gated development, and that such the elements were against the spirit of the hill. Another speaker also said that the ban on children at Kings Crescent was also against the character of the hill. The chairman replied that the open nature and child friendliness of the hill should be incorporated into the design statement, and there was general agreement on this issue

Mike Mulrooney made some observations on the desirability of sustainable development when it comes to new buildings on the hill.

Peter Federico expressed concerns that in event of Kings Crescent failing to sell the flats that could be a move by the developer to seek a change in use.

## **6. Any other business**

Elaine Carp spoke regarding the problem of **smokers** from Highcroft being pushed on to the pavement outside her house following a change in smoking regulations. Derek Wilmshurst first said that he was doing his best, but with 20 different organisations on the site it was an uphill task. However the workers have been told not to smoke on the hill itself and have therefore been largely displaced to Romsey Road.

Re: **Highcroft** Derek further observed that the site had been sold to Barratt's, and that he had seen a plan proposing 98 houses. Elaine Carp expressed concerns regarding a plan to drive a road through the new development on to the hill this would constitute an improvement at the junction and would therefore enable additional two elements on the hill having satisfied the objection is currently being put forward by the highways department. It was agreed that the committee should make more enquiries about the plan is being put forward by Barrett's

**Communications** - Mike Mulrooney suggested that we place a notice board on the hill in order to better communicate with the residents. There was general agreement in the meeting that this would not be a positive development. The chairman went on to say that the committee does do its best to meet new residents when they move in, and the summer party has proved an excellent venue for residents on the hill to get to know each other.

Meeting closed at 1305.

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