

# ***Sleepers Hill Association***

## ***Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Association held in the Conference Room at Highcroft, Sleepers Hill Sunday 15th November 1998 at 12.00***

### **Present:**

Captain C.J.L.Croft (Chairman), Mr S.J.Osborne (Secretary), Mr S.W.Buckley, Mr R.Cherrett, Mrs J.Crabtree, Mrs C.A.Ellison, Miss J.M.Elliott, Mr E.P.Gilliat, Ms P.Goodall, Mrs S.J.Greene, Mr S.D.Harte, Mr C.G.Johnson, Mr I.W.L.Jones, Mr D.J.Malone, Mr J.V.Martin, Mr & Mrs D.B.Mathews, Mr M.Meyer, Mrs E.Osborne, Mr J.P.A.Ouvry, Mr J.H.Richardson, Mr D.M.J.Smith, Mr & Mrs R.Stahel, Mrs G.F.B.Stanning, Prof. Sir B.Thwaites, Judge H.J.M.Tucker, Mr D. Wilmshurst.

### **Apologies:**

Mr A.P.Ames, Mr & Mrs P.Bateson, Mr A.A.Bath, Mr R.P.Brisbane, Dr N.M.M.Buchanan, Mrs N.W.Clarke, Mrs E.N.Davies, Mr I.E.J.Ferguson, Mr D.Freeborn, Mr M.A.Hughes, Mr P.T.Johns, Mr K.B.Knox, Mr H.D.V.Leech, Mr D.E.Midgley, Mr J.Pattinson, Mr P.T.Law, Mr R.G.N.Pryor, Mr B.H.Sharpe, Rev. E.S.Shirras, Prof.W.D.Targett, Mrs D.I.Wallis, Dr W.D.White, Mr C.G.Wintrell.

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

The Chairman welcomed the following new residents to Sleepers Hill:

Ross & Denise Brisbane - Dawn House

David & Judy Malone - The Grange

John Mayr & Pat Goodall - Four Winds

Dr & Mrs Meyer - Pentargon

### **2. Minutes of the 1997 AGM.**

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 Secretary gave a brief statement of the current financial situation. There was currently £1800 on deposit which, together with the subscriptions due, would leave a balance of £4000 by the end of 1998. The fixed outgoings were about £500 for the financial year, so barring any unforeseen major repair bills, there should be sufficient funds for resurfacing in the year 2001.

Mr Jones was concerned that the rate of interest on deposits the Association was enjoying was rather low. Mr Malone suggested he could organise a deposit account which would give a much better rate. The Secretary agreed to look into the matter.

The Meeting was asked to adopt the Financial Report. There being no comments, it was adopted. The Chairman thanked Carol Ellison for once again acting as Hon. Auditor to The Association.

6. Theft of the red 'Warning' sign at the top of Sleepers Hill.

The Chairman informed the Meeting that the warning sign had been stolen at some time during the summer. A brief discussion followed whereupon it was unanimously decided not to replace it.

7. Condition of Sleepers Hill - Road & Verges

The Secretary said that the condition of the road surface was generally good and that, barring exceptionally severe winter weather with consequent frost damage, resurfacing was not likely to be required for several years. Blocked drainage channels were an ongoing problem. Members with a frontage to Sleepers Hill were asked to keep their channels free of debris, especially in the autumn, to prevent water and debris being washed across the carriageway.

8. Traffic Calming on Sleepers Hill.

The Chairman gave a brief account of the situation to date. After much discussion, The Committee had decided against recommending width restrictions because the majority of those Frontagers who would be most affected by any scheme, were not in favour. Capt. Croft then suggested that there may have been some new developments regarding 20 mph 'Home Zones' in Winchester. He was in discussion with the City Engineers and would report his findings to The Committee in due course. There then followed a lively debate, during which the following points were made:

Mr Jones - traffic volume and speed was still increasing and nothing had been done. The Committee were supposed to have organised an Extraordinary General Meeting to discuss the problem, but this had not taken place.



Judge Tucker - against any scheme of width restriction on the grounds of safety alone.

Mrs Crabtree - parked cars were a very cheap and effective method of traffic calming.

Mr Harte - the possibility of making Sleepers Hill a one way street.

Sir Bryan Thwaites - that we should leave well alone.

Mr Ouvry - had listened to the same arguments for 20 years, was against any scheme and was concerned that a minority pressure group appeared to be trying to hijack the Meeting. Also raised the idea of a leaf clearing party in November.

Mr Cherrett - safety would be improved if there were a continuous verge down one side of the Hill. He also raised the issue of a 'No Right Turn' at the top of Sleepers Hill on behalf of another Member.

Mr Osborne - only 39 residents bothered to reply to the survey in 1997 which included questions on traffic calming. A significant proportion had expressed unwillingness to pay for such a scheme. Any scheme would be expensive so who would pay? (The view of the City Council has always been that any calming schemes for private roads such as Sleepers Hill would, even if approved, have to be paid for by the residents).

Capt. Croft felt that the strength of feeling among some Members was such that some further discussion of the options, with their attendant advantages and disadvantages, was needed. Mr Wilmshurst offered to make a Committee Room available at Highcroft if necessary. Capt. Croft felt that a more limited forum might suffice and said that he would pursue this with those most concerned after the meeting.

9. Any Other Business

Mr Jones asked what progress had been made towards installing Cable on Sleepers Hill. Mrs Crabtree explained that Cable & Wireless were still unwilling to commit themselves to installation, but discussions were continuing. C&W had promised to carry out a survey of Sleepers Hill. Concerned residents should telephone C&W and lobby Mr Andrew Goodyear on 01202 384327. Capt. Croft thanked Mrs Crabtree for her work on behalf of Members.

Mr Ouvry wished to thank the Committee for their work during the past year.

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.