

Sleepers Hill Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held on Sunday 22nd November 2009 at 12 noon at John Stripe Theatre, Winchester, University

Present: Jeremy Ouvry (Chairman) ,Don Midgley (Treasurer). Mat Johnson (Acting Secretary), Hamish Adair, Tony Ayres, Paul & Tina Barlow, Peter Federico, Margaret & Peter Gilliat, Pat Goodall, Stephen & Chrissie Harte, Nerina Hedrikse & Trevor , Pamela & Bob Jones, Tim Jones, Ian & Carolyn Lester, David & Jackie Matthews, David Oddie, Derek O'Neill, Anthony Pffner, Bruce & Jan Royston-Smith, Nick & Sandra Schulkins, Mike Sollom, Rolf & Ewa Stahel, John Stanning, Martin Tucker, Tessa & Clive Tulloch, David ,Mary & Victoria White, Steve & Bish Osborne

1. Apologies.

Arnold & Judy Ames, Lesley Cranham, Harold Leech, Jonathan Monkcom, Jill Oddie, Sue Ouvry, Norman & Christine Wallage, Lynne & Brian Sharpe, Christopher Croft, Flavia & Peter Bateson.

2. Welcome to new Residents

Ian and Lynne Lester of 2 Sleepers Hill House.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

These were adopted without opposition.

4. Matters arising

Speeding on the hill.

Bob Jones raised the issue of what was being done regarding tackling perceived speeding on the hill. Derek O'Neill responded that the mobile speed camera that was being provided by Winchester City Council had been delayed owing to demands from schools taking priority, and that it was now expected to become available for the hill for a two week period in mid February. The Chairman went on to explain the background to the request and pointed out that a police check made last year had in fact reported that there was no problem.

5. Chairman's report

Comments were invited regarding the Chairman's report that had been circulated previously. None was offered.

6. Treasurer's report

The treasurer made various comments regarding notable items on this year's accounts.

Road maintenance accounted for £9,938, with a wide selection of holes and ruts being fixed up and down the hill. The owners of Springdale made an additional contribution in acknowledgement of the impact of their new development.

£330 was spent on new rock salt after the snow at the beginning of the year used up existing supplies.

Subscriptions were received from 97 houses plus Highcroft and Westacre.

Interest received for the year is expected to be negligible given current low interest rates.

Barratts offered £500 per annum to the association and have already paid for the year.

The current balance of funds at the bank is £13,500.

The proposed increase in the subscription from £40 to £45 was ratified.

The Treasurer pointed out that this was the first increase for five years and explained that the association wanted to ensure that there would be sufficient funds to resurface the road in its entirety in 18 months time. This would cost around £20,000 and would ideally take place on completion of the expected developments to be undertaken at the Day House and Milnthorpe.

It was pointed out that two of the year headings in the circulated version of the accounts had been mis-typed. The Treasurer reported that the necessary changes had been made to the final official version.

The chairman thanked the services both of the treasurer, Don Midgley, and of the Honorary auditor, Jonathan Monkcom. The latter was then reappointed as the Honorary auditor and the accounts adopted by the meeting.

As an addendum to the comments made by the treasurer regarding the rock salt, the Chairman went on to observe how effective it had been in keeping the hill free of snow and ice, and how good it was to see so many people helping during that spell of bad weather.

7. Officers of the Committee

Jeremy Ouvry resigned as Chairman upon completion of his term and Paul Barlow was appointed in his stead without opposition.

Christine Wallage was reappointed as Honorary Secretary

Five other Committee members stood for re-election and were reappointed. Tim Jones, Derek O'Neill, David Oddie, Hamish Adair and Matt Johnson. Mark Bean was elected to the Committee for the first time.

8. Neighbourhood watch

The local neighbourhood watch coordinator had nothing to report. However it was noted that the stalker who had been harassing the residents of Lanterns was ultimately never apprehended. However his activities ceased in the spring and it is hoped that he has moved on.

9. Any other business

Planning : A question was raised regarding the status of approvals for future developments on the hill, given a recent statement by the planning department that the hill was now full, pending any future modifications to the junctions.

The Chairman responded that the LADS had finally been adopted by the council stating that there could be no more than a 5% increase in residential units upon the hill without the junctions at either end being improved. A letter received from the local authority in April 2009 confirmed this and that given that 5% increase has now been reached with the proposed developments at the Day House and Milnethorpe, the ban on further development is now in place. It was agreed that extract appendix of this letter should be attached to these minutes.

Peter Federico, this year's host of the summer party, announced he still had a substantial number of plates and trays left behind by residents who had brought food along and he would be grateful if people would come and reclaim them.

Tony Ayres requested that the date of the summer party be given out earlier to enable people to plan ahead and also requested that a map be issued to show where all the individual houses are located. The new Chairman pointed out that the residents' list is in fact in house order, thereby indicating where residences can be found. The Chairman also recommended that house names be clearly visible to aid the emergency services and delivery companies.

Martin Tucker asked whether the meeting could in future take place on the hill rather than on an off-site location. The Chairman pointed out that the new location was due to a lack of seating in the previous year's location but that any viable alternatives would certainly be looked at.

Rinky Hendrikse requested that the mechanism for nominating candidates for the Committee should be more transparent and made more open to those who might wish to stand for election. The Chairman agreed and added that hopefully the planned introduction of a website for the association would make the dissemination of information regarding openings much easier and thereby encourage additional candidates to come forward.

John Stanning reported on the recent meeting held in Stanmore regarding the problems with students, in particular relating to parking and late-night drunkenness. The general feeling was that Sleepers Hill had so far escaped these unfortunate consequences of being located adjacent to an institution of higher education, and John went on to inform the residents that he had some emergency numbers that could be used in the event of problems occurring on the hill.

Concern was additionally expressed regarding the possible location of posts on the verges outside the Highcroft site. The Chairman undertook to investigate.

The meeting closed at 12.48 following thanks to those members who attended, to the University for providing the venue, and to the Osbornes for providing drinks afterwards.

Note. The Summer Party will be held on 20th June 2010 and kindly hosted by Steve & Bish Osborne at Manor Cottage.

EXTRACT OF LETTER FROM WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL DATED 29 APRIL 2009

I can confirm that only one further dwelling will be allowed in the area covered by the Sleepers Hill LADS, until such time as the necessary highway improvements are carried out.

I have enclosed a copy of the case officer's report in respect of the refused planning application ref: 08/02564/FUL for two five-bedroom properties on land adjacent to Sleepers Hill, and I would refer you to the parking and transportation paragraph in the report and reason 2 of the refusal decision, which set out the reasons why the further development of the area has been restricted to ten additional dwellings. Since the Council has now permitted six dwellings at the site adjacent to The Day House, under application ref: 08/02360/FUL, this leaves only one further dwelling which can be built within the LADS area.

The Council has taken the view that it is appropriate to refuse development schemes which would exceed the overall threshold, regardless of whether schemes approved earlier have been built.

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