



Committee Meeting held on:	5 th February 2024
At:	Church Room, St Nicolas Church
Committee members present:	Simon Edge (Chair), Geoff Tranter, Gill Caldwell, David Cox, Margaret Lawson, Julia Dickinson, Dianne Poole, Christine Milstead, Francis Fancourt, Neil McDowall, David Armstrong.
Guests / Members present:	John Dowman, Richard Rees
Councillors present:	C Cllr Clare Curran, Cllr Elizabeth Daly, Cllr Paul Kennedy, Cllr Andrew Matthews
Apologies received from:	Carolyn Elson, Les Huett, Nick Forrer, Cllr Roger Adams, Cllr Monica Weller, Cllr Christine Miller, Richard Moyses.

Corrections from previous meeting:

Item	Correction
List of Future Meetings	August BRA Meeting on 5 th not 4 th August 2024

Actions from previous meeting(s):

Reference (date / number)	Owner	Latest update
		The Chairman expressed concern that Peter Seaward was unwell and hoped that he would recover very soon.

Agenda

Item	Minute
1 Minutes	The minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2024 were approved.
2 Chairmans Update	2.1 Keys: Nick Forrer had passed the keys to the Church Room to the Chairman. Simon thanked Nick for his many years of service to the BRA, and wished him well for the future.

Item	Minute
	<p>2.2 Public Toilets: MV Officers have advised that the Toilet Block in Lower Shotts is to be refurbished. Simon had taken the opportunity to apply for CIL money to fund other improvements: cleaning/reinstating paving in the area, light and power to the village sign, and a drinking water station. Simon is exploring having a mural painted on the bus shelter wall with local school pupils doing the artwork. This will all be additional to the new planting in the area to make Lower Shotts more presentable.</p> <p>2.3 Bookham Master Plan: The Chair invited Cllr Matthews to provide an update.</p>
<p>3 Councillors Update</p>	<p>3.1 Bookham Master Plan Cllr Andrew Matthews stated that a Master Plan for Bookham was in the very early stages of preparation. It was known, however, that the scope would be limited as the factors determining the size of the grant to be offered were modest compared with other borough.</p> <p>The Chairman reiterated his concern that this project should be undertaken <u>with</u> the local community not to the local community. He asked Cllrs to ensure that the BRA is fully involved in the formulation of the plan as it progresses.</p> <p>C Cllr Clare Curran warned that the Plan should not embrace any traffic or road improvements as this was the sole responsibility of the SCC. However, bearing in mind the considerable flow of traffic through Bookham to/from Polesden Lacey, Cllr Curren advised that the National Trust had suggested introducing a circular route for traffic whereby arrivals would be as present up the Dorking Road, but exiting via Chalk Pit Lane.</p> <p>3.2 Bookham Station: Cllr Matthews had visited the Station With the Chairman to meet a senior officer of LSWR and noted that refurbished toilets were now completed. A Radar key has yet to be fitted to the external door of the toilets to enable disabled access when the station is not manned. New tarmac has been requested in front of the ticket machine to stop ponding when wet. A new defibrillator has been installed.</p> <p>3.4 Local Plan: Next steps in protecting the Green Belt in the Preston Cross Area were being considered. It was noted that there would be a pre purdah period prior to the Elections in May.</p> <p>3.5 Road Markings: C Cllr Curran noted that new white lines had been painted in Lower Road and new yellow lines in the High Street which was much appreciated.</p> <p>3.6 Road Closures: C Cllr Curran stated that the Lower Road opposite the former Mazda Garage would be closed for 4 days for the installation of utilities to the new houses. Also a section o the A246 would be one way working due to the repair of gas leaks.</p> <p>3.7 Council Tax Increases: MVDC Council Tax was planned to rise by 2.99%. SCC was planning a similar rise plus a further increase to cover Social Care. The cost of Policing was also expected to rise by 4%.</p> <p>3.8 Youth Centre: A meeting with SCC and MVDC on the proposed Youth Centre is being held on 23 February</p>

Item	Minute
	<p>3.9 SCC Reviews: The SCC were shortly advising new planting grants and reviewing road safety throughout the County.</p>
4 Environment	<p>4.1 Litter Picking: Margaret Lawson advised that the last pick had filled 21 bags and 23 helpers had attended. MV were being asked for more equipment and a grant of £90 was expected. The Chairman noted that Cllr Adams had undertaken to seek an increase in the grant and asked the MVDC Cllrs present to follow that up in Cllr Adams absence due to convalescence.</p>
5 Projects	<p>5.1 Benches: Geoff Tranter stated that a number of benches were in need of repair and the total cost could be just under £1,000 for which funds were available. 5.2 Notice Boards: Geoff Tranter also stated that the door of the Notice Board by the Lower Road Car Park had been damaged and the cost to refurbish the entire board was likely to be about £3500. A new Notice Board at Lower Shotts was being considered. 5.3 Speed Cameras: The cost of a new speed camera would be about £2k although C Cllr Clare Curran advised that new solar powered cameras were likely to be less expensive.</p>
6 Campaigning	<p>6.1 Bump Track: One quote has been received. Richard Moyse is chasing two others. 6.2 Bookham School: David Cox stated that the South Farnham Educational Trust, who controlled the Bookham Primary School had advised that they proposed to increase their Pupil Admission Number. This it was considered could have a seriously adverse effect on the other schools in the area, such as the Polesden Lacy School, and others controlled by the Howard Partnership Trust. Representations had been made and we now await the outcome of the South Farnham Trusts consideration of those representations.</p>
7 AOB	<p>7.1 Finance: The Treasurer advised that an end of year financial statement was being prepared for review by the independent examiner. 7.2 Village Day Quiz: Francis Fancourt noted that following custom, BRA, as winners of the Village Day Quiz last year, were responsible for organising the quiz for this year's Village Day. It was agreed that 3 volunteers should organise the event, the BRA Chairman being the Quiz Master. Francis to coordinate. 7.3 Meeting Dates: The Chairman noted that the dates of future meetings will be copied as part of all future agendas, and notes of meetings, so that they can be diarised well in advance by those wishing to attend.</p>

Actions

Reference (date / number)	Owner	Action

2024 Committee Meetings

Date	Location
5 th February	Church Room, St Nicolas Church. 7.30 pm
8 th April	Church Room, St Nicolas Church. 7.30 pm
13 th May	Church Room, St Nicolas Church. 7.30 pm
1 st July	Church Room, St Nicolas Church. 7.30 pm
18 th July	AGM – Old Barn Hall 7.30 pm
4 th August	Church Room, St Nicolas Church. 7.30 pm
7 th October	Church Room, St Nicolas Church. 7.30 pm
4 th November	Church Room, St Nicolas Church. 7.30 pm