

NORTH WEST FARNHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

ZOOM COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday 31st July 2020

Present:

Richard Gunner (RG)
David King (DK)
Penny Marriott (PM)
Vivienne Miller
Anne Pullinger
Julie Russ (JR)
Stephen Spence (SS)

Note: The agenda states that this meeting took place on 21st July, but it was postponed to the 31st July.

Apologies: There were none

Treasurer's report: (RG)

The balances remain the same as reported at the last zoom committee meeting on 5th May 2020.

Website:

It was decided that emergency numbers for COVID 19 should be added to the website. PM suggested having a link to the Town Council website and DK said he could include it. VM said this could be up-dated by the Town Council when necessary.

DK

COVID 19:

PM said it will not be possible to hold a public meeting in October (AGM) but if a vaccine should be in circulation before that date then a meeting may be possible. PM will compile a newsletter and include notice of the cancellation of the AGM. The constitution should be amended to state that a meeting does not have to be held under certain circumstances. The COVID 19 regulations last until next May and, under these, we do not have to hold a meeting. VM said that there should be a notice in the newsletter saying that in the present circumstances the existing committee will continue. DK will announce on the website that the AGM has been cancelled.

PM

DK

Hop Fields, Coxbridge and other planning: (DK)

Hopfields: Taylor Wimpey have applied for permission to work on Saturdays but DK is not concerned about this as he would like the work to be finished and the Committee agreed. VM said that men wearing suits have been seen looking at the fields where Harvey keeps his sheep. PM said there has not been a planning application and they may just be looking at the lie of the land.

Coxbridge: Daniel Gee, of the Farnham Herald, sent DK a copy of a letter from Vivid Housing saying that Thames Water will upgrade the sewers, but only when outline planning permission has been granted. Vivid have applied for permission to increase some housing heights to 2.5 storeys and to rip out hedges. DK's letter to the Herald about Coxbridge give rise to subsequent correspondence.

Other planning: There has been a planning application to change the guest house in West Street into student accommodation.

Footpath News: (AP)

There is no news at present but there should be something to report at the next meeting.

Deliverers:

PM asked if anyone had thought of people who might deliver newsletters and collect subs. Some deliverers are rather elderly and the bottom of Crondall Lane needs a new person. VM delivers newsletters to all houses, regardless of whether they include members of the NWFRA, and this takes a long time. She suggested sending the newsletter by e-mail but DK said it could be difficult holding e-mail addresses because of data protection. A promise has to be made not to pass on details to anyone else without permission. VM pointed out that there is another residents association in Old Park Lane and their information goes out by e-mail. She asked if we aim to send the newsletter to everyone in the area or just to members. PM said that newsletters are usually sent only to members, but in exceptional circumstances they may be sent to everyone (e.g. concerning the proposal to build on the Hop Fields).

DK ran through the list of deliverers and asked PM if they are still delivering. PM will ask Shelagh Bone if she is happy to keep delivering in Hazell Road. Someone is needed for the bottom end of Crondall Lane and Parfitts Close and also for Hillview Road and Waynefleete Lane.

DK will visit the occupied houses at Abbey View once the newsletter has been sent out. He will put his name and contact details on the newsletter so that people can contact him if they are interested. RG may help with delivering and will talk to DK about it.

Any other business:

DK said that pavement in widening in Farnham seemed like a waste of time to him. PM said that if the pavement widening does continue it will not look as it does now. VM asked what happens when emergency vehicles get stuck because of it. PM did not know the answer and said the matter is being discussed. Lorries are being discouraged from travelling through the town centre and also along the Upper Hale Road. AP thought that this would discourage people from shopping in Farnham. Local Liaison Farnham is to tackle traffic problems in Farnham and has found a pot of money to carry out work at Hickley's Corner. They are trying to discourage HGVs from travelling through the town and road narrowing will be present for a while because of COVID-19. These changes are being tested to see what works. Everything is up for discussion, including the Western Bypass, Wrecclesham Bypass and Hickley's. AP suggested park and ride. A webinar will take place next Wednesday, 5th August, on Farnham Projects, including traffic. It is possible to watch by registering an interest, but questions can only be asked if submitted in advance. PM will inform the Committee if, and how, questions can be submitted.

DK reported that Clive Teague wants phase 1 of the SCC cycle track and is looking at ways to reduce congestion. AP felt that cyclists and pedestrians should be kept separate otherwise it is dangerous. PM said there are pots of money available for various initiatives.

JR reported on the review of byelaws covering military land. There is a danger that public access could be restricted or banned. When the new byelaws are published there will be a public consultation but this has been delayed by COVID-19. It would be a good idea to respond to the consultation as access to much land around Farnham and other areas of Waverley could be restricted, including the nearby Bourley and Long Valley SSSI (Caesar's Camp). JR will inform the Committee when the new laws are published and the consultation period begins. She noticed that a recent walk published in the Herald included paths at Bourley and Long Valley.

RG asked whether people could pay their subs on-line. DK pointed out that talking to people when delivering newsletters is a useful way of keeping in touch and possibly obtaining new members. VM said she would not be happy to talk to people at present and RG wondered whether, in view of the present situation, the website should be used more and suggested giving people the alternative of paying subs on it.

PM

DK

RG

PM

JR

PM will produce the newsletter, mentioning the website and that subs can be paid on-line. The website will also be given more prominence, as suggested by RG.

PM

PM will find out how much a Zoom upgrade costs so that committee meetings can last for longer.

PM

Date of next meeting: Thursday 3rd September 2020 at 2 pm.