

# THE BOOKHAMS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Company Limited by Guarantee - Number 10053863

**Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019 at 7.30 pm in**

**St Nicolas Church, The Church Room**

**Present:** Peter Seaward(chair), Michael Agius, David Smith, Margaret Lawson, Les Huett, Arthur Field, Nick Forrer, John Howarth, Andrew Freeman, Michelle Smith, Keith Francis,

**Invited Councillors:** Cllr. Clare Curran, Cllr. Richard Moyses, Cllr. Metin Huseyin, Cllr. Nancy Goodacre, Cllr. Elizabeth Daly,

**Guests:** Bob Bartlett and Bob Thomas (Brockham Emergency Voluntary Service),

**Apologies:** Cllr Simon Edge, Phil Harris, Michael Anderson, Liz Pemberton, Tony Alsbury, Ray Pritchard, Frances Fancourt, Marian Williams, Geoff Tranter, David Cox, Richard Davey, Chris Pullan, John Allen, Julia Dickinson, Cllr. Roger Adams, Carolyn Elson,

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**Brockham Emergency Voluntary Service (BERT):** Peter Seaward welcomed, at about 8.00pm, Bob Bartlett and Bob Thomas from BERT who addressed the committee about the work they are doing in Brockham.

BERT has been in operation for a number of years, and is now a charity having started off life as a sub-group of the Parish Council. The group comprises about 50 volunteers, of which half are very active. Ages range from 13 to 17 in "Young BERT" and all ages above this in "Senior BERT".

They are involved in a number of activities – restoring ponds and gullies, help with insurance claims (a large number of homes are at risk of flooding), monitoring water levels and enacting a Early Warning System as required, fundraising, etc.

A useful discussion ensued and it was agreed that the BRA had learnt a lot from the presentation and could initiate several of the ideas. Peter Seaward thanked both Bobs' for their time and said a number of lessons could be learnt from BERT and the ideas floated will inform future local debates.

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## **1 Minutes**

1.1 Subject to several minor typos, the Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record.

## **2 Matters Arising**

2.1 There were no matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda.

### 3 Correspondence

- 3.1 **Weeds:** One resident had complained about the state of the roads and paths, with a significant level of encroaching weeds, etc. There was general consensus that this was the case. The resident in question had removed a number of weeds from within the vicinity of the former Lloyds Bank. It was agreed that the next litter pick would target weed growth as a one-off but it was MVCD's responsibility. **Action: Peter Seaward would contact Jack Straw and Elizabeth Daly would speak to the portfolio holder re. the encroaching weed situation.**

### 4 Group Updates

#### 4.1 Management Group:

- 4.1.1 **AGM:** It was reported that the meeting, previously billed as the AGM, had gone well (the formal AGM couldn't proceed due to the calling notice going out too late). The calling notice for the re-scheduled AGM has been published in Look Local and is planned for 10<sup>th</sup> July when the formalities will be completed. Cllr. Margaret Cooksey has been booked to speak regarding the Local Plan which is being reviewed by the new administration.

#### 4.2 Planning Group

- 4.2.1 **Planning Committee:** The Planning Committee met on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May and considered 13 planning applications. The committee decided not to submit any letters of representation on this occasion, however, there was a discussion re. 31 Crabtree Lane which is perceived to be over-development and inadequate parking. This is at an outline stage at the moment but a detail planning application can be expected in due course,

#### 4.3 Environment Group

- 4.3.1 **Flood Forum:** There was no update provided at the Flood Forum regarding the issues at the square-about and the design plan. **Action: Clare Curran to find out status of the design plan for the square-about.**
- 4.3.2 **Rectory Lane/Lower Road:** It was noted that a public consultation would commence shortly, and the BRA would be consulted. It was further noted that Rectory lane is narrow and, on a bend, therefore this would not be an ideal site for a crossing. To await the consultation document.
- 4.3.3 **Litter Picks.** Margaret Lawson reported that 6 cubs had attended the last litter pick and some photos had been published on the I Live in Bookham Facebook page.
- 4.3.4 **The Crown Public House: Action: Margaret Lawson to look into how much work would be needed to progress an application to make the Crown Public House an Asset of Community Value and report back at the next meeting.**

#### 4.4 Community Group

- 4.4.1 **Keyholder Scheme: Action: Nick Forrer is updating the list of keyholders for the Key Holder Scheme and forward to MVDC once complete.**
- 4.4.2 **Bookstall:** Michael Agius is preparing a rota but more volunteers are needed. Action: Les Huett to email members to ask for some help to man the bookstall on Village Day.

- 4.5 **Communications and Membership Group, Business Group, History and Memorials Group**
- 4.5.1 **Online Payments:** Online payments commenced last month and the uptake has been reasonably good with most paying the higher amount of £5. The other advantage is that the BRA get their email addresses, thus widening the distribution of key communications to members.
- 4.5.2 **Website:** Les reported that he had updated the BRA's Facebook page and that the number of website hits continues to increase.
- 4.5.3 **Road Stewards:** Carolyn Elson reported that road stewards appear to be returning funds collected earlier this year and she had recruited a further 6 road stewards.
- 4.6 **Business Group** – Nil to report.

## 5 Projects Update

- 5.1 **Memorials:** Peter Seaward reported that it is likely that a plaque would be added in the vicinity of the Little Bookham Church for 4 newly identifies names. Peter continues to discuss progress with the church authorities.
- 5.2 **Benches:** Peter Seaward is keen to look at all the benches within Bookham with a view to assessing the state of them, whether they could be improved, replaced or even relocated depending on their usage. **Action: It was agreed that all members should identify where benches are located and their condition.**

## 6 Any Other Business

- 6.1 **High Street:** It was noted that the hanging baskets have been erected. Peter Seaward welcomed this but asked whether a longer term plan could be envisaged to make the High Street, and Church Road, even more attractive. This could help footfall but other issues also need to be addressed, e.g. the vacant, former Lloyds Bank site.
- 6.2 **GP Surgeries:** It was noted that Bookham's and Fetcham's surgeries are at, or nearing, maximum capacity. With increasing number of properties this situation will only get worse but, unfortunately, non of the statutory organisations appear to be concerned or willing to address the issue!
- 6.3 **Public Liability Insurance:** It had been noted previously that the BRA needed to seek out a cheaper insurance. **Action: Chris Pullan to send Metin Huseyin a copy of the existing Public Liability Insurance policy, and Meting will look for alternatives.**
- 7 **Next BRA Meeting:** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 7:30 pm.

### Action Summary

Action	Owner	Reference
<b>Health &amp; Safety Policy:</b> A risk assessment had been undertaken for the litter-pick. <b>COMPLETED: ACTION CLOSED</b>	Les Huett / Margaret Lawson	01/04/19: 1

<b>BERT:</b> Richard Moyse to invite a representative of the Brockham Emergency Voluntary Service (BERT) to attend a future meeting to speak about the work they are doing in Brockham. <b>COMPLETED: ACTION CLOSED</b>	Richard Moyse	01/04/19: 2
<b>Litter-Pick:</b> Les Huett/Margaret Lawson to agree the best mechanism for thanking litter-pick volunteers. <b>COMPLETED: ACTION CLOSED</b>	Les Huett / Margaret Lawson	01/04/19: 1
<b>Car Sharing Scheme:</b> Elizabeth Daly to raise this possibility of Bookham having a car sharing scheme with the Policy planning Group.	Committee	13/06/19: 2
<b>Keyholder Scheme:</b> Nick Forrer is updating the list of keyholders for the Key Holder Scheme and will forward to MVDC once complete.	Nick Forrer	13/06/19: 3
<b>Website:</b> Richard Davey to work with Les Hewitt on reviewing the website. Les has made some improvements but scope to improve further.	Richard Davey / Les Hewitt	13/06/19: 4
<b>Weeds:</b> Peter Seaward would contact Jack Straw and Elizabeth Daly would speak to the portfolio holder re. the encroaching weed situation.	Peter Seaward	13/06/19: 1
<b>Square-about:</b> Clare Curran to find out status of the design plan for the square-about.	Clare Curran	13/06/19: 2
<b>Asset of Community Value:</b> Margaret Lawson to look into how much work would be needed to progress an application to make the Crown Public House an Asset of Community Value and report back at the next meeting.	Margaret Lawson	13/06/19: 3
<b>Bookstall:</b> Les Huett to email members to ask for some help to man the bookstall on Village Day.	Les Huett	13/06/19: 4
<b>Benches:</b> It was agreed that all members should identify where benches are located and their condition.	All	13/06/19: 5
<b>Public Liability Insurance:</b> Chris Pullan to send Metin Huseyin a copy of the existing Public Liability Insurance policy, and Meting will look for alternatives.	Chris Pullan	13/06/19: 6