

# SLEEPERS HILL

## ASSOCIATION

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SLEEPERS HILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

**DATE:** Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2007

**TIME:** 1200 hrs

**LOCATION:** Highcroft, Sleepers Hill

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Present: see appended register of attendees

#### 1. Apologies

John Martin, Martin Tucker, David & Jill Oddie, The Harkers, Steve Osborne and Mr Ames

#### 2. Welcome to new members

The Chairman welcomed new residents Elizabeth Coulson, Nick and Victoria Gregory, and the return after a brief absence of John Stanning

#### 3. Adoption of minutes of the previous AGM

Previous minutes were adopted by universal acclamation

#### 4. Election of SHA committee members

Margaret Gilliat and Bob Jones retired by rotation and declined to re-stand. The Chairman thanked them for their contribution over the years

Jeremy Ouvry (Chairman) and Matt Johnson (Hon Sec) retired by rotation and were re-elected without any meaningful opposition

Tim Jones and Hamish Adair retired by rotation and were re-elected without protest

Christine Wallage, David Oddie and Derek O'Neill stood for election to the committee for the first time and were unanimously elected. Christine Wallage was then elected to the post of Hon Secretary upon the resignation of Matt Johnson, who remains on the committee.

#### 5. Matters arising

With **Highcroft** now facing redevelopment the Chairman thanked Derek Wilmshurst and the NHS for their fourteen years of hospitality and assistance

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**Treasurer's Report** – the Hon Treasurer flagged up some of the items in the annual accounts, including £128 for ad hoc road repairs, a small increase in the annual insurance premium and the one-off cost of additional work for the LADS. Subscriptions collected over the financial year amounted to £4250, covering 95 dwellings plus Highcroft and Westacre. The Dudgeons and the Lambs are the only residents who have refused to pay. The association has received around nine contributions from Dawn Gardens out of a total of 23 properties.

The subscription rate for 2007 / 2008 remains unchanged from the previous year, and the total cash balance of the association is such that it can now contemplate resurfacing the entire road at some point in the near future, should it so wish.

The Chairman thanked John Monkcom for fulfilling the role of Hon Auditor.

## **6. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman's report was presented to the assembled members

## **7. Any other business**

The proposed development of **Highcroft** by Barratt Homes – the issue of access to the hill from the new development remains outstanding, with Barratt happy to have no access while the planners continue to insist on a footpath. The SHA is opposing the footpath on the grounds that it could act as a gathering point for undesirables and become a focus for dogs and litter, but otherwise see the scheme as not that bad. It was commented that a more open and lit footpath might avoid these issues, but the Chairman pointed out that such a scheme would be contrary to the overall leafiness of the hill.

Another comment from the floor raised the issue of unauthorised contractor parking on the hill during the two year construction, but the Chairman was of the opinion that there would be more than enough on-site parking to avoid that problem.

**Day House** – Bob Jones reported that Francis Wallace is currently occupying the house, and that while the house itself seems safe from future redevelopment, there is no guarantee that building may at some point take place on the land around it.

Concern regarding the speed at which cars drive down the hill was again raised. The Chairman responded that the police has taken some observations and concluded that despite the perception to the contrary very little speeding actually took place.  
Action point: committee to investigate feasibility of 20 mph speed limit

**Roadside parking restrictions** – the scheme continues, and apart from some incidents of immobilisation taking place without all the correct procedures being followed, is generally considered to continue to achieve its objectives,. The Chairman pointed out that a scheme run by the local council would not have the safeguard of scheme operatives checking with frontagers before proceeding. It was also pointed out that the scheme would still be essential once Highcroft ceases to operate to curb overflow from the new development.  
Action point: Hon Sec to distribute parking permits to all effected frontagers, plus recirculate the scheme instructions to all residents on the hill

**Neighbourhood watch** – Matt Johnson to take over as co-ordinator

**Development on the hill** – the Harkers are planning to put one additional house on their site

Meeting closed at 1246

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