

LEATHERHEAD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE LRA CLOSED MEETING HELD
on MONDAY, 2nd OCTOBER 2017 at 7.30 PM at LETHERHEAD INSTITUTE

Present: Caroline Brown* (CB) (Chairman), Hubert Carr* (Vice Chairman), Susan Leveritt (SL) (Secretary), Paula Sabine* (PS) (Treasurer), Cheryl Allen* (CA), Hilary Porter (HP), Fran Smith* (FS), Martyn Williams* (MW), Ian Seifert (IS). * = Director 9 attended.

In Attendance:none

		ACTION
1	Apologies: Ann Cardew, Louise Herryty	
2	Minutes of the Open Meeting held on Monday 4th September 2017: The Minutes were approved with one change in the planning report	
3	<p>Matters Arising: Due to the size and nature of the Chairman's report and it was agreed to hear the Committee Reports from Planning and FPG before the Chairman's report.</p> <p>It was reported at the last meeting that 13,500 people are employed at the Springfield Drive Business Park. It was suggested that this figure seems high and should be verified.</p>	SL will check
4	<p>Planning (FS) (full report online): FS referred to a letter she had sent objecting to an application for permanent access to a green belt site on Randalls Road on safety grounds and it being a factor that could affect any future planning applications to build on this site</p> <p>Notable decisions were Stocks House and Linden Road for 5 and 4 homes respectively, and Prior Notification (automatic approval for conversion) for 22 and 29 flats in Trident House and Connect House. Total number of approved new homes 60.</p> <p>There were also Prior Notification applications for Stokes House, 73 units, and ERA, Cleeve Road, 41 units. Total new homes applied for, 114.</p> <p>The large number of applications for flats on Cleeve Road prompted discussion of the problem of traffic bottlenecks at both ends of the road, but particularly at the very narrow junction leading to the roundabout onto Kingston Road.</p> <p>There was considerable discussion about the unfortunate trend for more flats and fewer houses; however FS pointed out that at least flats put fewer cars onto the roads than offices.</p>	

<p>5</p>	<p>Forward Planning Group (MW) (full reports online): MW reported on the meeting at MVDC which he and FS had attended, where MVDCs consultants explained how they had calculated the Councils housing requirement for the new Local Plan. However they cautioned that since they produced their first report the Government have produced a consultation paper, which if adopted, could lead to a further substantial increase in required numbers. The consultation document does advocate the preparation of a “constraint ratio” without saying what its use will be. If it is to be used to mitigate this further increase, then it might assist Mole Valley as its constraint ratio is quite high.</p> <p>The second report was FPG’s normal activities. Of positive interest was the possibility of MVDC offering an initial 30 minutes free parking with new ticketing machines being installed. Also work is due to start in February in the Swan Centre on new lifts, toilets and four small retail units, together with improvements to the car park.</p> <p>CB mentioned that it is rumoured that MVDC are considering the possibility of a cinema above the Swan Centre. This could have a very negative impact on the Theatre.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>Chairman’s Report: The Chairman reported updates on current MVDC issues. 1. <u>the Surrey CC Emergency Management team</u> are now fully in place; 2. <u>Flood Action Group</u>, which CA attends has now got official recognition; 3. <u>The results of the Survey on Future MV</u>: people were adamant that recreation land should not be used for building, but were equally keen on some buildings being used for both homes and commercial purposes. Most were also happy that current buildings designated for employment should be converted into flats. 4. <u>The Epsom & St Helier NHS CEO, Daniel Elkeles</u>, spoke at the recent RAs meeting about his hope for a new “Acute Medicine” facility to be built at one of Epsom , St Helier or Sutton Hospitals. Also land around each site might be sold to help finance modernisation of the existing buildings. CB reminded all of the public meeting on 6/10/17 when Mr Elkeles will repeat his presentation 5. <u>The proposal to put Fire and Iron’s “Star” paving slabs</u> in front of the Theatre entrance is being explored. There is some enthusiasm but also some legal constraints. 6. <u>The newsletter</u> is proving rather difficult as CA requires a “Publisher” software package in order to produce the quarterly newsletter as John Wilson retires from that role. She also made a request for more articles. 7. <u>Leach Grove Wood’s fate</u> is to be decided</p>	<p>Check on software packages</p>

	<p>in the High Court on the 4th and 5th of October. Meanwhile on the LRA website there are further details plus access to a Crowd Funding Appeal in case the case is lost. 8. Leaflets concerning the <u>Youth Showcase Awards</u> were available and members invited to take one. They need to go to people who run activities for them. 9. <u>River Mole Day (21 Sept)</u> has been very successful, with a large number of people participating. 10. Finally, I can report that <u>Church Street</u> (and thus) High Street will be closed until the end of October. The Town Bridge will re-open next week.</p>	
7	<p>Any Other Business: Future Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 Oct Epsom & St Helier Hospital CEO speaking at Institute • 26 Oct Meeting of Transform Leatherhead CRG • 1 Nov Meeting of Transform Leatherhead public meeting at Leatherhead Theatre • Halloween celebration on Oct 31st in town from 3 pm 	
8	<p>Next Meeting Monday 6 November, 7.30 in G6 of the Institute</p>	