

LEATHERHEAD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Open Committee Meeting 6th August 2012 at 7.30 pm

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In attendance

Committee members: Hubert Carr (Chair), Hilary Porter (Vice Chair), Paula Sabine (Treasurer), Ray Brown (Secretary), Cheryl Allen, Caroline Brown, Ann Cardew, John Hayball, Kristina Kenworthy, Norma Tatham-Thompson, Ray

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Ward.

Other Members: Cllr Tim Hall, Roger Hardwick, Paul Hamilton, Percy Hawkins, Jane Pratt

1. Apologies for Absence

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Flip Cargill, Fran Smith, Cllr. Bridget Lewis-Carr.

2. Minutes of the meeting on 9th July 2012

These were accepted *nem. con.* as a correct record.

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3. Matters Arising

Item 5. Publicity Subcommittee report:

CA asked if it were true that we had now signed on 73 new members

PS replied that at present the number was now 77 new members

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Item 5: Highways Subcommittee report:

PS asked why we had to wait to approach a Councillor when the unsatisfactory survey had been undertaken by a Council *Officer*

HC replied that one had to go to the Councillor who made the decision, but that we were not able to do anything over the election period.

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TH said that in any case the officer concerned had left and that under the post-election administration parking was now 'in the melting pot' and that it would be a good time to lobby for what we want.

4. Correspondence: None.

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5. To receive reports from:

Environment Subcommittee ([Environment August 2012.pdf](#))

CA presented the report and added that the Mole Valley District Council (MVDC) Customer Service and Communications Manager, Louise Bircher, and the Maintenance Department had thanked us for the litter-pick on 25th July; and confirmed that Network Rail had fulfilled its promise to complete the tidy-up of areas behind the fence at the station and along the embankment prior to the bicycle race.

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CA confirmed that Teazle Wood had now been purchased by the Friends of Teazle Wood, but that she understood Surrey NHS had now objected to the bid for 'Village Green' status for Leach Grove Woods and asked for the process to be delayed.

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TH confirmed that Surrey NHS has now lodged an objection.

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HC asked if Surrey NHS had involved itself when volunteers and MVDC had filled holes and tidied up the woods. CA replied that it had not.

55 CA reported that the Subcommittee would be meeting on 7th August to discuss the High Street and would be writing a report to present to the Committee before forwarding it to the High Street Advisory Group.

HP said that regarding the High Street, the Centre for accessible Environments (CAE) had produced a report showing things with flowers in them being used instead of bollards.

60 **Planning Subcommittee** ([Planning_August_2012.pdf](#))

CB presented the report, adding that Prezzo has put up the four illuminated signs even though permission was refused. The MVDC Planning Department has been informed and are taking steps on this matter.

65 KK referred to Cherkley Court and the Secretary of State's refusal to 'call it in'. She said there was a mistaken perception that a referral had been refused; this was not so, and the matter is now back with MVDC which has not yet granted permission to the developers and will be waiting at least until it receives the report of the solicitor Mr Richard Lindgard. If permission is eventually granted,
70 an appeal for a judicial review will be made.

CB said she understood an ecological survey would be required before any work could be done. KK replied that the survey is currently being conducted and will not be completed until September.

75 **Publicity Sub Committee** ([Publicity_August_2012.pdf](#))

RW presented the report, added that he was very grateful to CA and PS for three good articles recently in the press and for work in making a mail-shot of 2000 homes, 1500 being in north Leatherhead We have now picked up so far 77 new members from this; progress is slow but sure.

80 PS said that the 73 new members mentioned in the Report were from Leatherhead as a whole and not just the north. the number was now 77, of which 16 had joined for one year and the rest for three years.

85 PS suggested a letter of thanks to LRA Road Stewards.

HC said we ought to make it clear in our literature that we facillitate improvements and raise funds rather than use membership fees to pay for such things flowers outside the NatWest bank etc. This was noted.

90 CB asked what had prompted the increase in membership numbers and the current 10% discount with certain traders was cited as one reason.

95 RB & CA emphasized that the 20% being offered by Wetherspoon's on food items was a separate matter and was being offered indefinitely on proof of LRA membership.

In response to questions, RW & CA said the matter of issuing new or replacement membership cards was in hand.

Highways Sub Committee

100 HC said there was no report as the only thing that had happened since the last meeting was the meeting with Rod Shaw (MVDC Planning) about the High Street at which nearly all the Committee had been present.

105 TH reported that the picture of a couple of ducks floating on the 'pond' by the bus stop in North Street had prompted Thames Water (TW) to address the

problems of flooding in several places in Leatherhead connected to their drainage system.

CA asked if TW had been given a full list of the problems; TH replied 'yes'.

110 CA asked about flooding problem in Barnett Close; TH said this was not linked to TW and the matter was being looked at separately.

Leatherhead Area Partnership. 25th July ([LAP_August_2012.pdf](#))

115 CA presented the report but said that in the second paragraph the figure should read 14, not 40.

AC asked how LAP had been funded in the past; HC it was partly by grants and by Councillors from their Local Fund. He added that currently LAP are discussing their future format and no immediate decision on the funding issue was needed.

120 CA added that if LAP did not exist, a similar body would be required.

TH said we should wait till LAP sorts itself out and he commended CA for a helpful report.

6. Notice of meetings members will be attending

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- Leatherhead & District Forum – 19th September at 5.45 pm.
 - Open meeting in Epsom Town Hall on Wednesday 12 September to discuss the future of Epsom Hospital.
 - HC to attend BLeAF (**B**ookham, **L**eatherhead, **A**shtead & **F**etcham chairs) on 24th August

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7. Any Other Business

AC reminded us that she would be hosting an Open Garden event at 1 Waterloo Cottages on 11th August from 10 am till 4 pm, with proceeds going to the Teazle Wood fund.

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There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 p.m.

140 Ray Brown,
Hon. Sec.

Date of next meeting: Monday, 3rd September