

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT ST PETERS CHURCH HALL, Thursday 24th 2019

Apologies: Birdy Thomas, Sunita Parrott, Ken Johnston, Alan Duncan, Phil Bergquist, Joan Tait, Jill & John How

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the last AGM held on 22nd March 2018 were accepted and proposed by Andy Hayward and Vic Masterson.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising.

Approximately 27 households were represented (approximately 35 people attended AGM inclusive of committee).

1/ Chairwoman's report

The purpose of this meeting is:

1. Chairwomen's report - to report the activities of the association to the members and issues to be addressed
2. Treasurer's Report - to outline any proposed work and expenditure for the forthcoming year and obtain approval from the members for this.
3. Proposed Road Maintenance and Expenditure Updates
4. Association members – confirm and elect committee members for 2019
5. AOB – forum for residents to discuss issues they would like to be addressed

We have a lovely neighbourhood with the kindest people I have ever met. Andy and I feel privileged to be part of this community.

We welcome Rani and Buta Gill who have moved into 81 Thames Side and Mrs Mead, who moved into 102 Wheatsheaf Lane.

Our summer party, organised by a committee led by Caroline Keyser, last June was a success and we look forward to the next one in June. Date TBA but we hope for a record number of attendees as well as volunteers to help with tents, food etc. It was the general consensus of the AGM attendees that Fish and Chips was the way forward again this year!!

The Christmas party organised by Sally Ann Ancora at the Wheatsheaf & Pigeon was an equal success with a record # of attendees and lovely buffet.

Road resurfacing plans are going well, supported by a record number of people paying their Subs. Of course, if people need to sell their property they have to prove that they are up to date with the Subs.

David Rowley our treasurer will report of the status of works. Questions will be taken at the end of the Committee reports.

(a) **Neighbourhood Watch**

Thanks to Gillian Kneale, we have a successful Neighbourhood Watch Scheme that seems to be working well. We still have to be very vigilant as the break-ins by opportunists could still occur, particularly in warm weather. Please report any suspicious or anti-social behaviour to Gill Kneale, as well as any crimes/attempted crimes (dog fouling constitutes anti-social behaviour). This collective information gives the association leverage with the police, and an early warning opportunity to other residents. Keep checking the SSRA website for community updates,

(b) **SSRA Website – Phil Berquist at # 9**

Phil has done a sterling job with our SSRA Website, some of you might remember we agreed to fund the work required for our website. The link and details are in the last Newsletter distributed by David Rowley.

(c) **Speeding – Speed limit 20 mph**

Again, Reports have been made of cars using excessive speed when driving in the area. Given the number of pets and young children playing in the area (particularly in summer) the possibility of a grave accident is increased.

Non-residents are increasingly parking to walk their dogs or to go fishing. Someone has removed our clamping signs, which did act as a deterrent. We are considering further signage, if you have any suggestions they will be appreciated.

(d) **Dog fouling of towpath and area around our residences**

We have had issues with persistent dog fouling on the towpath and in front of our residences.

At Christmas before we had our friends with children round to decorate the big tree on the towpath I had to clean no less than 7 piles from round the tree area. A reduction from the 13 piles I had to clean the year before, so things are getting better.

Luckily the increased CCTV coverage has gone some way in acting as a deterrent and reducing the problem somewhat.

(e) **Rubbish on the road side and fly tipping**

Rubbish and litter along the sides of our roads has decreased but remains a problem. It would be brilliant if every residence took responsibility to clear the area outside their own property.

Recently, Michael and Jackie Corp were very vigilant and caught some potential fly tippers, these bad people were confronted, at risk, and we have photos. Gill Kneale has volunteered to report this to the police, once more detail has been gathered.

2/ Treasurer's Report – David Rowley

I am pleased to report that 2018 was the best ever year for this Association in terms of support. Of a total of 84 households, 81 have paid their subs this year. It is also gratifying to be able to say that these funds have come in without a lot of chasing.

I have spent very little this last year, the usual hire charge for this hall, some bags of cold asphalt to fill in potholes, £15.00 to renovate the "PRIVATE" sign at the head of Wheatsheaf Lane (thanks to Paul Deschamps for his prompt and cost-effective solution) and finally, the license fee for the new website. More thanks are due to Linda Graves, Stuart Hall and Phil Berquist for their help in various areas, all provided f.o.c.

Besides the subscriptions the Association has received £50 from the Nationwide Building Society in response to my complaints about their poor service and £21.50 in interest from the same source. This will be the last time that you will see any interest received in the accounts, the Nationwide account is now closed, we receive no interest from the new Barclays Community account.

One Statutory Declaration was purchased last year and the Catering Crew turned in a surplus of £23.00. Our cash in hand is now £ 29181.72, of which just over £700 is Catering Crew surplus which is available to the Association for road maintenance if needed.

It was proposed and agreed by the AGM attendees that the annual subscription be increased by £5.00, making the subscription fee for 2019 £80.00 per household.

The subscription period is from 1st Jan thro' to 31st Dec, so subs are due NOW!!

Account Please do make use of our new **Barclays Bank Account: Sort Code 20-45-45, No.40671851** **please include somewhere in the "details" box; your name or address.** Alternatively, your Treasurer will be pleased to accept cheques at 7 Riverside Close

The Treasurer's report was proposed and accepted by David Blum and Paul Deschamp.

3/ Road Maintenance Report – Proposed Work and Expenditure

The Committee is taking the unusual step of asking all of the Associations members for their opinion on the Wheatsheaf Lane resurfacing project. This is because at the AGM two different treatments were discussed and at the end of the discussion, there was no clear majority for either option. The two treatments are set out below:

The **original** treatment recommended was to "scalp" the existing road surface to a depth of 75mm and then to relay with a tarmac product "Stone Mastic Asphalt" (SMA) to a depth of 50mm. This product was specified by both of the contractors with whom we have obtained quotations. The cost of this work (including VAT) would be £26,266.80.

Keith Slater brought to our attention an **alternative** product "Hot Rolled Asphalt" HRA. It is Keith's opinion that this product should typically last for about 20 years as opposed to 12 for SMA. For exactly the same job in terms of scalping and relaying, the cost of using this product would be £ 29,552.40, some £3,300 more than SMA.

It was the recommendation of the Committee that we proceed with the cheaper option. It should be noted that we had contacted the Highways Department of Surrey County Council for independent and unbiased advice and that they responded by recommending the cheaper SMA option. Their reply further stated that they (S.C.C) only specified HRA on *“roundabouts or highly trafficked roads”*.

The two options were voted on at the AGM but neither attracted a significantly higher number of votes, the actual figures were 14 in favour of the original treatment (SMA) and 13 for the alternative HRA. Your committee considered this too small a difference on which to base an expenditure of this size. Therefore, we are asking the Association as a whole to let us know your preference. The voting paper will be distributed by email and by hand (where necessary) and will be counted on the basis on one vote per household.

Many raised concerns at leaving little reserve of funds to tend to the road repairs, both short and long term, of Thames Side and Riverside Close. Thames Side has some areas of severe wearage/exposure, and it was expressed that spending more than is necessary for an already durable road solution for Wheatsheaf Lane was a luxury we could not afford, albeit unfortunately. It was suggested that the company employed to undertake the Wheatsheaf Lane resurfacing may be asked to take a look at the rest of the residents roads.

4/ Election of The Committee

As per last year's AGM the current committee stands as:-

- David Rowley of Riverside Close, continues to be our Treasurer, also collecting/chasing up outstanding payments, with support from Chris Miles – Wheatsheaf Lane and Gillian Kneale – Thames Side
- Michele Gibson at 79 Thames Side - Chairwoman
- Gillian Kneale - Secretary & Neighbourhood Watch representative
- Bob Douglas – Committee Assistant
- Andy Duncan – Committee Assistant
- Phil Bergquist – SSRA Website & Mailchimp

In the absence of any volunteers, the committee agreed to stand again. However, David Rowley did confirm that this would be his last year as Treasurer.

The election of the committee was proposed and accepted by Nik Keyser and Geoff Richardson

5/ AOB

1. **Potholes** – it is reported that there are some potholes, specifically around Thames Side that are both dangerous and that potentially cause harm. This brings into question the possibility of an insurance liability claim, should an accident occur.
2. **Horses Field fencing** – It was highlighted that there are areas of the field that is not sufficiently secured, especially in the corner adjoining 97 Thames Side. It is still unclear as to whom to approach to rectify this situation – **TBC**
3. **Garden waste being disposed of in horses field** –Can we ALL please dispose of any rubbish via the official channel and means please
4. Please CLOSE the gate leading from 97 Thames Side onto the field
5. **CCTV** – It was suggested and agreed that new signage suggests CCTV is in operation. There was also discussion on the potential of active or dummy cameras for the area. Both suggestions have advantages, but come at a cost, and raise maintenance issues. **TBC**
6. **Tree trimming** - 102 WSL asked if there was any reason/opposition to them cutting down low level tree/foliage. This raised concerns and objections from residents of 1 R/C, as this activity, previously, has led to anti-social behaviour being inflicted/encouraged around their property. It is suggested that both residents discuss a successful and mutually amicable solution.
7. **Li Ping Wang of 78 Thames Side**, request for tree planning along Lanes – Maybe Ms Wang can consolidate a volunteer group?
8. **Thanks** expressed to David for filling large pothole outside 28A Riverside Close so promptly after complaint was raised.
9. **Thanks** expressed to Michele for organising so successfully the clear up of hedging last year

This concludes this AGM we'd like to thank you all for coming and see you all next year.

Meeting closed at 21:05 PM. Everyone invited to The Pub to reconvene informally