

Minutes of the BPRRAL 47th AGM meeting, held at the Bear Hotel,
26/09/2022.

The Chairman of the Managing Council, Graham Hopkins, welcomed 19 residents to the 2022 AGM. The makeup of the council was explained by Graham and the various council members were introduced. There had been one resignation from the council during the past year.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence and proxy voting transfers were given by 16 households. A quorum was confirmed to allow the meeting to go ahead.

AGM minutes from the 46th AGM.

The minutes of the 46th AGM, were summarised by Graham. Mrs. Eve Clements proposed that they be agreed as an accurate record, seconded by Mr. John Law. The residents voted unanimously for the proposal.

Matters arising from the minutes.

The hedge bordering No1 was mentioned and the secretary responded that the new residents to the property have agreed to keep it trimmed to a reasonable height going forward.

No other matters were arising from the minutes.

Chairman's report

Graham gave an outline of how he was recruited to the council by the late Martin Clements. Graham further commented that Martin had in fact been the Secretary when he moved to The Park some 40+ years ago and in that capacity, as well as others, had been very active in ensuring the smooth running of the Association during that time. Graham stated that he had now been chairman for 10 years and has enjoyed all the support given from the council members both past and present.

Secretary's report

Dave Kilmister talked about the gas main replacement works that had now almost finished in the park, future-proofing the stability of supply in the years to come.

He also mentioned the Ash trees on the park which were being monitored for signs of die back.

The railings at the top and bottom of the park had been re-painted for the first time since 2013 and that the salt store compound had now been rebuilt after it was badly damaged in a winter storm in December 2021.

The salt bins will be monitored as we move into the Autumn and winter seasons.

He also thanked all council members and residents for their ongoing support of the council and himself personally.

BPRRAL accounts

The treasurer, Warren Richards presented the accounts summary for the year 2021/2022, and the chairman gave an outline of our fiscal position, the target for a reserve of £100,000 to enable capital expenditure on the roads, drains, trees and other sundry maintenance items and why there was no immediate need to increase the annual contribution of £220

The net income was slightly down last year, due to residents moving throughout the year etc. Expenditure was slightly up as there were various maintenance expenditures that were required.

Unfortunately, 7 or 8 residents have not as yet paid their Maintenance Fee for this financial year. Reminders have been sent and further action will be taken by the association if the outstanding fees are unpaid.

The accounts were agreed by the meeting and proposed as such by Mr. John Law and seconded by Mrs Claire Moine. The residents voted unanimously for the proposal to adopt the accounts for 2021/2022.

The annual Maintenance Fee.

The annual Maintenance Fee was recommended to continue at £220 for the 2023/2024 financial year by the council.

This was Proposed by Mr. David Irving and seconded by Mr. Dan Morris. The residents voted unanimously for the proposal.

Election of Auditor for the association's accounts.

The current auditors, Messrs Kingscott Dix, were proposed to be engaged by Mr. Warren Richards and seconded by Mrs Claire Moine. The residents voted unanimously for the proposal.

Election of the council for the forthcoming year.

Proposals;

Treasurer – Warren Richards (No 83) Secretary – Dave Kilmister (No 46)

Council members; (not less than 4 or more than 6)

Graham Hopkins (No 85) Keith Eyles (No 23) Tim Love (No 67)

 Claire Moine (No 75) Dan Morris (No 49)

There was a vacancy on the council as Mrs Kath Breckon had resigned for personal reasons.

Dr. Robert Oldham was proposed as a council board member by Mrs Shirley Bennett and seconded by Mr. Graham Hopkins.

There being no objections, Dr. Oldham was duly elected to the council board.

The Chairman thanked the Council members for their work during the past 12 months and welcomed the new member who had kindly stepped forward and volunteered.

Neighbourhood watch.

The Neighbourhood watch representative, Claire Moine, reported that the vast majority of notices from the local Police pertained to internet and E-Mail scams. Claire said that she will keep residents updated if there were incidents reported to her by residents or the neighbourhood police representatives.

Any other business.

1. Mrs. Sally Davis suggested that a 'good neighbour initiative be set up after there were concerns that some residents had been taken ill and that there were no relatives to advise that this was the case and that the house may be unoccupied. Sally will take this forward in conjunction with Mrs. Franceska Waggett.
2. The secretary asked if E-Mail addresses be kept up to date to facilitate the dissemination of information, statutory notices etc.
3. Mrs Bennett brought up the fact that there were many foxes on the park and that people had been feeding them, resulting in them becoming much less cautious around humans and their properties. There was also the problem of attracting vermin if food was put out for foxes. This will be an item in the forthcoming newsletter.
4. Mr. Adam Mitchell asked if there was any information regarding the replacement of the telephony wiring in favour of cable for the park. The secretary had contacted BT Openreach when the gas main replacements were being planned, but was told that no works were planned to upgrade the wiring at that time. The newsletter will carry an item encouraging residents to sign up to the 'Fastershires' initiative to encourage fibre deployment into the park.
5. Water drainage; Mrs Waggett asked that when work was carried out on the park infrastructure, that the water drainage be improved if possible in order to protect against predicted wetter years resulting from climate change. The chairman agreed that this would be done in future and illustrated that work had been done on certain soakaways to cater for this, although tree root incursion and some joints which did not have a steep enough angle of fall would probably be an ongoing problem which would have to be monitored and action taken to clear them as required
6. Mrs Eve Clements asked if the gas mains replacement work was now complete. This was confirmed as 99% complete apart from some minor reinstatement work.
7. Mrs Eve Clements asked that a road sweep be scheduled soon and that emphasis be placed on the bottom road which was not fully swept last time. She also commented on the tree branches that were overhanging the verges along the bottom road. The secretary pointed out that residents were asked to keep their verges tidy and trimmed back, but had no power to enforce this, unless the branches were impeding onto the roads around the park, in which case, the council would ask the owner of those trees etc. to deal with them.

The chairman thanked the residents for their attendance and there being no further business, the meeting was formally closed at 9.05pm.

The date of the next Council meeting was set for Thursday 17th November at 7.30pm, at No 85, Bownham Park.

Signed as approved.....G. Hopkins, Chair, BPRRAL. 26/09/2022.