



**DRAFT MW**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LEATHERHEAD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
HELD ON MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30 PM at the  
Leatherhead Methodist Church, Church Road**

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**Present:** Caroline Brown\* (CB); Chairman; Hubert Carr\* (HC) Vice Chairman; Susan Leveritt (SL) Acting Minuting Secretary; Cheryl Allen\* (CA); Louise Herrity\* (LH); Fran Smith\* (FS); Martyn Williams\* (MW); Ian Seifert; Irene Seifert; Hilary Porter; Ray Brown; Roy Allen; Ros Landor; Navin Mehta; Steve Stuart & Eve Sutch; Geoffrey West; Frank Lynes; John & Audrey Cleeve; Andi Ryan; Pam Chouls; Lesley Pearce; Joan & Chris Pelley; Joanne O'Rourke; Bill & Gill Whitman; Carol Thrift; Marion Millross; Jenny Christie; Stan Maiden; Margaret Sims; Terry Savage; Pat Harris; Susi Ezzard; Bernard Salsbury; Robin Waters; Tony Russell; Steven Phillips; Margaret Ludford; Diana Carr; Dr Fred Meynen; J. Pratt; Stella King; Heather Nielsen, Linda Baker \* **denotes Director.**

**In Attendance:** SCCllr Tim Hall; Attendance = 48

1. **Apologies** – Cllr. Rosemary Dickson; Cllr Joe Crome; Cllr Emma Norman; Paula Sabine; Sheila Baddeley.
2. **Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting.** The minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were approved with one minor duplication corrected, and the married name of Cllr. Emma Norman (Cussell) being entered.
3. **Chairman's Report (see report online)** The Chairman opened the meeting by introducing one of the six Stewards at the church, Dr Fred Meynen, who kindly welcomed us there and then went on to relate how this Methodist church had been founded in Leatherhead by John Wesley who happened to preach his last sermon there but who then, sadly, died a few days after delivering it.
4. Then the Chairman reviewed the recent and current issues facing Leatherhead as follows:
  - a. SES Waterworks' planning application refusal-SES have written to say they will undertake works that will not require planning consent. What these are and

whether they will include any planting to screen the buildings remains to be seen.

- b. Highlands Farm proposal for 900 homes between Leatherhead & Ashted-it remains to be seen whether this site is favoured by the planners when their greenfield site review is issued in the summer.
- c. Claire House and James House planning application. The time for representations has now closed. There are over 30 letters of objection.
- d. Kingston House Gardens. The revised plans have been lodged and we will send in a new letter of objection in respect of the unaddressed issues.
- e. Proposed conversion of public parking on some roads to resident permit parking. The chairman explained that in the Library there is an MVDC report outlining where this is being considered and probably also on MVDCs web-site. Tim hall commented that this is being driven by residents who cannot park in their own roads and it is for them to argue their case, if they think it is necessary.

HP asked Tim Hall whether the sign at Dorking station that encourages people to come to Leatherhead as there is insufficient parking near Dorking station could be removed. Tim said that neither SCC nor MVDC have any control as to what the rail authority says on signs at their stations.

HC asked if parking in the Swan Centre could be Pay on Exit so as to allow people more time for shopping if required. Tim hall said this is for MVDC to decide (but we have since learned that the Swan Centre car park will, in fact, benefit from the two alternative systems of payment.

- f. High Street Parking Petitions – SL confirmed that there would be a safety review in January. Joan and Chris Pelley argued that traders' problems were not caused by parking problems and shoppers should be prepared to pay for it.
- g. Police presence in Leatherhead – CB asked Tony Russell to summarise the position. He said there was a feeling that there was a slightly stronger police presence in town and various members confirmed this. CB promised to write to Commissioner David Monro to tell him that his various changes had had some noticeable effect.

#### 4- AOB

Marion Millross asked about the proposal for a House of Multiple Occupation (HMO) in the building behind Grantham House. MW explained that the developers appear to have struck a deal to provide "student-type accommodation " with multiple occupancy flats for approx. 40 Beaverbrook staff, who don't like living on the remote Beaverbrook complex. Kitchens and bathrooms would be provided for every 6 or 7 people. The views were divided on whether this arrangement would benefit Leatherhead, but the consensus was that Grantham House

may not be an ideal location for this type of development. MW pointed out that the time for representations had passed, but that there were a number of objections.

As parking is limited at this new venue, CB asked whether any attendees had experienced difficulties, but none responded. Early arrivals did discover that there were 2 classes for youngsters going on which finished at 7pm, and cars were either already parked and needing to depart, or arrived at 7pm (ca. a dozen cars of parents) to collect their children in the classes. This changeover needs managing, as several members had to move their cars in the process.

The meeting ended at 8.20pm, and was followed by the annual January turn-of-the-year Social, held in the adjacent meeting room/kitchen. Thanks to those who brought food, and especially to Cheryl, Fran, Irene and others who helped out with laying out the food and clearing up afterwards.

Next Meeting Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019, at the Methodist Church, Church Road, KT22 8AY, 7.15 for 7.30

For potential guidance in 2020, the following was provided:

Crisps, sandwiches, stuffed eggs, sausage rolls and crudites were followed by carrot cake, cupcakes, lemon drizzle cake and biscuits, coffee, tea and fruit juice.