

SLEEPERS HILL ASSOCIATION – AGM REPORT – OCTOBER 2018

AGM: This year's AGM will be held on Sunday 11 November 2018 at 12 noon in the Stripe Theatre, University of Winchester, Sparkford Road. Parking is available on campus and we really hope that as many residents as possible will be able to attend. As in previous years, there will be the opportunity to meet and socialise over drinks after the meeting. If you cannot attend would you please complete the attached Proxy Voting Form and return to Jan Royston-Smith?

Chairmanship of the Association and the Sleepers Hill Association Committee. Your Committee have agreed that Tim Jones will chair the 2018 AGM. Since the last AGM, the Committee has continued to operate as before but without an Association Chairman and with Chairmanship of the Committee rotating. If residents have questions that they would otherwise have raised with the Chairman, they should get in touch with the Secretary, Jan Royston-Smith, who will direct the query to the most appropriate Committee Member.

Committee Membership. Jem Dunn has had to retire from the Committee, because of pressure of work and we thank him for his past contribution.

Roads Maintenance. Repairs to the road were successfully carried out on Monday 9 July by C&G Tarmac under the supervision of our Roads Consultant, Peter Fox. The next maintenance work is scheduled for summer 2020. As mentioned at last year's AGM, our funds should allow a complete re-surfacing on the hill at that time. However there are some technical issues related to a complete re-surfacing/Top Dressing (as opposed to the current patching), which will need to be discussed in detail with our Roads Consultant before any final decision is made. We will be doing this during the course of 2019 and should be able to report our intentions at next year's AGM

LADS. The Sleepers Hill Local Area Design Statement (LADS) was produced in 2007 or so and is now in many ways out of date, but the Council do not have the funds to do a rewrite. Following the last AGM, a meeting was held with Council Officers at which the possibility of a "self help" update of the LADS was discussed. However this would require a considerable amount of work and is outside the scope of the resources of any of the SHA Committee members. An alternative would be for SHA funds to be used to fund the study (maybe £15k), but your Committee do not feel that is a worthwhile use of our funds. This issue was mentioned in the August Half Yearly Report, seeking input from residents who might be interested in helping out, but no-one has come forward. Consequently it will be necessary to continue with a part out of date LADS for the next few years.

Data Protection. We are still following up some members who have not yet returned the pro-forma that has been sent out to fulfil the needs of the 2018 Data Protection Act. Re-issue of the Residents List will need to await completion of that. We are also preparing a Data Protection Policy for the Association.

Annual Party. A very successful summer party was held at Rolf and Ewa Stahel's house, Neatham on 1 July. There was a good turnout, the weather was marvellous and the Neatham garden looked wonderful. Many thanks to Rolf and Ewa for giving us such a wonderful day. We are now looking for a venue for the 2019 party and if you are willing to offer your garden as a venue, please let the Secretary or one of the Committee Members know.

Sleepers Hill Association Constitution. The Association's Constitution was last updated in 2007. Your committee reviewed it this year and some minor changes have been made. These include a more normal definition of the roadway and clarification of membership of the Association, using the term "member" rather than "resident". There is an agenda item for the revised Constitution to be adopted at the AGM

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Fast Fibre Internet. The committee are in the early stages of looking into the possibility of installing Fast Fibre Internet on the hill. Following the recent email to members, below is an update on the status

- a. As at the end of September, we had received 23 returns (of which 9 are businesses) in response to our email about the possibility of bringing ultra fast broadband to the Hill. This represents government funding through the voucher scheme to the value of £34,000 against an estimated cost of £90,000. While we expect some further responses from residents on the Hill and will canvas houses in the surrounding area (which are also covered by the scheme), it currently appears unlikely that full funding through vouchers is achievable. The other options we are investigating to bridge any shortfall are:
 - Approaching the university for a contribution (as several of their student accommodation blocks are covered by the scheme)
 - Approaching a different provider from Openreach in the hope that a lower quote can be achieved
- b. A further update on progress will be given at the AGM

Planning and Development on the Hill:

- a. **Chingri Khal.** The original development for the Chingri Khal site was for 4 houses, two large properties close to Sleepers Hill Road and two further down the hill and away from the road, the latter two were designed in such a way that there would minimise the effect on the area of these backlands, with the houses somewhat “dug in”. This application was approved in 2016. This was followed by a further planning application last year for four smaller semi-detached houses rather than the two large ones at the front and this was also approved. Then the plot was bought by a firm called Sherbourne Developments and they put in yet another planning application in May this year. The new proposal still has the four semi-detached houses closer to the road and two detached houses further down. However the two lower houses have new designs, which are much more “in your face” and make no attempt to blend into the hillside. The upper four houses are as before, but two plain garage blocks backing onto the Hill have been added. There have been a number of objections. However the Application was approved by Winchester City Council Planning Committee on Friday 19 October.
- b. **Little Snakemoor.** Planning permission has been granted for the demolition of the present house at Little Snakemoor and its replacement by three new properties.
- c. **Struts.** Planning Approval has been given for the building of a single house in the garden of Struts.

Speed Warning Signs. We are currently progressing the installation of a second speed warning sign. However the work has been delayed firstly because the firm who produced the previous sign have ceased trading and secondly because of difficulty in finding a location for the sign that is acceptable to the relevant frontagers. Things are now moving forward but we do not yet have an installation date.

Web Site. As a reminder the web site address is <http://www.sleepershill.org.uk>. The ‘Residents’ Section can be accessed using the password ‘SHA2016’ and please do not pass this on to non-residents.