

NORTH WEST FARNHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 25th September 2024

Present:

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

Apologies: None

DK welcomed new members Emma Heath and Tony Rooth to the meeting.

Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising:

The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report: (RG)

There is £184 in the current account and £3,920 in the deposit account. The interest per month is now 4 or 5 % per month. The money RG had received in cash has been paid in. Resulting from the AGM and publicity about paying by standing order we have received ten £5 subscriptions. For the benefit of EH and TR, RG explained that we had £5,000 in the deposit account and decided to spend some on publicity to try and get more members.

Community Speedwatch (EH)

This item was dealt with next as EH had to leave the meeting early. Surrey County Council (SCC) had a speed check in Crondall Lane in the 20 mph zone and said it was fine as the average speed was 29 mph. EH challenged this as she pointed out that the limit in the 20 mph zone is 20 mph (SCC thought it was a 30 mph zone). SCC have now admitted their mistake and replaced the static 20 mph sign with a vehicle activated sign. RG said that the £3,900 in the current account would have been used up if the Association had paid for the VAS, so it was good that SCC paid for it. EH said that, although the 20 mph zone has been implemented, people are not driving any slower. The next step is to set up a Community Speed Watch Group. Six volunteers are needed to set up the scheme and they are in the process of doing so. A decision has to be made about the locations of the speed watch. There will probably be one at the junction of Larkfield Road and Crondall Lane, one in the 20 mph zone, more or less opposite DK's house and one at Hill View Road. EH hopes there will be a rota so that speed watch can take place regularly. At present the monitoring only applies to traffic travelling up the hill and EH is going to query this as she wants to monitor traffic going in both directions. The risk assessor at the Police decides on the location of the speed watch sites.

Planning, Fields and Other Matters: (TR)

Coxbridge: Coxbridge is going to the Waverley Planning Committee on 11th October. There is nothing new in terms of the documents. The Reserved Matters, in terms of layout and design, will be discussed. Permission has been given for 360 homes with 30% affordable and TR hopes some will be available for rent. Affordable covers various tenures. TR was one of a number of Farnham Society members who went to see Cala Homes. TR asked Cala about the second access but County Highways said it was not a good place to site one. There are 3 tables on the access roads to curtail speeding. The layout on the Hazell Road side of the site has changed as

the houses were backing on to the Hazell Road properties and now they are side on. It was asked who owns the roads on the development and TR replied that he did not know but would find out. VM said there have been problems with the roads on the Abbey View estate. DK thought that ownership would revert to the residents after 2 years and they would then be responsible for maintenance. TR said the design and layout is that of a typical estate and there are all sorts of sizes and mixes. There are no bungalows but houses have a mix of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 bedrooms. There are a fair number of 4 bedroom houses, otherwise they are 3, 2 and 1. There are few 5 bedroom houses. Comments should be submitted on-line before the 11th October. There are issues about drainage and SUDS, but they have all been approved by SCC as far as flooding issues are concerned. There is an issue with the Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANG). JR pointed out that the SANG is further away than the Thames Basin Heath Special Protection Area (SPA) and that to get to it people would have to drive past the SPA. This does not make sense as who is going to drive further to go to the SANG? TR advised JR to send her comments about it to Graham White.

TR

JR

Old Park Lane development and Abbey View: TR wondered if the refusal was only because of access or on other issues as the minutes are much wider than just access. Paragraph one, for example, is about other issues but paragraph 2 is about access. TR felt that the refusal should be on access only and has sent a question to Graham White concerning this. He has asked Clare Upton-Brown, Planning Officer, if the refusal was on access only in planning terms, and if the minutes of the meeting actually reflect what happened. Graham White dealt only with the access issue at the meeting and to TR this is what the application was all about. TR said there is a barrister living on the Abbey View estate and he has asked him to look at the refusal and decide if the decision was made on access only. If it was on access only Taylor Wimpey may appeal as Highways withdrew their objection. The residents of Keepsake Close and Cascade Way would probably be more interested in the access issue. TR pointed out that there is another access next to UCA and if they were offered some money for access they might accept. Some Abbey View residents would not like this at all as they would lose views over the fields. TR said the Old Park Lane site is not an allocated site in the Neighbourhood Plan or the Waverley Local Plan, but these are under review and would cease when the new NPPF comes into force. The new Government favours building many more houses. EH said that the area where Potters Gate and Beavers Road meet will become a School Street next year.

The Chairman of Abbey View Residents Association (AVRA), Trevor Free, sent a 60 page report to the planning committee but when David Beaman submitted it they refused to accept it as evidence. Trevor Free told David Beaman not to worry as he has sent it to someone in higher authority.

Website: (DK)

DK looked at the statistics for August recently and the results are as follows:
5th August, 112 hits, 8th August, 68 hits, 20th August 120 hits, 21st August 55 hits, but nothing much in September.

Footpath news: (AP)

JR had mentioned that the footpath from Larkfield Road to Three Stiles Road had not been cut. AP walked up the footpath on 21st June and it had been cut.

AP referred to a letter from John Willacy concerning the work on the footpath which runs from Old Park Lane to the UCA student village. He thought the work had been carried out but AP will check.

AP

Tim Devis, one of the Farnham Ramblers footpath secretaries, contacted AP as someone has asked if the footpath at the back of the UCA could be re-opened as it is very overgrown at present. It links footpath 7 with footpath 92. The footpath is not on the definitive map and the matter would have to go through SCC. The Ramblers want it opened up as a definitive footpath. DK said it was likely to take 2 years for SCC to carry out substantial work on the footpath.

AP has problems understanding technical drawings on-line and so does not have an answer as to where the footpath goes opposite Coxbridge. DK said he would look at it and asked AP to send the drawings to himself and RG.

AP

Communication with members and deliverers: (DK)

DK said that deliverers seem to be a thing of the past as people do not want to do it. DK wondered if people pay more attention to notices that come through the door than to e-mails. It was suggested that notices would be a good way of getting messages across.

Autumn Meeting:

JR will produce a poster for the Autumn Meeting which DK can reproduce and laminate. She will also send an e-mail about it to those members we have e-mail addresses for. RG will get the wine and glasses from Majestic, AP will buy the nibbles and fruit juice. DK will bring some bowls and an extension lead. JR will purchase some chocolates for the speaker, Sue Adcock.

**JR
RG
AP, DK
JR**

Any Other Business: There was none.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11th December at 2.30 pm