

SLEEPERS HILL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 18 NOVEMBER 2012 at 12 NOON

JOHN STRIPE THEATRE, WINCHESTER UNIVERSITY

MINUTES

Present:

Paul Barlow Chairman Matt Johnson Acting Hon Secretary Don Midgley Treasurer

Steve Osborne, Bish Osborne, Sally Pfiffner, Ian Ferguson, Lesley Cranham, Jill Bath, Peter Gilliat, James Richardson, Tim Jones, Nick Schulkins, Sandra Schulkins, Shil Shetty, Amita Shetty, Patrick Geraets, Denise Weston, David Smith, Celia Smith, Bob Jones, Eira Parry-Jones, Alun Parry-Jones, Susan Simpson, David Matthews, Jacky Matthews, Trevor Hendrikse, Nerina Hendrikse, John Stanning, Martin Tucker, Alison Dudgeon, Julie Terrell, Jane Penty, Tina Barlow.

1. Apologies:

Hamish Adair

Rolf and Ewa Stahel

Clive and Tessa Tulloch

Bruce & Jan Royston-Smith

Hugh Jeffery

Mike & Geraldine Sollom

Chrissie & Stephen Hart

Gregor & Judith McHardy

Norman & Christine Wallage

Maurice & Linda Harker

Jeremy & Sue Ouvry

David & Mary White

Christopher Croft

Pam Jones

2. Welcome to new members:

Jeremy and Naomi Wall (Clownstown)

Shil and Amita Shetty (3 Sleepers Hill Garden)

Paul Pressland & Sophie Allen (Landseer)

Ben & Julie Terrel (13 Dawn Gardens)

3. Minutes of last meeting

Adopted unanimously without amendment.

4. Matters arising:

4.1 Status of **LADS** (Local Area Design Statement). Chairman reported that the status was still unclear, but they appeared to be in force for the time being.

4.2 **Road numbering**. Regarded as too difficult and not popular. No plans to pursue. Martin Tucker asked if the Royal Mail had requested numbers, and the answer was no. Don Midgley also pointed out that infilling with new houses would rapidly make it out of date.

4.3 The Chairman confirmed that there are no plans to introduce a permanent entrance from the **Highcroft** development onto the Hill.

5. Chairman's Report:

5.1 The Chairman thanked the University for the use of the **venue**.

5.2 The Chairman also thanked the members of the **committee** for their time and dedication over the past year.

5.3 The state of the **roadway**; in good shape despite the weather and construction traffic.

5.4 **Salt** for the road. Stocks are sufficient for the time being.

5.5 **Trees and hedges**. Control of foliage overhanging the roadway remains important, particularly so that street lights are not obscured. The committee is looking at getting a contractor in to do the work in a single day. However each tree requires a separate planning application, which may prove time consuming.

5.6 **Preferred traders scheme**. Nominations should be sent to Christine Wallage. All entries are welcome.

5.7 **Deer on the hill**. Enquiries have shown that little can be done as they are not classified as pests. The Natural England website offers advice but culling is not an option in a built up area. Badgers are also causing damage as are foxes. Ian Ferguson asked whether the council took into account the risk of traffic accidents as a result of the deer. The Chairman reported that we have been told by the Council that we are welcome to put up warning signs if we wished to do so.

5.8 **Wheel clamping**. This has been illegal since the 1st of October 2012. The committee has been looking into alternative options to discourage the parking, and ticketing is one possibility. It may be possible to introduce a scheme whereby designated residents are permitted to issue tickets and then present the evidence to licensed parking agents able to collect fines.

Don Midgley pointed out frontagers do have rights to the middle of the road and that polite notes on the windscreen generally do the trick.

Martin Tucker added that he found that notes saying that 'parking was permitted on this occasion' worked well as a polite way of getting the message across.

James Richardson said that parking at the bottom of the hill may become an issue as winter comes on so we may need to move quickly.

5.9 Maintenance of the hill

The committee has asked a consultant to look at the state of the drainage on the hill following the wet summer to see if there are any cost-effective solutions. Leaf clearance from footpaths would certainly help at this time of year.

Frontage owners should also do their best to keep their gullies clean and clear of leaves.

John Stanning observed that the water flowing off from the hill was responsible for the large puddle that regularly collects by the railway bridge.

5.10 **Annual party** was a big success and the Chairman thanked Michael and Nicolette Meyer for their hospitality. A venue is now being sought for 2013 with any offers to be made to either the Chairman or the Secretary.

5.11 **Pedestrian crossing for Romsey Road**. There is widespread support for this scheme and the committee has been talking to the council about the options available. A petition was recommended as the first step and Sally Pfiffner and Derek O'Neill have already collected over 150 signatures.

Thereafter there is a matter of discussions with the County Councillors and the highway authority. However the fact that a 30 mph speed limit has just been imposed on that stretch of the Romsey Road may make them less inclined to view the request favourably.

John Stanning observed that any improvements to the Sleepers Hill / Romsey Road junction could remove an impediment to the granting of further planning applications on the hill and so we should be sure that the crossing is a decent distance away from the junction.

6. Treasurer's report:

Receipts were up by £500 over the previous year due to the increase in the subscriptions.

There are 103 households now paying, while Barrett contributes £500 and Westacre £240.

The result is an annual total income of around £6000, of which around £1000 is spent on road maintenance and other minor outgoings, leaving an annual accrual of around £5000 to be set against future major undertakings.

Ian Ferguson proposed the report be accepted and Martin Tucker seconded. The accounts were adopted without opposition.

The Chairman thanked Sue Organ for acting as Honorary Auditor.

7. Election of committee members:

Don Midgley stood for re-election. Martin Tucker proposed and Nick Schulkins seconded.

Sally Pfiffner also stood for re-election. Nick Schulkins proposed and Tim Jones seconded.

Both were elected without opposition.

8. Neighbourhood Watch:

The Neighbourhood Watch report (see separate document) was presented by local NHW representative Matt Johnson. No major incidents were reported.

9. Any other business:

David Matthews queried the slow speed of **broadband** that he experiences. Two other residents commented that they had broadband speeds of up to 17 mbps and that the issue for some residents may be the quality of the connection from the main telecoms line running down the hill to their individual residences.

It was also requested that residents maintain the **confidentiality** of the phone numbers and e-mail addresses given on the residents list. This data should not be given out to third parties.

The meeting closed at 1245.