

LEATHERHEAD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Open Committee Meeting 2nd April 2012 at 7.30 pm

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In attendance:

Committee Members: Hubert Carr (Chairman), Ray Brown (Secretary), Cheryl Allen, Caroline Brown, Ann Cardew, Flip Cargill, Fran Smith, Norma Tatham-Thompson, Ray Ward

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Other Members: Cllr Tim Hall, Cllr Rosemary Dickson, Cllr Bridget Lewis-Carr, Cllr David Sharland, Sylvia Sharland, Nicola Avery, Percy Hawkins, John Hayball, Jane Pratt

1. Apologies for absence

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Hilary Porter, Paula Sabine, Cllr Dave Howarth

2. Minutes of meeting on 5th March

One amendment: the words "permits in MVDC ... residents and" (line 99) were deleted.

The Minutes, as amended, were accepted *nem. con.*

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Minutes of 20th March

The Minutes were accepted *nem. con.*

3. Matters Arising from the minutes (not covered on the agenda below).

No matters arising from 5th March meeting.

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From the 20th March closed meeting, RW explained that the move to reconstitute the Membership Committee as the Publicity Committee had arisen after long discussion with FS; it marked a change of emphasis to publicity. He thanked PS and FS for their excellent work on membership spreadsheets which gave the new committee a good foundation; he will be emailing Committee members in the next few days.

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4. Correspondence

HC said most of his correspondence had been via emails; two main topics being:

- Car Parks
- Leatherhead & District Forum should have been relieved of paying rent for use of Park House; local Councillors have now rectified this and steps are being taken to recoup money for rents paid in error.

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CA had received a letter from Dr Robert Youldon, Treasurer of the League of Friends of the Leatherhead Hospital, in which he told of various refurbishments thanks to generous donations, including a £128000 complete refurbishment of the colposcopy unit with "new, cutting edge technology to be installed."

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CA said this emphasized the importance of the Leatherhead Hospital and how necessary it was to have permanent signage to the Hospital.

Cllr T H said the residents of St John's Road wanted the entrance to the Hospital changed from its present position, and this led to a general discussion about the junction of St John's Road, Poplar Road and the Hospital entrance.

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CB said she had received an email from HP about the Government's response to the Mary Portas Report; HP had suggested a Town Team be instigated.

It was confirmed that HP had sent this to the rest of the Committee; the question of a Town Team was deferred.

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5. To receive reports from:

(a) Subcommittees

Environment Subcommittee ([Environment_April_2012.pdf](#))

55 CA presented the report.

Re "High Street Planting for the Summer"

- CB asked how will we get funding for planters if Natwest Bank is unable to help. CA confirmed the Bank will not help financially and that we are working on other funding.
- Cllr RD asked if there was a competition for shops/restaurants to plant flowers etc. CA

60 replied that we had inherited the Brighter Leatherhead & District Association's Traders Trophy and were re-instating it this summer, and that all shops which had placed planters in the past had been contacted and she and AC would be canvassing the remaining shops during the coming week.

Re "Our Wooded Areas"

- HC asked if Surrey County Council (SCC) was responsible for cutting down the trees in the Woodland School site. Cllr TH was surprised as he thought it had been agreed to preserve these trees. FC confirmed that what appeared in the report was accurate. HC suggested that FC and Cllr TH take this up with the Property Services Manager.
- FC reported that that applications for Leach Wood Grove to be granted Village Green Status and Teazle Wood to receive Charitable Trust Status are still progressing.

70 Re "Update on Small Recyclable Items/Bins"

- CA thanked those who had contributed recyclable items.

Re "Community Garden", CA reported that:

- the Community Garden Committee had held its Annual General Meeting and a full report would be given in May;
- the Community Garden Committee Chairman is liaising with the Swan Centre to replant the planters on Level 3 and the Leatherhead Horticultural Society will help in the project.

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Finally, CA reported that a shopkeeper had complained about pigeon droppings, she had contacted Cllr RD who had followed this up with Mole Valley District Council (MVDC) and the situation had been improved.

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Planning Subcommittee: ([Planning_April_2012.pdf](#))

CB presented the report.

Re "Decisions":

- CB drew attention that the Dorincourt and St John's floodlights had been turned down for the reasons about which we had expressed concern at the last meeting; Cllr RD said she had raised our concerns at the MVDC Development Control Committee.
- CB said she was not clear about (0109) and the apparent lack of search; Cllr TH said that commercial test was required, and Cllr RD said the decision had been made by delegated powers.

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Re Application (0339);

- N T-T asked if enclosed pitches meant that they were covered by a building; CB replied it did not – the pitches were enclosed by a fence.
- Cllr TH said the report contained no mention of a toilet block. CB said she would check this.
- HC asked who was to ask St John's for the 'master plan'; Cllr TH agreed that this had been left vague at the last meeting; after discussion, it was agreed that CB ask for it.

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Highways Subcommittee ([Highways_April_2012.pdf](#))

HC presented the report.

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Re Parking:

- Cllr TH said the table of new charges showed only those where charges had been changed.
- Cllr DS said there was to be another meeting of the Car Parking study group after the elections; the policy is coming along well; there will be some long-term parking at the far end of the Leisure Centre car park for PCT, and we may be able to get Unilever there and thus relieve pressure on the Randalls Road car park.
- N T-T said the recycling facilities on the Randalls Road car park were being removed to be

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sited elsewhere; Cllr DS said they would probably be removed to a site by the Leisure Centre and this would enable more spaces to be made available in the Randalls Road/Bull Hill car park.

- AC pointed out that the Mary Portas report advocated free parking; Cllr DS said the Council would lose too much income and could not afford this.
- FS asked why we could not have 30 minutes car-park fee in Leatherhead car parks; Cllr DS said this would also decrease income too much.
- N T-T reported that the zebra crossing on the ramp into the Swan Centre car park is worn, barely visible and dangerous.
- CA reported that the hole by the manhole cover in Church Street had now been filled but the manhole cover still made a terrible noise when traffic passed over it; Cllr TH said someone would look into the matter.
- HC reminded us to report problems on the SCC website.
- Cllr DS said the road islands in Leret Way near the junction with Bull Hill were now fixed.
- FC said Fortyfoot Road receives a lot of traffic and is again full of potholes; CA asked whether, although the road is not adopted, SCC did not have some responsibility in repairing it; Cllr TH said the SCC does try to make repairs there when it can.

(b) Meetings attended by Committee Members

Green Mole Forum Meeting (27th Feb.) ([GMF_April_2012.pdf](#))

FC presented the report.

MVDC Resilience Forum (12th March) ([Resilience_April_2012.pdf](#))

CA presented the report on behalf of HP

Cllr B L-C said that in the last full paragraph, "local Councillors" should be added to the list of authorities to contact.

Norbury Park Liaison Group (19th March) ([NPLG_April_2012.pdf](#))

CA presented the report.

Re "Swanworth Farm and the Sawmill" CA reported that;

- Surrey Wildlife (SWT) trust had stated it could not give a tenancy of more than 10 years.
- Cllr TH, who had been at the meeting, queried this as the Norbury Farm tenancy lasted through the life of the farmer and passed to his son, also Bocketts Farm are negotiating for the tenancy to be able to passed on to the daughter.
- The negotiations regarding SWT & the farmer, Nick Bullen, cannot be further commented upon.

Meeting organised by CPRE on "Localism" (24th March) ([Localism_April_2012.pdf](#))

CB presented the report.

This prompted some discussion on the town centre and especially on Church Street with its empty shops. Nothing was decided.

6. Notice of meetings members will be attending

CB reminded us she would be attending the MVDC Development Control Committee on 4th April on behalf of the LRA.

No other notices of future meetings.

7. Reminder of AGM & Olympic Presentation (May 28th)

HC reminded us of the Olympic Presentation to be given by Louise Bircher (MVDC) and Surriya Subramanian (SCC) in the Abraham Dixon Hall on the 28th May.

RB confirmed that our AGM would take place at 7.30 pm and the Olympic presentation at 8.00 pm on that day.

8. Any Other Business

165 RB reminded members that the next open Committee meeting was scheduled for **Monday,**
June 11th (June 4th being a public holiday).
AC asked that Town Teams be on the menu for that meeting.

170 There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 pm

Ray Brown,
Hon. Sec.