

Sleepers Hill Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Wednesday 1st December 1999, Manor Cottage, Sleepers Hill,
8.00 pm

Present: Christopher Croft, Stephen Osborne, Joan Elliott, Jane Crabtree, Ray Cherrett,
Apologies: Steve Harte, Derek Wilmshurst.

Agenda

1. **Minutes of Meeting of 2nd September 1999**

It was agreed that the Minutes were a fair record of the meeting.

2. **Matters arising**

a) **Repairs to verge at St Marys.**

The Secretary reported that the verge at St Marys had been made good and that the new kerb across the verge appeared to have solved the drainage problem. There had been several heavy downpours since the repairs were carried out and there had been no washout of the new hoggin. The cost of the repairs had been apportioned as agreed at the last meeting.

b) **Drainage on Sleepers Hill**

Capt. Croft said that although there was now little gravel being washed into Airlie Road, there was still quantities of debris being washed down for which the Association could be held responsible. Mr Osborne said that he had not received any formal complaint from the Council. There followed a discussion as to the desirability of having the two gullies on the hill cleaned as they were both completely blocked with gravel. The gully at G. E. Drive had been cleaned some years ago at a cost of £75. As the situation was judged to be of concern but not serious, it was decided to do nothing for the time being and monitor the situation.

3. **Traffic Calming Scheme**

Mr Osborne informed the meeting of the present state of affairs:

Patterson Reeve had prepared the plans and tender documents which had been forwarded to 3 contractors. Serco Ltd had declined to tender claiming they had too much work already planned. Two other contractors had been invited to tender which would mean an extension of the tender date beyond the original of 10th December. The City had not yet informed the Association of the regulations regarding signs and lighting although this had been requested some weeks ago. Southern Electric could not be asked to quote for the lighting installation until the requirement was known. The frontagers who would be directly affected by tables outside their properties had been

approached, there had been mixed reactions. The City of Winchester, Hampshire County Council, Fire Service and Ambulance Service had yet to respond to our letters of intent. The Police had written stating no objection provided the Highway Authority were content.

After a discussion, it was decided that the AGM could not be postponed until all the data was available and that there should be enough information available by the end of January to give members a good idea of the issues and costs involved. Capt. Croft agreed to draft a letter to all members outlining the current position with the scheme including a plan. It was agreed to send out this letter together with minutes of all Committee meetings and an AGM agenda as soon as possible. The AGM should be held at the end of January and members should have notice of at least one month.

4. Voting procedure to be adopted at the AGM

The Committee discussed the practicalities of how the AGM would decide whether or not to proceed with the scheme. It was decided that before any discussions took place at the AGM, members should have a debate regarding the majority that would be required to give the Committee a mandate to go ahead with construction. Once a figure had been decided upon by a majority of those present, detailed discussions of the scheme itself could begin. As the scheme was controversial, it was decided that voting for the scheme should take place by ballot papers circulated to all members, not just those present at the AGM.

5. Procedure for the future election of Officers and Committee members.

In the light of previous criticism, it was decided to introduce a system of electing Committee members as well as officers. After discussion in which various methods were put forward, the following was decided:

The posts of Chairman and Secretary should be elected on an annual basis as at present.

Two current Committee Members would stand down before the AGM. Three new Committee members would be elected at the AGM to serve a 2 year term. This would bring the Committee strength up to eight (2 officers, 6 Committee members).

At the following AGM, the 3 Committee members who were in place before the 1999 AGM would stand down to be replaced by 3 new elected members. Thus in future 3 Committee members would be elected each year to serve a 2 year term each.

One of the projects of the new Committee would be the research and writing of a formal constitution for the Association.

6. Proposed development at Enniskerry.

The Secretary informed the meeting of the very strong opposition to the proposed change of use to a residential home and extension to Enniskerry. Dr David White had been co-ordinating the opposition and some 23 members had objected in writing including one from the Association. There was to be a meeting of the Planning Committee on 2nd December at which Mr Osborne had agreed to speak for 3 minutes against the proposal. The arguments to be used were to be those which had been so effective in the rejection of the proposed extension at Westacre in 1987 and 1993. The

Committee thanked Mr Osborne for giving up his time to present the Association's case.

7. Neighbourhood Watch.

Mr Cherrett said there was nothing of particular importance to report on Sleepers Hill although the Police had informed him of a number of bogus callers operating in the area

8. Parking on the verge at Highcroft

The Secretary reported that several members had complained about the large number of cars that were being parked on the verge outside Highcroft. He had been in touch with Mr Wilmshurst of Highcroft who had agreed that there was a problem. Most of the parking appeared to be legitimately associated with the businesses at Highcroft (which had been expanded over the years), but some appeared to be by people who were using the Hill for free parking for other activities. Mr Wilmshurst had a data base of all legitimate users of Highcroft and he had a system of attaching warning notices to all other vehicles. The effectiveness of this deterrent was not 100%. The Committee agreed to monitor the situation and to request Mr Wilmshurst for a fuller explanation at the AGM.

9. Any other business

None

Meeting closed at ...21.30.....