

# *Sleepers Hill Association*

## *Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Association held in the Conference Room at Highcroft, Sleepers Hill Sunday 2nd November 1997 at 12.00*

### **Present:**

Captain C.J.L.Croft (Chairman), Mr S.J.Osborne (Secretary), Mr P.J.Barlow, Dr N.M.M.Buchannan, Mr & Mrs R.Cherrett, Mrs J.Crabtree, Mrs E.N.Davies, Mrs C.A.Ellison, Mr I.E.J.Ferguson, Mr & Mrs D.Freeborn, Mr E.P.Gilliat, Mr S.D.Harte, Mr & Mrs I.W.L.Jones, Mr H.D.V.Leech, Mr J.V.Martin, Mr D.E.Midgley, Mr & Mrs J.Pattinson, Mr D.M.J.Smith, Mr M.C.Sollom, Mr & Mrs J.H. Stanning, Prof. Sir B.Thwaites, Judge H.J.M.Tucker, Mr D. Wilmshurst, Mr C.G.Wintrell, Mr G.M.Zerbi.

### **Apologies:**

Mr & Mrs P.Bateson, Mr A.A.Bath, Mrs J.F.Bessey, Dr & Mrs A.G.Bolwell, Mr & Mrs S.W.Buckley, Mr E.T.Cardew, Mr P.T.Law, Mr J.P.A.Ouvry, Mr R.G.N.Pryor, Mr B.H.Sharpe, Prof.W.D.Targett, Mr C.W.Tulloch

### **1. Welcome to new members**

The Chairman welcomed new residents: Philip Johns of Chanterwood GED, Guido & Federica Zerbi of Sleepers Hill House GED, Edward & Julia Law of Heatherbanks GED and Matt & Marie-Louise Johnson of Holly Gate.

### **2. Minutes of the 1996 A.G.M.**

There was unanimous agreement that the Minutes were a fair record of that Meeting.

### **3. Matters arising.**

The Chairman explained that matters arising from the previous AGM which had not been covered in Committee, would be dealt with during the course of the meeting. There were no comments or objections.

### **4. Election of Officers.**

Captain Croft (Chairman) and Mr Osborne (Secretary) agreed to continue to serve if elected. There being no other nominations, they were duly re-elected.

5. Financial Report.

The Meeting was asked to adopt the Financial Report, there being no comments, it was adopted. The Chairman thanked Carol Ellison for agreeing to take over as Hon. Auditor to the Association.

The Secretary then gave a brief statement of the current financial situation. There was £4600 on deposit. If the new subscription rate was adopted there would be a balance of £6700 (after fixed costs) in the current financial year and if say £3000 were spent on repairs to verges, resurfacing could be carried out in 1999/2000.

The Chairman then invited comments on the proposed new subscription rate. Prof. Thwaites favoured one-off payments for extra expenditure, whereas Mr Midgley wondered if the Association may end up with too much money. After a brief discussion the Meeting agreed to adopt the following new rates with immediate effect:

Location or Property	Old Rate	New Rate
Sleepers Hill	£22	£30
GED & Sl. Hill. Gdns	£15	£20
Dawn Gdns.	£8	£10
Highcroft	£110	£145
Dawn House	£37	£48
Westacre	£77	£100

6. Results and Report of Survey of Residents

The Secretary gave a brief outline of the results as circulated in the Minutes of the Committee Meeting of Sept. 97. There followed a lively discussion out of which came two main points:

- a) That the idea of restricting access was probably not practicable.
- b) That the possibility of some form of traffic calming should once again be addressed.

It was noted that out of 79 households, only 37 took the trouble to reply to the survey.

7. Condition of Sleepers Hill - Road & Verges

The Secretary explained that the Association had appointed Mr Ron Hewit (a private engineering consultant with considerable experience of road works around Winchester) to inspect and give recommendations on the state of the Hill. Mr Hewit had reported that the carriageway was in generally good repair but the verges and rainwater drainage channels could do with attention in places.

The Committee had been discussing the verge outside St Marys at meetings and with John & Gay Stanning (the owners of St Marys) for some time, as this verge was deemed to be that most in need of attention. Mr Hewit had prepared plans for a scheme of improvements and the estimates from three contractors were awaited.

The Secretary estimated that the cost of the scheme to be not less than £3000 and maybe considerably more. He further estimated that if such a sum be spent on the scheme, resurfacing would have to be delayed until possibly the year 2000. The Meeting was then asked if it would approve the spending of such money as the Committee decided prudent on this scheme, without a specific limit but such that the Association would still maintain a reasonable credit balance.

The following points were made by Members:

DEM & IEJF - The scheme must go ahead in the interests of road safety.

DF - As there was a new house to be built sharing the access with St Marys, could not the developer be asked for a contribution.

RCh - Road improvements would encourage speeding traffic.

JCr - Concern for the safety of children.

BT - Would the scheme affect the entrance to the new house at St Marys.

JHS - Concern over the detail of kerbing at his entrance.

PF - That the whole debate was about a very small amount of money per household per week.

After a wide-ranging and helpful discussion a vote was taken on the motion 'That the Committee should decide whether or not the scheme should go ahead and be authorised to allocate funds without a specific limit'. There being a substantial majority in favour, it was agreed that the work should be put in hand. The Chairman assured the Association that this expenditure would be kept under careful control.

#### 8. Traffic Conditions on Sleepers Hill

The Chairman allowed a free discussion on this topic, the main contributors being:

Mrs Cherrett made an impassioned plea for something to be done to restrict the speed of traffic which she had observed to have become more of a problem than previously.

Mr Jones had also noticed an increase in traffic speed since the traffic calming measures had been installed in surrounding roads. Three of his cats had been killed on the Hill recently and he thought the traffic speed was a danger to children and pets. He would support the forming of pinch points at intervals along the Hill and would volunteer to have one such width restriction outside his house.

Mrs Jones agreed with the previous speakers and called for urgent action. She

supported the installation of 2 pinch points, one outside her house and one further up the Hill.

Judge Tucker asked if a highway engineer could look at the problem and advise the Association of the best way to proceed. Several present agreed to have width restrictions outside their properties.

Mr Midgley asked about the possibility of installing speed humps.

Mr Smith and Mr Wilmshurst suggested the use of textured rumble strips as a deterrent.

The Chairman noted the concern shown and agreed to take the matter up as a matter of urgency. The Secretary undertook to engage a Highway Engineer to address the problem. The Committee would discuss the findings and report back to Members.

9. Cable on Sleepers Hill

Mrs Crabtree reported that there was much more interest from residents to have cable installed than previously. She had been in contact with the local cable company who had informed her that they would require 30% of residents on the Hill to express a firm interest before they would install a cable. A show of hands indicated 12 Members present interested in cable with further names on a list prepared by Mrs Crabtree.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Crabtree and asked if she would be willing to continue her canvassing and report to the next Committee Meeting.

The Secretary asked if any Members would like their email address placed on the list of Members. He had heard that another Residents Association in Winchester had its' own web site on the Internet. Perhaps at some time in the future, if a volunteer "Webmaster" were to emerge, the Association could also set up a web site as a means of keeping Members informed.

10. Any Other Business

Mr Ferguson suggested the Association hold an Extraordinary General Meeting if and when more was known about possible traffic calming schemes. Mr Wilmshurst offered the use of the Committee Room at Highcroft for such a meeting.

Mrs Jones thanked the Committee for their endeavours.

In conclusion the Chairman thanked Derek Wilmshurst and the Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare Trust for making the venue available and for supporting the Association in so many practical and valuable ways. There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 1320