

Draft Minutes of the closed meeting of the LEATHERHEAD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION held on Monday 5th January 2015

Present: Caroline Brown (Chair), Hubert Carr, Hilary Porter, Cheryl Allen, Ann Cardew, Louise Herrity, Fran Smith, John Wilson and Pam Wilson.

Apologies for absence were received from: Paula Sabine, Kristina Kenworthy.

CB announced the resignation from the committee of Roger Hardwick due to the conflict of other meetings.

Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th December had been circulated and were presented by projection for amendment and approval. CA questioned the need to verbally itemise the minutes which had already been circulated but in this instance, the draft had been circulated late over the Christmas New Year period and people had had very little time to read them.

Hospital Transport PW had circulated the information on train and bus services received from SCC in response to her request. The reply received related to services from Epsom to St. George's Hospital and St. Helier Hospital and will be published in our next Newsletter.

HC advised that there was a bus meeting at Pippbrook on Friday afternoon, from 1.30 – 3.30 p.m. where concerns could be voiced.

PW confirmed that she would continue to research her concerns. It was felt that Epsom and St. Helier would be unlikely to consider the use of their staff transport by members of the public.

Screening of Elmer Treatment Works: CA submitted a proposed letter to the Director expressing concern over the lack of progress in the provision of screening on behalf of the concerned residents. Her excellent letter was read and approved. HC suggested that the LRA send a letter of support for the residents affected.

Reports: (previously circulated and attached to the minutes).

CA reported on the successful formation of **the Fetcham and Leatherhead Flood Forum**, due to the constant support of SCC councillor Tim Hall. This forum would meet every two months and incorporates representation by all the agencies involved in flood prevention and would provide support for those affected by flooding. CA and HC are both members.

HC was congratulated on the successful outcome of his involvement in the prevention of flooding in North Somerset, by his participation in the careful planning of the motorway taking into account that much of Somerset is below sea level.

Leatherhead Community Hospital – Closure of Leach Ward HP reported on the development of the request from the League of Friends to arrange a public meeting. Although the response from the Chairman of the Friends and Central Surrey Health had provided potential speakers, the Chairman of Surrey Downs Clinical Commissioning group had referred the invitation to their Communications Officers, Jade Brelsford and Usman Nawaz, who had made it clear that they were opposed to a public meeting as they were unable to answer any questions on a situation which was subject to review. However as their role was to communicate with the public about how the SDCCG works, by means of road shows or visits to community groups, they were happy to accept an invitation to talk to the LRA and had subsequently indicated that James Blythe had said he might like to attend.

James Blythe is the officer responsible for the future review of Commissioned Services in 2015-16., which is set out on the SDCCG website, in a document called “Commissioning Intentions “and included in the Agenda for their meeting on 18th December which HP had attended.

There is also a document stating the role of the Communication Officers, which will be presented to the meeting of the SDCCG Patients Advisory Group to be held on 18th January, which does not appear on the website, but has been circulated to members of the Patients Advisory Group to be considered at their meeting which HP attends

So the Public meeting, now changes to become an opportunity to invite the public to an open meeting of the LRA in the Abraham Dixon Hall, (which has been booked), but care must be taken to appreciate that Jade and Usman will not be prepared to answer questions. Questions and answers relating to Leatherhead Hospital will be enabled by the Chairman after Jade and Usman’s presentation and Tim Hall has agreed to chair the meeting.

For clarification HP was asked to prepare a list of all those involved in the publication of the event, and CB had prepared a list of future actions to be taken and by whom. The presentation of the petition was discussed and it was recommended that the Patient Advisory Group be shown copies, but the originals should be retained for presentation at the Open meeting.. FS agreed to put minimal information onto Streetlife, advising the date and time of the meeting and the subject of the speakers presentation. CA agreed to similarly place a brief announcement at the end of the article for the Ashted and Leatherhead Local February edition.

Zen George, Editor of the A&LL had agreed to include an article from HP on the death of Dr. Margaret Birtwhistle and the concerns of the Friends of Leatherhead Hospital and local residents. Members of the public could be invited to address their concerns to the LRA post box if they are unable to attend the meeting on 2nd February.

Environmental Report: This had been circulated. CA confirmed that there would be no open garden event in 2015; instead, fund raising would consist of social events with sale of plants. The next stages of the anti-litter campaign would involve the local schools and an exhibition of art work related to litter. A reserve Anti-Litter Fund has enabled the CPRE to offer a grant of up to £1000 to the LRA Anti-Litter campaign to be used for the Exhibition and the Poster campaign.

The £3,000 needed for the legal work involved in the Leach Grove Woods campaign had been achieved.

Church Street: Meeting with Rod Shaw at Park House. : FS and CB had attended and the proposals were discussed. Concern was expressed as to whether or not the proposals would conflict with Plan L. and whether or not Rod Shaw was involved. A

number of suggestions were put forward, to be put together and subject to further discussion before submission to Rod Shaw.

Planning: This had been circulated.

The Meeting of BLeAF Officers and MVDC Yvonne Rees was noted as being 19.12.14. HC said he would attend, given that CB could not.

7. **Date and content of next meeting** 2nd Feb at 7.30 in the Abraham Dixon Hall with 30 minutes at the beginning for LRA Business and then proceeding with our speakers.

8. **Newsletter and A&LL.** January, done, thanks to JWW and to CA for her draft copy for Feb about the Flood Forum, plus small notice of the Feb. Meeting.

9. **AOB**

- a) **Newsletter** – It was agreed to repeat the coloured cover, which had proved popular.
- b) **LH** brought to the attention of the committee the letter written by Linda Weller and published in the Advertiser on 31st December. It clearly highlighted the lack of clarity in the area of Council Policy with regards to the Green Belt and in particular with regard to the Barnett Wood Lane Allotments.
- c) **HC** Requested and received committee agreement that there should be no future plans to reduce on-street car parking

The meeting closed at 9.45.