

Warren Wood Residents Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 17^h May 2017 – Quakers Meeting House

Present

Committee Pete Edwards (Chairman) : Duncan Coupland (Treasurer) : Abbie Russell
Celia Darrington : Sally Hall : Sharon King : Michael Chilvers, John Fowler : Graham Keens

24 Residents

Apologies from Ray and Lyn Cook, Trevor Flower, Elaine Carr, Liz Keens, Jean Bunsell, Linda Fowler

Pete welcomed all to 40th AGM with a Quaker Code of advice and special welcome to Julia Wassell (County Councillor) for an update and Q&A on local issues.

Minutes of last AGM held on 18 May 2016

These were circulated and accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Lyn Whiting and Seconded by Norman Ball

Matters Arising from the Last Meeting

There was one matter outstanding from the last meeting – concerning Public Liability and the final wording on flyers sent out – form of wording still to be agreed and matter carried forward.

Chairman's Report

Pete presented his report giving a comprehensive review of the years' activities by the Association which also included a residents Satisfaction Survey report produced by Sharon. The report was circulated at the meeting. There were no comments arising. Julia Wassell was thanked for her ongoing support of the Residents Association.

Treasurers Report

Duncan presented his report and accounts audited by Graham. Duncan reported that the balance remains healthy and the only big expenditure was the purchase of a new BBQ. The membership fee for 2017/18 to be £10 per household. The accounts and report were approved by the meeting. Proposed by Norman Ball and Seconded by Inder Brar.

Duncan is current compiling and up-to-date list of members and contact details.

Election of Officers and the Committee

There were no retirements from the Committee and one new nomination (Inder Brar) for election had been received prior to the meeting so the committee and all the existing officers and committee were prepared to stand for re-election, together with new member Inder, leaving the secretary's role vacant. The meeting agreed to this re-election and additional member and gave the Committee their vote of confidence. Proposed by Ian Hall and Seconded by Michael Wiltshire

Neighbourhood Watch Report

The report was circulated by Ray Cook and presented by Ian Hall. In summary, it was a good year with few problems with one break-in and two reported incidents of "doorstep" selling.

During the year Ray has sent a number of safety/security reminders to all residents. Ian was thanked for presenting the report and fielding the discussion.

Q&A

Rye: Julia advised that the Council will not go ahead with the Boat House Café development improvement and the plans have been shelved.

Village Green: there will be no cost to maintain the Green.

Car parking on the estate: this is an on-going issue, however, as this is a public road there is nothing that can be done.

There were no further questions.

Update on Local Issues by Julia Wassell

Pete welcomed Julia Wassell congratulating her on winning the County Council elections and moved a vote of thanks for her supporting WWRA interests.

Julia thanked the Committee and announced that through the County Council Community Funding she will be donating £500 to the WWRA for the jubilee celebrations.

Julia reported that local issues and in particular traffic and parking is to be reviewed with Wycombe District Council, Bucks County Council and all Residents Associations in the Ward.

Closing the AGM

Pete thanked all attendees, Julia Wassell and the Committee before closing the AGM and opening the refreshments and introducing our Guest Speaker - himself

Guest Speaker – Pete Edwards – History of the Red Kite Reintroduction Project in the Chiltern – this was an interesting and informative.

Chairman's Report for the 2017

2016-2017 was another busy year for WWRA and 2017 our Ruby Jubilee. To celebrate this 40 years land-mark we are planning a Medieval themed Summer BBQ and would like all Residents to invite those who have since left, if their whereabouts are still known, to come and join us to share memories and pictures from the past.

We are very happy to welcome new residents to WW with the traditional welcome pack produced and updated by John. We were pleased to welcome Stuart and Amanda Jones (Castle Keep) and two other families during the past year and of course wish those families leaving, well.

There were several initiatives taken during the year by the Committee.

A member's 'Satisfactions Survey' produced by Sharon using 'Survey Monkey' explored member's ideas for old and new activities and measure the Committee's performance. The output of which was circulated earlier in the year and will remain a valuable source of

information for the Committee. One such focus will be to facilitate more children's activities by supporting parent driven initiatives.

We all recognise the importance of our 'Green' as a focal point for play and association events. Therefore, the Committee led by John are applying to register it for 'Village Green' status. This gives protection against any possibility of future development, however remote this might be now. Deadline for this is October 2017.

The Committee have made great efforts to improve traffic and pedestrian safety on and approaching WW. Our best example, with support from Julia Wassell, being the parking restriction to avoid a blind spot on the approach to WW. Parked cars also add to the dangers through poor visibility and we encourage all residents and non-residents to pay heed to this. We are still concerned that some residents and visitors drive too fast (20 is plenty), some children play on the roads on bicycles etc. and need better guidance by their parents. Warning messages have been sent out by Ray as part of our Neighbourhood Watch activity. We are considering a 'Road Safety Awareness' talk by a community policeman and signs saying '20 is plenty sign'.

The Committee, led by Sharon, has been taking a keen interest in planning decisions around WW as usual. The Daw's Hill development to build over 400 houses is proceeding and the committee is monitoring activities that might have further influence on residents. The cycle track through the woods onto the Rye has been moved into the 2015/16 business plan and the precise route remains uncertain. The Committee were active in discussing the Abbey School security fence which resulted in the WDC planting further Lime trees as screening.

It is important that all members keep us up-to-date with contact details i.e. emails etc. for Duncan's Contact list and Ray's NW alerts. We all know the benefits of Email and Social Networking to facilitate communication on events and more serious issues through Neighbourhood Watch. This also means less paper leaflets and convenience so we would like to encourage all members of the association with Email addresses to include them with their membership. Please also consider registering/login onto the WWRA Facebook page where we publish information for residents and pictures from events.

The woodland surrounding WW is managed by the Chilton Rangers and Sharon has been involved keeping the Committee informed of their activities. As a consequence several residents have been involved in volunteering and we hope more will get involved. Litter also represents a growing problem and the Committee are aware of the need for initiatives here.

Committee members Duncan and Graham are represented on the Rye Mead Forum led by Trevor Snaith. The objective is to give Rye Mead parish status to better protect the local environment and interests. Progress has been slow. The Committee supported the Crown House footpath proposal.

WWRA continues its membership of the Wycombe Society, recognising the importance of such an organisation as a source of information and as an effective pressure group.

The chairman and secretary of Keep Hill Residents Association have retired (leaving the area) and the treasurer Jonathan Busby is acting as temporary chairman until a new officer can be elected.

Social Events

June 2017 was a time to celebrate William Shakespeare's 400th anniversary of his birth. Sally organised a trip to the Chiltern Shakespeare Company to watch 'Comedy of Errors'. This was followed by another Progressive Supper with a theme commemorating the Bard. Eleven couples participated, Jenny Ball won the Shakespeare Quiz and Su Brar the best Shakespearian character.

In July, we held our annual Summer BBQ in fine weather. 60 residents joined the usual games and festivities with live music from Bakers Brew. Sadly, Bakers Brew are breaking up with two of its band leaving to retire elsewhere, so we need to find replacements.

With July came Bled fest, a beer and music festival organised by Graham and other members of Bledlow Cricket club (plenty of potential band replacements here!). Unfortunately the weather was very poor that weekend and we look forward to better weather in 2017.

John organised a 2nd Progressive Supper in October (no theme this time) attended by 11 couples. This was closely followed by 26 residents attending Wycombe Town Hall's 'Comedy Club' organised by Sharon.

Looks like we slipped up in November! But December arrived with the usual festivities with 30 Residents Carol Singing for the charity, Shelter. John and Sian kindly invited carol singers to their home again for mulled wine and mince pies. There was no children's Christmas Party. More support from parents with young children is required. New Year's Eve celebrations were well attended by as usual, about 40 (or 20 bottles of champagne!). Thanks again to Michael for a marvellous firework display.

The New Year started with an Adult pantomime in January. February and March were uneventful (apologies).

The Spring got underway in April with a great skittles evening at the 'Greyhound' at Dorney, organised by Sally. Eighteen residents formed four competing teams. Team B captained by Celia were victorious. Alan Williams won the 'killer' knockout and donated all his winnings to charity.

The Summer calendar for 2017 has been circulated and we hope to have more regular Friday evening BBQ's in 2017 with a 'new BBQ'.

Peter Edwards (Chairman)