

**NORTH WEST FARNHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

**COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**Present:**

Richard Gunner (RG)  
Emma Heath (EH) (part)  
Dave King (DK)  
Vivienne Miller (VM)  
Sue Ostrom (SO)  
Anne Pullinger (AP)  
Tony Rooth (TR)  
Julie Russ (JR)

**Apologies:** None

**Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising:**

The minutes were approved with the following correction. Footpath News – the last sentence on the second page should read: “AP said it was likely to take 2 years for SCC to consider the issue of the alleged footpath. Opening it could take longer.”

AP said she could not read the technical drawings and sent a copy to DK, but he could not read them either.

DK said the talk at our Autumn Meeting went very well, Sue Adcock is a good speaker, engaging the audience, and had great photos and videos.

**Community Speedwatch (EH)**

There is now a Community Speedwatch Group for Crondall Lane. A minimum of 6 volunteers is required. The Group had 7 but this has now reduced to 6, of which 5 have carried out the training. A speed gun and high vis jackets have been obtained. There has been one training session and most matters were covered. The trainer fined one person on the spot as they were driving at 29 mph in the 20 mph zone. The fine was £150 with points on the licence. Volunteers cannot fine people but have to log the speed of the vehicle, etc, and send the details to SCC for evaluation. The exact colour of the vehicle has to be logged, referring to a list of colours. The details have to be recorded on a form on site and then recorded on-line. When many cars come at once it can be difficult to record and a minimum of 3 or 4 people is needed. The speed recording device is old and it is possible to buy a more up to date one from Amazon. The device works but is cumbersome. An official session has not yet been carried out. Before doing so the Group has to log onto the system so the police know a speedwatch is taking place. If they are breaking the speed limit drivers will receive a letter from the police as a warning and repeat offenders will receive a visit from them. Up to 24 mph is permitted in the 20 mph zone. Vehicles will be monitored going down the road from Beavers Road towards West Street and going up the road from 45a Crondall Lane. The sessions will not take place at a set time and recording is only permitted within the 20 mph zone. DK confirmed that SCC had recorded many people driving at 29 mph in the 20 mph zone. It is harder to record in the winter as sessions need to take place during daylight hours. EH hopes to get a session in the diary for January.

**Beavers Road School Street proposal:** AP asked EH whether the proposed restrictions on the school street had progressed. Comments on the proposal have been received and so far it is about 50/50 for and against. Most residents in Crondall Lane are worried about extra traffic in the Lane. Many people taking children to Potters Gate School said they would need slightly longer parking permits for Waitrose car park. The restrictions would apply only in term time. EH said a lot of parents would like the restrictions to start from 8 am rather than 7.45 am as they have to get their children to breakfast club. Getting such views may help to improve the scheme. EH said that it sounds as if it will happen. DK will send information about the proposal to

**DK**

members of NWFRA. The proposed closure times for Beavers Road are 7.45 – 9.00 am and 3.00 – 4.00 pm, from Crondall Lane to Potters Gate in school term time only.

### **Treasurer's report: (RG)**

There is £184 in the current account and £3,930 in the deposit account. Lloyds are charging a monthly fee of £4 and it is now a business account. One could be charged for payments in and out but we fall well below the limit for that.

The chairman of the South Farnham Residents Association told DK about NORA (National Association of Residents Associations) and said it would be a good idea to join. RK has paid the membership fee of £25, for the first year, and after that the fee will be £10 per annum.

RK will look at our running costs to see if our income equals our expenditure. Members have paid £26 by standing order and he hopes to receive more. DK said he sent a reminder for the annual sub and encouraged payment by standing order as it is easy to forget. JR said she would need bank details so she can set up a standing order. DK asked about the balance of the savings account which has gone down. RK said this is mainly due to the mailshot and money is spent on printing and drinks and nibbles for meetings.

RK

### **Planning, Fields and Other Matters: (TR)**

**Coxbridge:** TR said there is not much to add to the last minutes. Cala Homes sent a letter to the planning portal on 13<sup>th</sup> November. There are no big changes. The houses backing onto Hazell Road have been reallocated. There is a larger and longer eastern boundary, the affordable housing is mixed tenure and is made up of different housing types. The Committee asked TR to ask Waverley to make the plans more easily readable and also to make sure that the gates at either end of the buffer on the eastern boundary have a gap or a hole at the bottom so that wildlife can travel along it, assuming that it is meant to be a wildlife corridor.

TR

**Old Park Lane development and Abbey View:** The appeal documents and the documents on which they are based are dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October. There is a letter and a statement of common ground. The developer claims that the list of undisputed items is long and the disputed list is short. The summary of the applicant's case is that the local plan is out of date. The plan requires a housing target and there isn't one. They mention benefits, such as, the development is close to the town, the offer of a free bike, affordable housing and that the beauty of the countryside will remain so there will be a limited adverse effect on the residents of Abbey View. It was suggested that TR should inform residents that the documents are on the website and should be viewed. TR will send a note to DK so that he can inform residents which appeal documents should be looked at.

TR, DK

**Newsagents in West Street:** The application for change of use from a shop to residential was approved. The front of the shop is being replaced and the door is moving to the side. The front is Grade 2 listed but the window is going to be changed to be more in keeping with a Grade 2 listed building. The managers of the shop do not live there.

**Woolmead:** The site used to be owned by St Edward, a joint venture between them and M & G. It was then bought by Homes England and is now on the market again. It may be developed as accommodation for UCA students, or mixed with retail on the ground floor, though there may not be sufficient demand for retail. TR said someone may buy it as it is or reapply for new permission.

**Centrum Site (next to Lidl's):** The site has planning permission for 150 homes but there are questions to be answered about the scale and design, especially the height of the buildings in relation to the landscape.

**Solar Canopy: (DK):** There is a proposal to put a solar canopy over the Hart Car Park and DK asked TR to have a look at it. There is a link to it on the Waverley website.

TR

**Website: (DK)**

DK is trying to make the front page more engaging. He asked Tom about the statistics who said he could not explain the sudden surge in hits. An up-date from Google said there has been a lot of 404's. A 404 means a page not found. This has been happening on our site and Square Zone has fixed the problem. DK will check next month and see if there are any 404's. DK tries to inform people about the content of the website and direct them to it.

**DK**

**Footpath news: (AP)**

At the last meeting PM asked about the footpath from South Street to Brightwells which was closed. AP said it is now open.

AP has complained about the farmer who left his electric fencing across the footpath entrance when animals were no longer in the field (the footpath goes diagonally across the field to meet up with the footpath to Three Stiles Road). The fencing has now been removed. AP did not ask for it to be removed, but it has been. It is acceptable to have the fencing in place when sheep are present in the field but not when they are no longer there.

There has been no feedback on the footpath behind the UCA. DK said this footpath is mentioned in the appeal documents for the Old Park Lane development (23<sup>rd</sup> October appeal letter from Cala Homes and a statement of common ground). AP said she would look at them.

**AP**

AP asked if there are still problems with drainage at Abbey View and SO said there are but that Trevor Free is working on it.

**Any Other Business:** There was none.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30 pm