

NORTH WEST FARNHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF 40TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 10th June 2015 at 8 pm

1. Apologies: Stewart Edge, Ian Burgess

2. Minutes of previous AGM

The minutes were agreed and signed as an accurate record, proposed by Phil Dunford, seconded by Keith Miller.

3. Treasurer's Report

The balance was £7,769.23 at the beginning of the year and was £4,474.57 at the end of the year. Lloyd's Treasurer's Account balance is £707.73. Subscriptions received were lower because there are insufficient collectors. The subscription for CPRE increased from £34 to £36 this year.

The accounts were accepted as an accurate record.

4. Presentation

Tony Ostime is retiring from the Committee and Penny Marriott presented him with a bottle of wine to thank him for all his hard work over many years.

5. Election of Officers and Committee

The Officers and Committee were willing to stand for re-election, with the exception of Tony Ostime.

The following were proposed and seconded:

Chairman: Dr Penny Marriott
Treasurer: Mr Dennis Banks
Secretary: Mrs Julie Russ
Committee: Mr Stewart Edge
 Mr David King
 Mr Keith Miller
 Mr John Williamson

The Chairman asked if anyone would like to volunteer to join the Committee and Mr Stephen Spence said that he would.

6. Chairman's Report

The Chairman welcomed the Councillors to the meeting: Pat Frost, Surrey County Council and Mayor, John Williamson, Waverley Borough Council and Farnham Town Council, Paddy Blagden, Waverley Borough Council and Farnham Town Council.

Speedwatch: Chris Cleland was thanked for organising the Speedwatch volunteers and he reported that they do the check once a month.

Website: The website is used regularly but more and more of the active things are moving to Facebook. The website holds minutes of meetings, notices, etc.

Planning: The Association has a remit to look at applications which come up in the area. Not all

applications receive comment and positive as well as negative comments are made.

The Hopfields: The fight against the outline planning application for 120 houses was not a total failure because we managed to protect the top part of the field. Points against the development were not taken into account and it is felt that infrastructure should be put in place before development takes place.

There is a large brownfield site at Dunsfold but because there are no local plans in place greenfield sites can be used before brownfield. The Hopfields development received the highest number of objections and the Chairman summarised the points which were made against it. We will continue to fight against the development, especially as it received so many objections.

Discussion took place about the Joint Planning Committee Meeting which considered the Hopfields outline planning application. Dissatisfaction was expressed that at this meeting there was inadequate representation of the views of north west Farnham residents by councillors from our ward.

Councillors' Forum

Discussion mainly concerned the Hopfields and it was questioned why councillors were absent from the Joint Planning Committee meeting which decided the outline planning application. There was no representative from Farnham Town Council.

Pat Frost pointed out that Farnham Town Council now has to send its leader to the joint planning committee meetings to give its position on planning applications. The Town Council will have open sessions which the public can join in.

Councillors were asked to give their advice on the best way to oppose future planning applications and what lessons can be learnt from the Hopfields. Paddy Blagden advised getting as many objections as possible and if 3 different applications are made for the same development then each one should be objected to.

The local plan of 2002 is the last valid plan that Waverley Borough Council has made. The plan will give suggestions and reasons for refusal and these reasons should be used when objecting.

The Chairman said that the 2002 plan and the NPPF would be put on the website.

It was suggested that people should write to Jeremy Hunt and complain and also attend his surgeries.

Residents were advised to keep an eye on the NWFRA website as news will appear there.

There was a request for more frequent newsletters.