



## **LEATHERHEAD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

### **DRAFT MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

#### **at 7.30PM at Leatherhead Institute**

**PRESENT:** Caroline Brown (CB) Chairman; Cheryl Allen (CA); Ann Cardew (AC); Hubert Carr (HC) Vice Chairman; Louise Herrity (LH); Susan Leveritt (SL) Secretary; Hilary Porter (HP); Tony Severs (TS) Fran Smith (FS), and 8 others.

**In Attendance:** Tim Hall (TH) Surrey County Councillor.

**1 Apologies:** Paula Sabine (PA) Treasurer; Ian Seifert (IS); Martyn Williams (MW); David Woodhead.

**2 Minutes of Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016** were approved with no changes.

<b>3 Matters arising from meeting not covered elsewhere in Agenda</b>		<b>ACTION</b>
(a)	Town Notice Board – CB had received a letter from Graeme Kane of MV advising us to send our Advertising Posters to Mr Minson, who will laminate them and put them up. MV officer, Rod Shaw, is trying to improve both the board and the manner of its use.	CB
(b)	Duck Race to be held 3 <sup>rd</sup> July; The LRA will sponsor 2 ducks for whom names like “Transform” and “EU” were suggested but further suggestions would be welcome.	HP
(c)	LRA meetings for remainder of year were agreed for the first Monday of every month, except August & December when there would be no meeting.	
(d)	High Street future: those present voted on being happy with the current arrangement of one-way up the hill but would like the ability to park much earlier than the 6 pm currently allowed.	CB with TH
(e)	MW reported that the application to be registered as a company limited by guarantee had been rejected by Companies House but only because they required changes to the drafting of some of the articles. These changes have now been circulated to members with a notice confirming that the current meeting was convened as a Special General Meeting so as to consider and, if thought appropriate, to approve these changes. 31 votes in favour of adopting the changes were received with no votes against. The changes were duly adopted. (More details in 5b below) Re the insurance-	

	MW reported that the new insurance had been put in place as of midnight on the 3rd June. The previous policy has now been cancelled. The new insurance increases the LRA's public liability cover from £1m to £2m and provides directors and officers cover for £1m."	
4	<b>Chairman's Report:</b> The following points were made by the Chairman:	
(a)	Cow Parades, the newest community initiative, was explained. There is to be an Inaugural Surrey Hills Food, Drink and Music festival on 3 <sup>rd</sup> September at Coverwood Farm in Ewhurst, followed by an auction of the best decorated cows at a suitable London venue	
(b)	Efforts are being made to revive the Lengthman's Scheme. This is to enable small jobs to be done by groups of local people, like cutting vegetation, clearing gulleys, cleaning signs etc. HC mentioned one local intention had been to repaint the bollards at the Plough roundabout but the specification was problematic. MV couldn't advise which paint to use and communication difficult. Bookham is working on countryside footpaths. It was felt that the LRA should persist, for the good of the community and better government, but it would need one particular committee member devoting himself entirely to this task.	
(c)	At the MV meeting, Graeme Kane was anxious to explain how he was promoting help from within the Community in cases of flooding, fire or other emergencies. He is calling it the Community Resilience Programme. He is also offering training sessions for those who need to do Community Work in or around water or along roads and there is some funding to help with litter picks. One Bookham lady, picking litter regularly, receives MV payment and FS stated that Leach Grove Wood has weekly litter picks too. HC opined that dogs' DNA should be recorded so that identity can be traced. Impractical at local cost levels	
(d)	Dorking will hold an event on 13 August to celebrate the inauguration of the new Dorking playground	
(e)	Jack Straw (Chief Planning Officer) said that new Govt. rulings in Dec. mean new starter homes must be offered at 20% discount. Other way of reducing "planning shackles" are lists of "Red Zones" (i.e.land available to immediate development), brown field sites and registers of aspiring "self-builders" and Approved Providers to check on Building regulations. The fundamental problem here is that there is not enough land in MV.	
(f)	Transform Leatherhead – next CRG meeting 15/6; sign off of the design team, Broadway, Malyon, Nexus on 17/7. Surprising fact: Dorothy Perkins in Leatherhead has highest sales per square meter in the UK! Next wants more space.	
(g)	Dorking voted narrowly against establishing Parish Council but this	

	is not the end of the matter.	
(h)	Ambulance & Fire Services are merging their call centre operations	
(i)	Surrey has a Community Improvement Fund, £5k - £30k, for items like. cycle paths, seating, minibuses. All Saints had a grant for its conversion.	
5	<b><u>Reports from Sub-Committees:</u></b>	
(a)	<b><u>Environment-</u></b> CA gave an update on plans for 12 June Open Gardens – and ticket programmes now available; advertising is an issue as LH Advertiser did not print our 12/6 event while printing Bookham’s LOG for 19/6. TH said items should be sent to Editor Chris Madden – many people have left. Tony Severs reported on seeing dead silver birch trees in Red House Gardens – are they guaranteed? TH suggested contacting Tony Wynn at MV to enquire about this AND cherry trees on Bypass Road. It was also noted that the Bridge Court area could use 3 or 4 trees.	CA  TS
(b)	<b><u>Forward Planning Group:</u></b> (i) In the absence of MW, CB explained further about Companies House requiring more information for the Articles about LRA’s position as CLG. In particular expansion was needed over the Objects of the LRA and its and its procedure in the event of need Dissolution. A Voting summary had been emailed to members and some printed slips with space for signatures were also used. (ii) Guy Davies (MV) has been informed that FPG would like input to the Local Plan. MW would take the place of JWW.	MW
(c)	<b><u>Health:</u></b> HP advised that the next Surrey Downs meeting would be late July.	
(d)	<b><u>Highways:</u></b> Epsom Road being resurfaced 13/6, high speed grass cutting 6-9/6 along A24. St John’s Road – blind bumps are a problem needing attention, and there is a trip hazard at Knoll Roundabout. Zena Cowry is the person to contact.	
(e)	<b><u>Membership/Treasurer</u></b> – No updated needed, PS not present	
(f)	<b><u>Planning:</u></b> Member Percy Hawkins (PH) advised of a new planning application (affecting his home), for 4 blocks – 2 x 6-8 storeys ad 2 x 3-4 storeys. The current Area Management is poor and, with these plans, PH’s house would be demolished. TH agreed that plans involving high buildings must be fought/stopped. Circle Housing want a “landmark” building, which could set a precedent. FS to get copy of application. FS also mentioned a new application by ERA on Cleeve Road for 119 homes, play area & shop all to be built on the parking lot. Exhibition was in the South Building, TH and Rosemary Dickson attended. This will exacerbate situation with Cleeve Road – Kingston Road end must be redesigned. Finally, the Judicial Review on Leach Grove Wood will be 14-15/6 at the Strand. Plan 2.5 hours and 1 day	FS

(g)	<b>Newsletter:</b> Input required by 20 June for July publication	
6	<b>Ashted &amp; Leatherhead Local</b> – Report on 9 June Queens Birthday celebration to be held in Leatherhead	CA and CB
7	<b>AOB</b>	
(a)	CB - Forthcoming dates: 6-9 June, High Speed grass cutting on A24; 9 June, Queens Birthday event; 14-15 June, Judicial Review on Leach Grove Wood; 18 June, Kingswood Band concert, £12.50, byob & food; 24 June (or later), CA meeting with Water Board; 3 July, Duck Race; 31 July, Prudential Bike Race;	CB
(b)	TH – MV and Circle Housing are holding a seminar to announce some merging operations including themselves with Affinity Housing in Sutton and Austin Reed premises.	
(c)	TH also told the meeting that Mount Green Housing was taking over Hazelmere Close and Waterfields, 150 properties. Many have expensive, sub-standard electrical heating with storage heaters, and tenants don't know they would save money by leaving them on. Condensation is also a big problem as the insulation not up to standard. An event is planned in Leigh for 30 <sup>th</sup> June. Mount Green Housing is adjacent to Black Dog Gallery on Bridge Street.	FS
(d)	TH - Leatherhead tip entrance road needs to be improved.	
(e)	TH - Fly tipping is a problem opposite Buffers Lane.	
8	<b>Date of Next Meeting: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30 at Letherhead Institute.</b>	