

# NORTH WEST FARNHAM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

## COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### **Present:**

Richard Gunner (RG)  
Emma Heath (EH) (part)  
Dave King (DK)  
Sue Ostrom (SO)  
Anne Pullinger (AP)  
Julie Russ (JR)

Apologies: Tony Rooth and Vivienne Miller	Action
<p data-bbox="113 667 1401 712"><b>Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising:</b></p> <p data-bbox="113 734 1401 913">The minutes were approved with the following correction. Footpath News – second paragraph, “AP has complained, <b>in the past</b>, about the farmer who left his electric fencing across the footpath entrance, <b>making it impossible to continue along the footpath</b>. AP did not ask for it to be removed but it has been <b>this time</b>. It is acceptable to have the fencing in place when sheep are present in the field but <b>not for long periods</b> and not when they are no longer there.</p> <p data-bbox="113 936 1401 1081"><b>Action:</b> DK has been trying to find out what percentage of hits on the website are genuine or if they are BOTS, or 404s ( not genuine). He discovered that over 50% were 404s. He spoke to Tom who looks after the website and he said he could resolve the problem but has not done so yet so DK will contact him again.</p> <p data-bbox="113 1104 1401 1149"><b>Community Speedwatch (EH)</b></p> <p data-bbox="113 1171 1401 1485">The Community Speedwatch started in January and almost 3 months of monitoring and 6 sessions have been completed. Some data analysis has taken place for January and February. Only one session has been undertaken for March so far, but another will be done. It will be hard doing it in April because of the Easter holidays. Between 10-30% of cars passing during a session were travelling more than 24 mph, the average speed being 28 mph. The maximum speed recorded was 39 mph and 18 excessive speeders, travelling more than 1.5 times the speed limit, were recorded. Five vehicles recorded did not have a valid MOT and 5 were untaxed. 108 letters were sent out by the police. Cars going up and down the road can be recorded, but not at the same time. Although the speed gun is heavy is works well.</p> <p data-bbox="113 1507 1401 1619">EH and DK met Nigel Pond, the SCC engineer in charge of traffic calming, etc. After the meeting Nigel informed DK that we cannot have a larger 450mm sign. DK has now asked the signage people if we can have a larger static sign with a Speed Camera on it.</p> <p data-bbox="113 1641 1401 1787">6 people are registered and five people are trained to carry out speedwatch and only 2 are required to run a session. One person who trained is not taking part, therefore there are 4 trained people who are dedicated. Someone stopped to talk whilst a session was in progress and may be interested in taking part.</p> <p data-bbox="113 1809 1401 1888"><b>School Streets:</b> EH and DK have heard nothing further about School Streets. EH attended an engagement event at Potters Gate School and those for or against split 50/50.</p> <p data-bbox="113 1910 1401 1955"><b>Treasurer’s Report: (RG)</b></p> <p data-bbox="113 1977 1401 2136">RG sent the Committee the current position for the accounts in advance of the meeting and will shortly send out the end of year position. Lloyds are now charging 4.25% per month for a Community Account but we do not receive any community benefit. The current account balance is £314.78 and there is £3,939.93 in the deposit account. So far this year we have received £124</p>	<p data-bbox="1406 1003 1584 1048"><b>DK</b></p> <p data-bbox="1406 2112 1584 2157"><b>EH</b></p>

<p>which comes from standing orders and cash. EH said she has not received an e-mail about paying subs, although DK sent one out. However, she will set up a standing order. RG does not keep a note of who has paid, but can get this information from the bank account. DK asked if RG could produce a list and send it to him and RG said he would send an Excel spreadsheet. DK asked if we need to get some more money in as we have events such as the AGM coming up. RG has done a very rough forecast of what money is likely to come in.</p>	<p><b>RG</b></p>
<p><b>Planning, Fields and Other Matters: (TR)</b></p> <p>TR has recently attended a meeting in Guildford about localism. They are thinking of splitting the area into 2 or 3 unitary authorities. TR thinks there should be 3 as 2 would be too big. JR completed an on-line survey about unitary authorities and said should would forward it to the Committee, if she can find it.</p> <p>DK read out TR's report. It should immediately be considered that any proposed unitary authority should rewire its relationship with town and parish councils and residents. Local residents, and not only existing parish councils and organisations, should be informed, consulted and surveyed regularly before 9<sup>th</sup> May as to Guildford Borough Council's consideration and proposals for a unitary authority covering Guildford Borough and Guildford Town Council. It should be ensured that local government at its most local level (town and parish councils) should not be administered on party political grounds, if necessary by applying for elections to such councils to be on a proportional representation basis to encourage local residents to participate locally without the need for political affiliation.</p> <p><b>Coxbridge:</b> Coxbridge is now under way and a huge pit has been dug. The developers have had to change the facia bricks and information about this is on the website. The reason for the change is that the original bricks are out of stock and so the developers asked WBC if they could use different bricks.</p> <p><b>Old Park Lane:</b> There has been no update on the Old Park Lane site since 30<sup>th</sup> December last year. There is a very slim chance that the planning officer will refuse it. All matters have been cleared except the access and DK thinks the development will be approved.</p> <p>77 West Street (the shop) has been looked at and nothing has changed. There is no information on when the shop will close.</p> <p>There is nothing happening yet with the development in East Street (MOT test site).</p>	<p><b>JR</b></p>
<p><b>Website: (DK)</b></p> <p>DK has uploaded information about planning matters but there is very little to add. The website seems to be working well as far as reliability is concerned.</p> <p>DK hopes that Penny Marriott will produce a newsletter as these are very much appreciated.</p> <p><b>Footpath news: (AP)</b></p> <p>AP saw a man in an orange jacket doing a survey close to the Abbey View estate but he walked away from her. She went up 4 times and on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January the man saw her and made no attempt to ask her questions.</p> <p>AP sent Tim Devis an e-mail concerning the alleged footpath behind the UCA and he replied that it was his understanding that SCC have kicked it into the long grass by telling us that, having acknowledged the receipt of the allegation, the matter would not be considered by them for at least 2 years. Presumably because of their work priorities, shortage of staff, and so on.</p> <p>Tim said that he doubted that they rate the matter of much importance, although they have a duty to consider it. He said it would take us way into 2026 and he suggested that we wait a year or so and then resuscitate the matter.</p>	<p><b>DK/PM</b></p>

He also wondered whether the current debate about reconfiguring councils in Surrey may put a brake on Surrey picking up new issues.

He apologised for sounding a bit negative.

AP said that if we are out and about in Surrey and see a problem there is a site called Fix My Street. DK wondered if this is the official SCC site as he tried it and SCC directed him to another site and told him to use this other one.

Borelli Walk is closed at present for works.

DK asked what is happening to the path to the church where the wall has fallen down. It is not known when the wall will be repaired. It is a useful path and much missed.

#### **Communication with members and deliverers:**

It is expensive delivering leaflets through the Royal Mail and much better getting people to do it. We can manage to find people to deliver as we got people to deliver leaflets advertising the Autumn Meeting. However, they do not like collecting money and the best method of collecting it is by standing order, we just need to get more people to do it. All the information about doing so is on the website.

#### **AGM and Autumn Meeting:**

The AGM will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> June and JR will check availability of St Francis Church Hall which will need to be booked from 7.30 to 10 pm.

The Autumn Meeting will take place on October 16<sup>th</sup> and again availability of the Hall from 7.30 to 10 pm needs to be checked.

#### **Any Other Business:**

SO said that new trees have been planted at the entrance to Abbey View and dead trees in the field at the back have been replaced. SO needs to contact Trevor Free and suggest that a message is sent to people asking them to adopt a tree.

DK has a camera showing his garden which filmed rats coming into the garden last autumn but he has not seen or filmed a rat this year.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30 pm at DK's house.

JR

SO