

# RAMSHILL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING- MINUTES

THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 7PM

**Present:** RRA Committee:        John Lees- Chairman  
   Lesley Gibb- Grants Adviser  
   Louise Jones- Treasurer  
   Andy Moffat- Trees Adviser  
   Maurice Snell- IT Adviser  
   Catriona Dawes- Secretary and LA Adviser

20-30 Residents

Councillor Russell Oppenheimer- Hampshire County Council

Councillor David McKinney- East Hants District Council

Councillor JC Crissey- Petersfield Town Council

Councillor Phil Shaw- Petersfield Town Council

Councillor Steve Dewey- Petersfield Town Council

Jo Murphy (JM) - Bond and Adoptions Manager- West London Office, Taylor Wimpey (TW).

### **1. WELCOME by John Lees (JL) Chair**

- Residents
- Welcome and thanks to volunteers for helping with Community Celebration on 19<sup>th</sup> October
- Councillor Russell Oppenheimer
- Councillor McKinney

- Councillor Shaw
- Councillor Steve Dewey
- Jo Murphy
- Committee

## 2. MINUTES OF 2018 AGM

Minutes agreed.

JL advised progress had been made.

## 3. RAMSHILL LEGACY ISSUES

### HCC Adoption of Ramshill:

JL referred to a resident having to take out special insurance as estate not adopted.

Cllr Oppenheimer : The estate is very close to adoption. The Deed of Dedication has been sent to TW and needs to be signed off by TW and the two Housing Associations (Radian and PHA). Only 1 pocket on Charlton Drive is not to be adopted. Would not give time frame on adoption but due pressure and urgency is being exerted and all parties are working together. Adoption should be any week.

MS: What will HCC be involved with?

Cllr Oppenheimer: Roads, pavements, street lights, trees on highway.

JM: Street lights have been taken over by HCC already after TW gave funding to HCC. SSE will be responsible for works to lights. Any light problems should be notified to HCC on:

[hsl@hants.gov.uk](mailto:hsl@hants.gov.uk)

Resident: 4 street lamps are not working and were reported on 10<sup>th</sup> October.

JM: Asked for numbers on lamps and location details to be given to her.

JL: Give RRA details as well please. What about weed spraying?

JM: Finished but rain dilutes the spray. Minor repairs carried out throughout the estate. Will have a walk round with HCC.

MS: Which part of estate not to be adopted?

JM: 2 bits belonging to 3 residents on Charlton Drive- constructed by another developer. Can't ask them to transfer back when they own the land.

MS: Can RRA ask the residents to transfer the land?

JM: Agreed that TW would maintain the land in perpetuity which is cut off by residents' land. HCC will have easement over the land for access. Apart from Charlton Drive and some minor bits, adoption should go ahead.

Cllr JC Chrissy arrived.

### **PTC: Adoption of Greenspaces and Children's Playground**

JL: PTC is contracted to cut grass and do works to trees- adoption is imminent according to PTC. Issues were ROSPA inspection and gates and fence on playground- now resolved.

Cllr Phil Shaw: One more bit of funding still to be handed over.

### **Skidders Farm Lane**

JL: SFL has been constructed – shows that got to have faith.

JM: SFL should not be open due to lights not working but TW wanted to leave it open as it is so well used. Works to street lights imminent.

JL: Also need trees cutting back.

JM: Also need to adjust bollards for vehicular access.

Resident: Sheets of asbestos left next to path.

JM: TW cannot touch it as it is private land.

Cllr Oppenheimer: Will investigate- **Action**

MS: Can PTC maintain SFL now in terms of clearing leaves?

JM: SFL not maintained as it is not officially open. Other option is to close it?

General disagreement with option of closing SFL.

LG and others: Need signs to go up on footpath warning of risks to users.

JM: Will put up signs tomorrow- **Action**

Resident: Will the PTC be happy with this risk and regular maintenance?

JL: Will be covered by PTC insurance.

Resident: No streetlights from end of SFL to playground.

JM: This is Public Open Space so suggested using other lit routes.

JL: Asked Cllr Oppenheimer to investigate.

Cllr Oppenheimer: Agreed- **Action.**

Cllr Oppenheimer and JM left as discussion on the legacy issues ended.

#### **4. Statement of Accounts**

JL: talked about grants.

LJ: Bulb grant from EHDC = £1000

Grants for Community Celebration in Oct 2019 amounted to £3700.

Total cost of Community Celebration was £ 3 930.

Main expenditure was Hometown Festivals and Hampshire Feasts.

Collected £275 towards the Mayor's Charity (Salvation Army or Rosemary Foundation).

RRA bought tree with £50 donation.

BALANCE is currently £968.35

JL: Thanks to Cllr McKinney for EHDC grants.

#### **5. Community Celebrations, October 2019**

JL talked about the celebration and article in Petersfield Post. Much better than previous article many years ago about the 'feral estate'.

JL asked the AGM about another celebration and the general feeling was 'yes'. Thanked everyone who helped or came along.

MS- Thanks to JL.

## **6. Daffodil planting Project plus Local Authority Grants:**

LG: Lovely to see daffodil planting. Need to keep momentum going. Need to focus on a project to secure grants. South Downs National Park gives grants for sustainable activities. The more events, the greater the community spirit. Ideas could include: community lunch, publicising and doing hot chocolate for the Round Table Sleigh which comes to the estate.

CD: Spoke about the Halloween display created by the residents of Small Close at Halloween. Food also provided and can donate to charity in return. Popular but could we make more of it? Great community spirit at Halloween.

Some comments from floor about older children.

CD suggested could publicise some guidelines- eg only knocking on doors with pumpkins outside and no door knocking after 7pm.

No further discussion.

## **7. Trees, Shrubs and Green Spaces**

JL: Have many trees on the estate including mature trees.

AM: Green spaces will be transferred to the PTC.

Have dual purpose bins and fencing repaired to the play area.

A Liquid Amber Tree has been planted along the entrance to the estate- not Ash because of Ash Dieback disease.

Doug Budd (PTC) is about to stop grass cutting for the winter. Will be looking at overhanging trees in the winter and coppicing the hazel.

Dickens Lane- Badger runs/hedgerows need long-term management- 5 year revolving programme.

Doug Budd is monitoring the health of trees- could be an Ash dying back near the playground.

EHDC have a tree planting project – planting a tree for every resident in East Hants. The Petersfield Society is looking for places for trees.

Cllr McKinney: There will be 120 000 trees – can help AM. Looking for land within the next 4 years and native species will be planted.

Resident: there are grassed areas instead of pavements outside some houses- what is their status?

CD and others: this is highway land.

Residents: The grass doesn't get cut so will wait for adoption and ask HCC to cut it. Bin lorries also go over the grass areas.

Cllr McKinney: Asked for details of bin lorries going over the grass.

MS: Can we replace Ash trees with Liquid Ambers?

AM: Need a diversity of trees.

JL: Thanked AM for his expertise.

## **8. Ramshill 'Web Page' and 'Facebook'**

MS: 3 things:

1. Ramshill.org.uk- website- 2 purposes: information for existing residents and new residents
2. Facebook page- used to publicise events
3. Private Facebook page- for residents only- Ramshill Residents Association Group

## **9. RRA Constitution Update: Catriona Dawes**

JL: Introduced this- TW advised that RRA need a Constitution if are to be taken seriously. Constitution was taken from a template.

CD- 3 things to look at post-adoption:

- i. Looking at the purposes of the RRA
- ii. Whether RRA needs a Membership included in the Constitution as Committee believes RRA represents all residents.
- iii. Giving flexibility as to when RRA hold an AGM.

Cllr Dewey: having the Constitution helps with applying for grants. RRA should also think about including a Child Protection Policy.

MS: Asked AGM what they thought of a Membership idea.

AGM: Little response.

## **10. Littering and 'Keep Britain: March 2020 Spring Clean Event: Chair**

JL: Explained about Beth Svarovska from The Petersfield Society who made a large display of plastic bottles on the Heath saying 'Clean Up' in a campaign to promote deposits on plastic bottles.

Suggested March 21<sup>st</sup> for a litter picking day- as part of 'Keep Britain Tidy'.

Thanked Doug Budd for installing bins.

## **11. 'Neighbourhood Watch' and 'Street Watch' Councillor Steve Dewey**

JL: Introduced this. Neighbourhood Watch didn't have enough volunteers so considering Streetwatch.

CLlr Dewey: Limited time to prepare for a meeting so can give a full presentation another time.

CLlr Dewey is Chair of a Residents group in Petersfield. Streetwatch been going for some time. Volunteers trying to engage with community- not vigilantes.

CLlr Dewey has only rung the Police 3 times in the many years he has been a volunteer. Aim is to talk to people in the community to resolve any issues that way.

Volunteers wear high visibility jackets. Can have a quiet word with the PCO (Police Community Officer?).

Neighbourhood Watch is more organised.

Costs £500 a year to insure members.

Go out into community in twos with mobile phones, ID cards, high visibility jackets. Volunteers are assessed by Police.

More is gained from walking round than Neighbourhood Watch. Volunteers can take note of repairs.

MS: How often do you volunteer?

CLlr Dewey: 2 hours a month to walk around community. Can take the dog. If you look at the Police reports, the worst areas are supermarkets, petrol stations.

Residents: lots of things reported on Petersfield Pulse.

Some residents at the AGM indicated they would be prepared to volunteer.

Councillor Chrissy left- said his contact details are on the PTC website.

## **12. New Committee Members**

AM explained that moved to estate in 2017 and was invited to a RRA Committee meeting and became Trees Adviser.

Benefits to becoming a Committee Member are that you can influence what happens on the estate and everyone gets on well.

Asked residents to think about becoming a Committee Member and email John Lees.

**13. Retirement and Appointment of New RRA Committee 2019/2020: (Section 5 Paragraph 5.1 of the Constitution):**

- Trees Adviser: Andy Moffat- proposed by MS, seconded by Steven Devonish
- Grants Adviser: Lesley Gibb- proposed by CD, seconded by JL
- IT Specialist: Maurice Snell- proposed by LJ, seconded by AM
- LA Adviser: Catriona Dawes- proposed by JL, seconded by LG
- Secretary: Catriona Dawes- proposed by JL, seconded by LG
- Treasurer: Louise Jones- proposed by JL, seconded by CD
- Chair: John Lees -Proposed by MS, seconded by AM.

**14. Ramshill Estate: Your Home and Building on our Community Spirit: 'Halloween' and Small Close plus Open Forum-**

See 5.

**15. AOB**

Resident at 10 Barentin Way: Explained works that having done and why crane needed recently- it will be back shortly.

Resident (Steve Swindon): Decent local shop needed in the locality. Spar at Esso has no fruit and vegetables or soya milk etc. Discussion took place. A Residents Survey was suggested to try and influence Spar. Social benefits of having a local shop were also discussed. **Action:** AM and Steve Swindon.

Meeting finished at 9pm.

Catriona Dawes

Secretary

08/12/19