

**SLEEPERS HILL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
12 NOON SUNDAY, 5TH NOVEMBER 2023
JOHN STRIPE THEATRE UNIVERSITY OF WINCHESTER**

Attendees: Kate Harrington (Chairman). Derek O'Neill (Treasurer), Jackie Organ, Bob and Pam Jones, Adam Toth, Steve Turner, Hamish Adair, Tim Jones, Mike Harrington, Steve and Bish Osborne, Bruce and Jan Royston Smith, Ian Galvin, Gabriel and Viv Fisher, Ali and James Richardson, Peter Dudgeon, Chris Lindsay, Clive and Tessa Tulloch, Matt Johnson, Jill Bath

ITEM ONE – WELCOME TO ATTENDEES

1. The Chairman welcomed residents to the AGM and advised that refreshments would be available at the end of the meeting.

ITEM TWO – APOLOGIES

2. Apologies had been received from Peter and Louise Frederico, Peter and Flavia Bateson, Stephen and Chrissie Harte, Don and Margaret Midgley, Leslie Cranham, Neil and Ann Edwards, Rolf and Ewa Stahel, David and Fiona Innes, Denise Weston, Paul and Tamsin de Lara.

ITEM THREE – WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

3. The Chairman advised that the following had moved onto the Hill in the last year:

Keith Turnbull and family at Windrose
Rob and Claire Williams at Beit House
Anna Brockman and Tom Crampin at Beechcroft, GED

ITEM FOUR - COMMITTEE MEMBERS

4. The Chairman briefed that 3 members of the Committee were retiring by rotation and were standing for re-election. These were herself, Derek O'Neill and Steve Osborne. Their re-election was proposed by Jackie Organ, seconded by Pam Jones.

ITEM FIVE – ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM

5. The Minutes of the Previous AGM held on 6 November 2022 were adopted by a show of hands.

ITEM SIX – MATTERS ARISING

6. The only Matter Arising that was raised related to Kings Crescent, which was due to be discussed under Item Seven

ITEM SEVEN – ANNUAL REPORT

7.1 The Chairman reviewed various topics from the Annual Report, which were received without comment

a. **Road and Verge Maintenance.** The road status would be reviewed after completion of the Gas Main Replacement and the development of Little Snakemoor so probably in late 2024. Road repair was expected to take place in 2025.

b. **Subscriptions.** The Annual Subscription would remain at £85 as last year

c. **Road Signs.** New Road Signs had been put in place at the top and bottom of the road

d. **Developments** It was hoped that the Little Snakemoor development would be finished in summer 2024. The developer had agreed to pay £2,000 per house to the Sleepers Hill Association

e. **Leaf Sweeping.** Leaf Sweeping would take place again this year.

7.2 Mains Gas Replacement.

a. The Chairman briefed that the Mains Gas Replacement work had gone well in the upper part of the road and the contractors had been helpful. There were now some delays further down where metal pipes to individual houses had to be replaced and this was causing some difficulties.

b. . There would be a hard closure of the road next week. Following that the No Through Road signs would remain. However Sparkford Road was expected to be closed and that may cause an increase in through traffic. As a result of the delays some changes in programme should be expected. It was hoped that the work would be finished by the end of November.

7.3 **Summer Party 2023.** It was agreed that the Summer Party in 2023 in George Eyston Drive had been a great success.

7.4 **Neighbourhood Watch.** Jackie Organ gave a short brief on Neighbourhood Watch. In general she would only advise residents if something of concern occurred in the vicinity of Sleepers Hill, this would normally happen via the Sleepers Hill WhatsApp.

7.5 **Communications.** Attendees indicated that they welcomed the new WhatsApp group for passing information to residents, particularly with frequent changes as had occurred over the Gas Main Replacement

7.6 Kings Crescent:

a. The Chairman briefed on the situation with regard to Kings Crescent and the payment of subscriptions.

- Since the last AGM, she and Jackie Organ had done their best to engage with Nick Schulkins (NS).
- After a considerable amount of backing and filling, Kings Crescent had agreed to pay a contribution of £500 per year on the basis that they should contribute something to the maintenance of the roadway. In proposing this amount, NS had explained that 3 dwellings were empty (out of a total of 14) and there were only 9 cars amongst the residents.
- The Chairman advised that she had noted some softening in NS' approach. She hoped that this improvement might continue. The Committee had agreed to accept the offer and an indication had been given that ongoing contributions would continue in future years.
- In reply to a query about back payments, the Chairman advised that we could only do so much as the subscription was voluntary.

b. In subsequent discussion the decision was accepted and generally welcomed. Some concerns were expressed that if Kings Crescent didn't pay their full subscription, why should other residents. It was felt though that we could rely on the good sense and good nature of the vast majority of residents. A few did not pay, but the vast majority did.

c. It was made clear the Kings Crescent residents were not members of the Association, however it was proposed that they should be invited to the Summer Party. With one exception, it was agreed by those present that we should indeed invite them. It was hoped that this might continue to help

Action. Kings Crescent Residents to be invited to the Summer Party

d. In reply to a query about the origins of the issue with Kings Crescent, comments included:

- That it was recorded in the old AGM Minutes on the website.
- In essence it started with a disagreement between NS and the George Eyston Residents about maintenance of some trees and a fence. Despite the fact that this had nothing to do with the SHA, NS had escalated it into a SHA issue. When he did not get his way, he stopped KC residents from paying their subscriptions.

ITEM EIGHT – TREASURER’S REPORT

8.1. Derek O’Neill thanked our new Honorary Auditor, Clive Tulloch, for his work on the Annual Accounts. Derek then briefed concerning the accounts to May 2023.

a. Income was £8,500 odd of which the main part was subscriptions from 96 residences plus Westacre’s contribution of £400. Expenditure amounted to about £3,000 of which Leaf Sweeping was the largest part at about £1,000.

b. Our total balance had increased by about £5,500 and was now around £31,000. Of this £25,000 was on a fixed one year deposit.

8.2. Derek advised that 21 subscriptions had been paid for this year. He encouraged others to pay sooner rather than later and by electronic means.

ITEM NINE – RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

9.1 The Chairman advised that our Auditor, Clive Tulloch had recommended that the Constitution be amended to include a provision for winding up the Association. The Committee had endorsed this view. It was proposed that the Constitution be amended as follows:

“WINDING UP. In the event that the Association ceases to exist, any moneys held by it at that point shall be shared equally between its members at that time”

9.2. The amendment was approved unanimously by the meeting by a show of hands.

ITEM TEN – RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY

10. The Accounts were approved by a show of hands

ITEM ELEVEN – NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT – covered at Item Seven

ITEM TWELVE – SUMMER PARTY

12. The Chairman briefed that as yet we had no location for the Summer Party in 2024. Should any resident wished to host it, they would be most welcome to do so. Anyone wishing to do so should contact her

ITEM THIRTEEN – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Speed Bumps and other Traffic Calming Measures. Steve Turner suggested that we should reconsider the introduction of Speed Bumps which had been raised on the SHA web site. A discussion then ensued at which a number of points emerged:

- a. The Chairman indicated that she had no difficulty in reviewing the situation over traffic calming
- b. Steve suggested that a few residents might do some research and come up with a proposal
- c. Hamish Adair indicated that speed bumps were a rather outmoded form of traffic calming, other measures were now more popular, including shared roads. However he accepted that shared roads were not a good measure for Sleepers Hill because of the gradient and bends.
- d. We had introduced Vehicle Activated Signs that had had some success in reducing speed on the hill
- d. Steve Osborne advised that an earlier approach on speed bumps was on the web site under Historical Documents. This had foundered on a number of grounds. These included some contractors refusing to bid less they might subsequently be subject to legal action and that, below Westacre, the road is too steep for speed bumps.

Action: Committee to review traffic calming measures

13.2 The Chairman thanked Jan Royston Smith for her excellent work as Secretary over the previous 7 years and presented her with a bouquet of flowers

13.3 Steve Osborne advised that normally the Association paid for the drinks after the AGM. On this occasion however, Kate Harrington and her husband had kindly provided them.