



DRAFT

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LEATHERHEAD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
HELD ON Monday 4th February at 7.30 pm at the
Leatherhead Methodist Church, Church Road**

Present: Caroline Brown* (CB); Chairman; Hubert Carr* (HC) Vice Chairman; Susan Leveritt (SL) Publicity Officer; Cheryl Allen* (CA); Louise Herrity* (LH); Fran Smith* (FS) Sheila Baddeley, acting Minutes Secretary; Martyn Williams* (MW); Ray Brown, Bridget Carr, Hilary Porter, Fred Meynen, Maureen Conrad, Pat Harris, Tim Jones, John and Audrey Cleeve, Tina and Harry Lawton, Ann and Peter Mayor, David Woodhead, Jenny and Steve Day, Stella King, Tony Russell, Pam Chouls, Ronnie Wedlock, Andi and Rory Ryan, Jane Pratt, Lesley Pearce, Margit Richards, Terry Richards, John Long, Jenny Christie, Bill Whitman, Gill Whitman, Kristine Smith, Margaret Sims, Maarten Velzeboer

* denotes Director

In Attendance: Cllr Joe Crome. Total Attending : 42

- 1 Apologies: Cllr. Rosemary Dixon, Paula Sabine, Julia Jarrett, Elaine Arnold and Ian Seifert
- 2 Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7th January 2019 were approved with no amendments

3 Chairman's Report (full report online)

CB started with asking for ideas to proceed with an application to MV to furnish funds to improve Leatherhead in a modest way. These funds come from the payments developers are obliged to pay MVDC in order to create the infrastructure that will be needed when extra people come to live here. It is called CIL, Community Infrastructure Levy and was preceded by Section 106 money and PIC money (Planning Infrastructure Contributions). Bookham and Ashted have planted trees with some of their funds. CB and attendees came up with suggestions of how the levy could be spent in Leatherhead. They were:

Trees to be planted on the boundary of the Post Office depot in Belmont Road, to improve the view for residents at Holly court.

Bollards mainly in Poplar Road and Highlands Road are looking shabby, need re-painting.

Removal of chewing gum from surface of the High street.

Living garden installed on the back of Leatherhead Theatre, an eyesore when approaching the town from Epsom Road. It could make Leatherhead look more enticing.

Sign at the beginning of the High St saying 'Welcome to Leatherhead' with a 10 mph sign.

More waste bins in the Red House grounds.

A clean up of leaf/litter in Poplar road.

Speed ramps need to be re-pointed in Highlands Rd (This could be SCC matter?)

Cameras to be installed in the garden near the church where drug dealing allegedly takes place.

Some of the CIL has already been earmarked for tidying up the Waterless Feature.

CB highlighted a Community Housing Partnership project, a scheme whereby a small group of able and willing people get together to build their own houses. A conference will take place on Monday 25th February in the Ranmore Suite at Denbies Wine Estate, Dorking between 10.30 and 12.30. Anyone who wants to attend to contact CB who is planning to attend.

4 Other Reports

High Street Parking Petition

SL stated that since the meeting with MVDC where she had had 3 minutes to present her report and where co-sponsor, John Howarth (Director of Leatherhead Chamber of Commerce) had suggested that they start with 'Leatherhead High Street in Crisis' as a title, things have only got worse. There are now 4 more shops that are closing. Parking is an issue everywhere in Leatherhead, not just the High Street. Currently there are orange boxes with cameras monitoring traffic in the town centre.

Tony Russell is concerned about the North Leatherhead development. With so many flats being built, pressure will be put on Linden House surgery in Leatherhead. Although Bridget Carr pointed out that there is another surgery in North Leatherhead, the Molebridge practice which now has a new practice manager.

Planning Applications by Fran Smith (see report online)

Someone in attendance asked about the future of the Royal Oak Site; Cllr Jo Crome said that they are still waiting to hear from the owners. The 6 month time period is almost up. MVDC cannot take enforcement in the meantime.

Forward Planning by Martyn Williams (report online)MW stressed that when the Local Plan report on MVDC's preferred greenfield sites for development comes out in June, it will be important that the LRA and its members present robust responses to what is likely to be a controversial report.

Traffic survey re: Park Rise and Fairfield Road

Maarten Velzeboer presented his own 'eye level' traffic survey highlighting the problem of more vehicles using the 'rat run' to the station and schools in the vicinity of Park Rise and Fairfield road especially for an hour after 8.00am and in the early evening.

Environment

CA reported that the Flood Alleviation scheme meeting at the end of February with The Environment Agency and MVDC was likely to be disappointing, (especially to those who were affected by the 2014 flood) in that, apparently, there will be no Flood Alleviation scheme put in place after 5 years of enquiries.

The Environment Agency is hosting a Leatherhead and Fetcham flood alleviation measures exhibition on Thursday 28th February between 14.30 and 8.00 pm at the Institute.

A litter pick in Leatherhead will take place on Saturday, April 13th; this will be mentioned in the LRA newsletter. CA will be organising the event, let her know if you'd like to attend. A national Keep Britain Tidy scheme will be running from March 22nd – April 23rd.

Highways

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Road due to road works. Alterations on the link road between the Motorway junctions will necessitate single lane working for six weeks.

5 AOB

CB mentioned that Mid Surrey Conservatory Club which helps out with people with dementia and their carers is looking for volunteers to work midday (10 till 3).

June Robinson from The Arts Society, Leatherhead is organising a Multi-Coloured Swap Shop on 6th April at 7.15 in the Parish Church Hall.

A talk about the use of water by Professor Neil Ward from Surrey University will take place at the United Reform Church on 28th February at 7.30pm. (Entry £6)

Race Night: Friday, 26th April, together with Friends of the Parish Church.

CB also related a fraud story involving shares which started with an unsolicited phone call. Be wary, this happened in the vicinity of Surrey.

Tony Russell suggested he asked the Practice Manager at Linden House surgery to address one of our forthcoming meetings to explain the difficulties they are having with their potential need for more premises..

Hilary Porter reminded everyone that the Patient Participation Group has information about various NHS services available. She suggested someone from the service talks to LRA on the last Saturday of the October half term. She also reminded us of the availability of making evening appointments at Leatherhead hospital.

Date of Next Meeting: 1st April AGM 2019 at 7 for 7.30.

The Meeting concluded at 9.10 p.m.