

**BYFLEET, WEST BYFLEET AND PYRFORD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019 19h30  
at the Good Shepherd Hall, Church of the Good Shepherd, Pyrford.**

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## **AGENDA**

### **1. Welcome by the Chairman, Stewart Dick**

The Chairman welcomed around 65 Residents' Association (the "RA") members and guests. He thanked The Church of the Good Shepherd for allowing the meeting to be hosted in their church hall. He welcomed Councillors Bond and Chrystie. The meeting was quorate with the required minimum of 35 members present. The requisite three weeks' notice of the date of the AGM had been given in both The Resident magazine and on the BWBPRA website.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received and were accepted from: Jonathan Lord M.P.; Councillor Amanda Boote, Councillor Mary Bridgeman; Councillor Ashley Bowes; Penny Hoskyn; Lynette Davies; Dharma Singham; Jim Allen BEM; Geoff Geaves; Godfrey Chapples; Jane Armitage, Marion Malcher and Liz Grout.

### **3. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 14 March 2018**

The minutes of the 2018 AGM had been posted on the BWBPRA website and distributed to those present. One comment was raised from the floor suggesting that the Minutes had not recorded the robustness of the question and answer session with the guest speaker. This was deemed, by the Chairman, to be a matter of style and not material to the accuracy of the recorded Minutes. The Minutes of the Meeting 2018 were agreed as a true record as they stood.

### **4. Matters arising from the Minutes not covered by the Agenda**

There were no matters arising which would not be covered by this agenda.

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Keith Creswell, Treasurer presented the Residents' Association's ('RA') accounts for the 12 months to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 which showed a small surplus of £1,720 for the period. He advised that the RA's cash reserves were being deliberately maintained at a higher level should it be necessary to incur legal expenses on some of the more severe challenges being presented to the community. He updated the meeting that The RA continue to support the West Byfleet and Pyrford Neighbourhood Forums and will support the Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum once its plan has been finalised and been approved. Three Collection Accounts had been opened with Lloyds Bank to simplify subscription payment.

The accounts had been reviewed and agreed by Alan Fairlie, the Honorary Examiner, who was thanked and re-appointed for the following year.

Appointment of new Treasurer : Keith Creswell will step down from the role as Treasurer after this meeting. Dharma Singham has kindly agreed to become Treasurer with immediate effect.

There were no questions from the floor. Approval of the Financial Statement and the appointment of Dharma Singham were proposed by Councillor Graham Chrystie and seconded by Richard Thomas.

## **6. Membership Secretary's Report**

Andy Grimshaw, Acting Membership Secretary, was thanked by the Chairman for the invaluable work he had done over the previous twelve months covering the three association roles of Acting Membership Secretary, Planning Officer and Chief District Representative for Pyrford.

Andy would like to step down as Acting Membership Secretary and nominations/volunteers were encouraged to take over this important role.

The Acting Membership Secretary reported that the RA had 2506 members. This reduction was mainly explained following the introduction of the policy to 'remove' members where subscriptions had not been received for two years. The membership is now increasing again with new Street Representatives providing broader coverage. There are currently 150 Street Representatives. Across the three villages, 38% of households are RA members.

The new RA membership database now includes nearly 1000 email addresses and 900 phone numbers, approved by members to be loaded and retained. These email addresses have been used to send 28 emails over the course of the year to inform members of important issues and consultation deadlines. The RA database and procedures are compliant with GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation).

## **7. Resolutions**

A resolution was proposed and agreed to change the role title of 'Chief District Representative' to 'Village Representative (VR).' This will take effect within the RA constitution and in RA usage.

A resolution was proposed and agreed to change the role title of 'Footpath Officer' to 'Rights of Way Officer (RoWO).' This will take effect within the RA constitution and in RA usage.

## **8. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman summarised the significant number of issues and initiatives in which the RA was actively involved over the preceding 12 months. These included

- The ESSO Replacement Pipeline consultation
- The Proposed 'stand-by' power station on the Camphill Industrial Estate
- The proposal to build a pub/restaurant on the West Byfleet Recreation Ground
- The replacement /improved children's playground on the West Byfleet Recreation Ground
- The WBC Site Allocation Development Plan Document (SADPD) and proposed release of land from Greenbelt for housing

The Chairman recognised the many other groups which had worked with the RA, or indeed led on a number of community issues, particularly the Power Station Action Group. He also thanked members and other residents of the three villages who had actively expressed their views at public meetings held by the RA, in individual correspondence to WBC and/or MP and via petitions.

The Chairman thanked Jonathan Lord MP, in his absence, for his support to the RA and the wider community, and in particular on the issue of Greenbelt retention. The Chairman reported that the RA, Councillors and other interested parties had submitted their views and objections regarding the SADPD and looked forward to the opportunity to speak at the enquiry before the Inspector.

The Chairman, on behalf of the RA, recorded a request that Councillors do not support removal of land from Greenbelt for building purposes in Byfleet, West Byfleet and Pyrford – a position which

he judged to be in-line with their respective election manifestos.

The Chairman briefly updated the meeting on the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) process introduced by WBC, and regretted the lack of consultation on the process before its introduction.

A summary explanation of what CIL was, was given by Councillor Graham Chrystie. He explained that it was important for residents to note that there would be funding attracted into the CIL 'pot' based on the execution of certain local development projects (25% to the local community/75% to WBC). The implication for the local community was that the local community would be able to decide how their 25% of the levy would be spent, for the good of the community.

The Chairman thanked the Committee and Street Representatives for their important work.

## **9. Neighbourhood Forums**

### **i. Byfleet**

Lynn Cozens of the Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum Committee, gave an update on behalf of Godfrey Chapples who had sent his apologies for absence. Lynn reported that the Byfleet Plan was close to completion. A significant amount of work had been done by the BNF Committee on the various parts of the plan and these were now being pulled together into one master document. It was anticipated that a draft would be available to be presented in mid-2019.

### **ii. West Byfleet**

Wade Pollard updated the meeting on the work of the West Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum. This included updates on:

- The new Play Area- work was due to start in late March 2019
- Proposal by Amanda Boote that a new bench be erected in honour of Councillor Richard Wilson R.I.P.
- Possibility of Pub/Restaurant being built on the West Byfleet Recreation Ground
  - A complaint had been lodged with the Charities Commission
  - The BBC have put in a Freedom of Information Request
  - Wade Pollard had attended the Marston's PLC AGM
- Broadoaks Park - The development would include 255 homes, Care Homes and Offices- work was starting on the site.
- Sheer House – An update was expected around Easter 2019 regarding the project plan.
- SADPD
  - The Government appointed Inspector is expected to commence his review of the submissions in October/November 2019.
  - A Petition to protect Green Belt Land in Byfleet from future development that had collected 1250 signatures was delivered to MP Johnathan Lord at the House of Commons by Councillor Amanda Boote and local campaigners on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Mr Lord who also added his signature was then given

special permission by John Bercow the Speaker of the House, to present the petition at the Speakers' Door. The petition having been presented to the House has been forwarded on to the Department for Housing, Communities and Local Government for their consideration.

- Social Media
  - 'West Byfleet Families' had attracted 1755 members and helping to maintain awareness of local residents regarding key issues.
  - Wade reported that there appeared to be some inaccuracy in comments and reports on social media regarding key issues. Without overloading residents with information, WBNF would communicate key updates to residents.

### iii. Pyrford

Martin Doyle updated the meeting, on behalf of Geoff Geaves who had sent his apologies for absence, on the work of the Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum. This included updates on:

- The Save Our Fields initiative
  - The Upshot Lane fields site had been removed from WBC development plans. The Forum had run a campaign and local residents had responded strongly. Any appeal would be at the final Public Examination expected in Oct/Nov 2019.
- CIL
  - Monies have been accruing for use by local community projects. The Forum has proactively engaged to facilitate written procedures on how this money will be administered. The Forum hopes to lead on local consideration as to how the money might be spent.
- Traffic Modelling
  - The Forum has developed a relationship with SCC Planners to understand the extent and comprehensiveness of traffic modelling, done so far, to assess the impact on local roads of the developments proposed across the three villages. Models show that the current infrastructure is 'stretched' even before potential development.
    - The Chairman Stewart Dick commended the PNF Team and Ian Mills for their work in this area in the interests of the wider community represented at the meeting.
- Pyrford Heritage Conservation Assessment
  - Martin reported that, to protect the community and environment further, the PNF wanted to undertake a Heritage Conservation Assessment. This ambition was agreed at two preceding PNF AGMs. A plan has been drawn-up and agreed with the Council. Funds of £12,000 need to be raised. The fundraising campaign has started. Martin asked residents to support events planned in April and June 2019. Residents and members were referred to the PNF website for ongoing information. He thanked the RA and SCC Councillor Liz Bowes for support given in terms of finance and equipment to start the project.

## 10. Elections

Notification of the Annual General Meeting having been printed in the Spring issue of "The Resident", the following, nominated and seconded, have offered themselves for election:

### A. Association Officers

|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chairman - Stewart Dick    | Membership Secretary - Vacant |
| Vice Chairman - Gary Elson | Treasurer - Dharma Singham    |
| Secretary - Lynette Davies |                               |

### B. Remaining Committee Members

|               |                     |  |
|---------------|---------------------|--|
| Byfleet:      | VR - Eleanor Grady  | Deputy VR - Jean-Pierre Frossard       |
| West Byfleet: | VR - Keith Creswell | Deputy VR - Liz Leese & Emma Slaymaker |
| Pyrford:      | VR - Andy Grimshaw  | Deputy VR - Ernie Elliott              |

Planning Officer - Andy Grimshaw  
Magazine Editor - Isabelle David  
Rights of Way Officer - Marion Malcher

As a matter of record (not being elected):

Ex Officio Committee members:

Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum – Godfrey Chapples  
West Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum – Wade Pollard/Penny Hoskyn  
Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum – Geoff Geaves

Other Officers:

Website Officer - Anita Flavell

## 11. Any Other Business

There were no items of other business. The above formal meeting was closed.

The meeting's Guest Speaker, David Munro, Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner was introduced and warmly welcomed.

Following the presentation by David Munro (Key notes of which are available on the BWBPRA website), the committee invited members and guests to join them for light refreshments.

The meeting closed at 21h03

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