Minutes of the BPRRAL 46th AGM meeting, held at the Bear Hotel, 18/10/21.

The Chairman of the Managing Council, Graham Hopkins, welcomed 22 residents to the 2021 AGM. The makeup of the council was explained by Graham and the various council members were introduced. There had been two resignations from the council during the past year.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence and proxy voting transfers were given by 23 households. A quorum was confirmed to allow the meeting to go ahead.

AGM minutes from the 45th AGM.

The minutes of the 45th AGM, which had been a virtual meeting, were summarised by Graham. Eve Clements proposed that they be agreed as an accurate record, seconded by Clair Moine. The residents voted unanimously for the proposal.

Matters arising from the minutes.

The gas mains replacement works mentioned in the summary was questioned by Mr. Law and the council secretary agreed to send out a summary pertaining to this after an upcoming meeting with Wales and West utilities. The secretary told the meeting that this work was extremely unlikely to recommence this financial year.

No other matters were arising from the minutes.

Secretary's report

Dave Kilmister said that his report had been sent out with the AGM invitations and remarked on the ongoing pandemic which had restricted meetings of the council to on-line sessions. 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 2020/2021. The accounts were agreed by the meeting and proposed as such by Mr. Law and seconded by Mrs Bennett. The residents voted unanimously for the proposal to adopt the accounts for 2020/2021.

The Treasurer went to report that BPRRAL is in good shape financially and gave a precis of the current income and expenditure.

Unfortunately, 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.

Graham Hopkins outlined the financial target was, and still is, a balance reserve of £100,000 to allow for future roads, drains and general maintenance and repairs (the drains being referred to are owned by the association and not covered by the water authority).

The annual Maintenance Fee.

The annual Maintenance Fee was recommended to continue at £220 for the 2022/2023 financial year by the council.

This was Proposed by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Leaver. 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. Richards and seconded by Mr. Leaver. 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)

Kath Breckon (No 81) Claire Moine (No 75) Dan Morris (No 49)

Proposed by Mr. Hanks, seconded by Mr. Law. The residents voted unanimously for the proposal.

The Chairman thanked the Council members for their work during the past 12 months and welcomed the four new members who had kindly stepped forward and volunteered. He went on to specifically mention Martin Clements, a long term resident of Bownham Park, who had retired as Secretary the previous year but had remained on the Council to provide support during the transition for the new Secretary Dave Kilmister. 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. On behalf of all the residents Graham asked Eve to pass the best wishes and thanks to Martin for his outstanding dedication and long service.

Neighbourhood watch.

The Neighbourhood watch representative, Dave Kilmister, reported that the vast majority of notices from the local Police pertained to internet and E-Mail scams. There was one occasion where a door-to-door caller gave concerns and there were notices sent out on the Bownham Park Google group E-Mail warning of this. No further incidents have come to light to date and Dave reiterated that we actually live in a very safe area. He did, however, stress the need to be vigilant and report any suspicious behaviours to the police via the non-urgent telephone number – 101, or, if deemed and emergency, via 999. It would also be appreciated if this could also be relayed to the Neighbourhood watch representative for the park.

Any other business.

- 1. Mr. Morris asked if the park could have more frequent leaf sweeps. The residents present at the meeting and the council representatives were in favour and will discuss this at the next council meeting.
- It was also asked if the park could be gritted by a contractor, rather than relying on residents to clear their own areas. The costs and logistics of doing this will also be discussed at the council meeting following the AGM. Residents will be informed of any actions forthcoming from the above topics in the next newsletter.
- 3. Road traffic on the associations roads were discussed and although it had been agreed not to be an AGM item some years ago, Graham felt that it was important to let the meeting know that the council were looking at speed deterrent options for the park following complaints about speeding vehicles from some residents. Speed bumps and chicanes had previously been rejected twice by a vast majority of the residents, but electronic signs are being investigated by the council.
- 4. The excess hedge height and width at No. 1 Bownham Park was raised by Mr. Irving, as it is deemed to impede visibility when approaching the junction at the top entrance of the park and could therefore lead to accidents when pulling out from the junction. It was also noted, that this does seem to have the effect on slowing incoming traffic down though. This item is to be discussed at the council meeting following the AGM.
- 5. Mr. Law 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 secretary will take this item forward to the meeting following the AGM.

Mr. Law asked for a vote of thanks to the council on behalf of the residents for their time and expertise addressing the assets, maintenance and infrastructure of Bownham Park

The chairman thanked the residents for their attendance and there being no further business, the meeting was formally closed at 9.15pm.

The date of the next Council meeting was set for Thursday 11th November at 7.30pm, at No 85, Bownham Park. This was later amended to 17/11/2021, before distribution of these minutes, at the Chair's request.