

Bownham Park Rodborough Residents' Association Limited

Minutes of 38th Annual General Meeting held at the Bear of Rodborough on Thursday 27st June 2013, commencing at 8pm

Mr. Hopkins was in the chair and opened the meeting by welcoming Members representing 30 households. The Secretary confirmed that there was a quorum for the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from 3 Members and 10 proxies had been received.

2. Minutes of the 37th Annual General Meeting held on 21st June 2012

The Chairman stated that the minutes from the previous AGM had been circulated together with the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31st March 2013. On the proposition and seconding of Mr. Whittaker and Mr. Fincher respectively the minutes were unanimously accepted and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising from the previous Annual General Meeting

The report offered by Mr. Whittaker had been received and he was thanked for his input. No other matters were raised regarding the previous meeting.

4. Secretary's Report

The Secretary stated that his report had been circulated with the notice of the AGM prior to the meeting. The only comment was regarding development of Bownham Park School in light of the decision to refuse the planning application of "Tranquillity". There were no comments from the meeting and his report was accepted with thanks.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Chairman presented the accounts on behalf of the Treasurer.

The audited accounts for the year 2012/13 had been circulated with the notice of the meeting.

Mr. Arnison asked why we held all our monies in a current account and the Chairman explained the difficulty we had had with the Santander deposit account which had now been closed. The Council will look at opening a deposit account for our funds.

There were no comments from the meeting and on the proposition of Mrs. Kelsey and seconding by Mr. Richards the accounts were accepted.

6. Annual Maintenance Fee

The Chairman gave detailed explanation of the Associations funds and that they were meeting the forecast he had made last year.

We had incurred a cost of over £3,000 for the relaying of the storm drain outside number 28 and this would be shown in the next years account.

The Chairman also mentioned that we may decide to use some of our funds for interim road repairs rather than hold them for a complete road resurfacing but this would not be for small patchwork but for the re-surfacing of long sections down to the base material.

On the proposition by Mr. Smith and seconding by Mr. Arnison, the Annual Maintenance Fee of £200 for the ensuing year was approved.

7. Appointment of Auditor for 2013/14

On the proposition by Mr. Clements and seconding by Ms. Crossley, Messrs Kingscott-Dix were re-appointed as Auditors for the ensuing year.

8. Election of Council for 2013/14

The Secretary stated that he had received nominations as follows:

Secretary – Mr. Clements (59)

Treasurer – Mr. Pegg (36)

Council Members – Mr. Hopkins (85), Mr Eyles (23), Mr. Richards (83), Mr. Smith (1) and Mr. Kilmister (46)

On the proposal by Mr. Whittaker and seconding by Mrs. Kelsey, the nominations were approved unanimously.

As Mrs Kelsey was stepping down from the council, the Chairman on behalf of the residents thanked her for hard work over the past few years especially on the website and Google Group and presented her with a gift of flowers to express the Councils appreciation for her efforts.

The Chairman also thanked Mr. Lloyd for his work as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and that this was very much appreciated.

9. Neighbourhood Watch

Mr. Lloyd stated that there had not been any major incidents in the past 12 months on the Park to report. Two persons had attempted to break into a garage but nothing had been taken. Two bicycles had been taken from an unlocked garage. Two persons had been arrested outside the Park possibly connected with this incident.

There had been a number of incidents in the Rodborough area mainly of thefts from garages and sheds.

Our local Police Community Officer Tanya White had stepped down and had been replaced by Beverley Owen.

Mr. Lloyd commented that black refuse bags being were left outside properties for several days and this could indicate that the resident was away for a period of time. He suggested that the bags should be removed as soon as possible following refuse collection.

10. Traffic on Bownham Park

The Chairman outlined the discussions held at last year's AGM and reviewed previous discussions, emails, reports etc. A questionnaire had been circulated in 2008 and the Council at that time had decided that no action was needed especially in light of the detailed report by Mr. Lloyd.

Following last year's AGM, the Chairman had produced a more detailed questionnaire with estimated costs for the various possible actions that could be taken. A survey had also been taken on the traffic entering and leaving the bottom entrance.

The results of the questionnaire were then distributed to the meeting (see attached).

49 out of 71 (68%) of residents on the Park had replied to the questionnaire. 86% had voted for options 1 & 2 (encouragement of taking care when driving round the Park and observing the 20mph speed limit with minimal spend on signage, warnings etc.) with only 14% of those responding voting for major expenditure.

Mr. Whittaker stated that offending residents should be reported to the Council and that the Secretary or other Council member approach the offender to warn them that the offence had had been reported to them. Should a second offence be made by that resident then again they be approached warning them that these had been recorded and in the event of an insurance claim this record could be used in evidence. It was the general feeling of the meeting that it was up to residents to adhere to the advised speed limit and to take due care at attention when driving. Also for residents to take responsibility for their children should they play on the roads.

A discussion then took place on the road marking at the "T" junction at the top of the Park and the Council would look at possible suggestions.

As always there were several areas where overhanging branches and hedges were reducing the width of the road and the Secretary would again remind residents to cut back these areas to the haunching.

The survey of traffic in and out of the lower entrance showed that the volume of traffic was very light (less than 2 cars per hour) and that there was no indication of regular "alien non-residents" using the Park as a cut-through.

The Chairman concluded the discussion by suggesting that there was a clear mandate that the majority of the residents preferred the actions indicated by Options 1 & 2 and that we do not discuss this item at future AGM's for at least 5 years.

Mr. Morris then proposed that the time be increased to 10 years and this was seconded by Mr. Smith. The meeting voted in favour that "We do not discuss Traffic on Bownham Park at AGM's for at least 10 years".

11. Any other business

Mr. Whittaker stated that previous Councils had agreed that the use by the occupants of number 93 should not use the entrance near to the "T" junction but use the one bordering number 95 and planning approval would be on this basis. He expressed his concern that this decision had not been implemented by the current Council and that the two driveways were being used by the occupants.

The occupants of number 93 (Richard Kirby and Pip Crosley) were present at the meeting and Mr. Kirby responded that the entrance near to the "T" junction had been there for at least 20 years and was not used by vehicles on a regular basis. Planning permission had been applied for the two driveways to be connected to allow an in-out arrangement.

A vote of thanks to the work done by the Council on behalf of the residents was proposed by Mr. Whittaker and the Chairman responded on behalf of the Council.

The meeting closed at 9.15 with thanks to all that attended