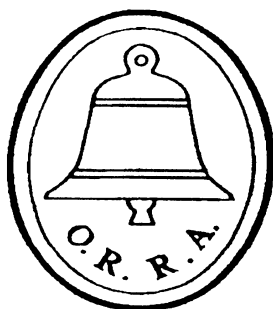


# THE OLD RATTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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## MINUTES OF THE OLD RATTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19TH MAY 2016 AT ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL CHURCH STREET WILLINGDON COMMENCING AT 0800

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Chairman began by welcoming everyone and confirming we had insufficient numbers to form a quorum and therefore we could not Vote on certain issues presented. It was agreed we would continue with the meeting as everyone present had made the effort to attend. Decision items will be communicated at a later date and residents will be asked to vote accordingly.

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Chris Abbey, Elizabeth Trustram, Vanessa & David Cooke, Marguerite Smith, Judy Jones, Barry & Penny Hempstead, Nigel & Diane Wesson, Marie Jervis & John Giles, Susie & John Cudd, Wendy McVeigh, Janet & Graham Carn, Christa Wilkinson, Ed & Diane Schuldt, Darren & Sasha Stevens, Jean & Chris Clark, Sue Greenley, Tony & Emma Murphy, Nicole Ball, Ann & Alan Huggett, Wendy Bryant Funnell, Pauline Hinit, Carol & John Jarvis, Ian Brogden, Peter Plowman, Terence Clark, Sue Greenley, Ian Batchelor, Dick & Maureen Baarnhorn, Katrina Dent, Andrew Cockeram, Pat Fursden, Mary Davy, Gilly Nicol.

### 3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM HELD ON 15TH MAY 2015

The motion to approve the Minutes was proposed by June Harvey and seconded by Peter Dunn.

### 4. TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2015/16

The Chairman thanked everyone again and stated the importance of attendance as it gives all residents the opportunity to find out, participate and ask questions about 'their' estate. It was fantastic to see so many new young residents, they are very much the future of the estate. She sincerely thanked the members of the committee for their support and proceeded to deliver her report.

### 5. TO RECEIVE, APPROVE AND ADOPT THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2016 AND THE AUDITOR'S REPORT

Tim Norfolk presented the Statement Of Accounts. Tim confirmed the accounts show 'Members contributions paid in advance' they were paid in advance but two years ago. The Chairman confirmed that due to less than 30% attendance we could not approve the accounts and Auditors report this evening.

### 6. TO ELECT AN AUDITOR

The Chairman thanked Sally Gausden for her hard work as Auditor and presented her with a gift as a mark of appreciation. Mrs Gausden was happy to remain in the post for 2016/17 and she was elected unopposed.

### 7. TO FIX THE SUBSCRIPTION RATE FOR 2016/2017

The Chairman stated that it was important for a review of annual Maintenance fees to take place and even though the vast majority had paid 3 years in advance to enable the resurfacing project it was still necessary to agree a fee for 2016/17 particularly as a small number of residents had elected not to participate in the advance payment and would therefore be charged this current year. The proposed increase is 10% for 2016/17 Maintenance Charge.

## **8. TO ELECT OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR 2016/17**

The Chairman asked the Secretary to read out the nominations and explained to the residents that the details would have to be communicated throughout the estate and voted on accordingly.

The Secretary read out the nominations:-

### **OFFICERS**

Mrs Diane Clancy as Chairman

Mr Tim Norfolk as Treasurer

Mrs Rose Kiley as Secretary

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Mr Peter Dunn - Trees

Mr Peter Davy - IT

Mr Liam O'Leary - Gulley liaison

Mrs Sandy Boyce Sharpe – Committee Member role TBA

The Chairman confirmed we need new people to join either as committee members or in a support role, as referred to in her Chairman's Report.

Tim Norfolk stated he would be vacating his role as Treasurer next year after holding the post for a number of years. Now would be a good time for someone to work alongside him to understand and take on the Treasurer's responsibilities. It would be a good time for people to join as co-opted members to have an understanding of the various roles and ensure progression for the next generation of committee members.

## **ITEM 9 DELETED INCLUDED ON AGENDA IN ERROR**

## **10. TO TRANSACT ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

10.1 The Chairman confirmed she had received a call from a Police Constable who is working on 'Distraction Burglaries'. There is a situation with 13/16 year old children knocking on doors for e.g. a glass of water, lost train ticket, no money to get home, mobile not working etc. There have been 5 incidents in the area. They believe a 15 year old girl is the ring leader, 5'8" tall wavy hair quite plump already has a criminal record and is currently on bail. In January this year we had similar activity in Linkway and Ratton Drive, this was reported to the police. The Police require visible evidence and advise residents to dial 999 if they have concerns. Very important not to leave doors open, lock them.

Linda Thomas asked where the children come from. The Chairman stated they live close to the estate.

Leah from WTW said she thought she saw someone in her back garden.

The Chairman said it is depressing news but stressed the importance of being on your guard.

10.2 The Chairman has been approached by one of the Ratton Councillors who would like to attend the AGM. As the AGM may only be attended by paid up ORRA Members this would not be possible. However, if anyone is interested in meeting them please let the Chairman know through the usual channels and she will make arrangements.

Carol Fage asked that attendees have a show of hands of the consensus of opinion in the hall on the items discussed. The Chairman agreed and confirmed it would not be a formal vote but it will confirm consensus of opinion on the night.

The Chairman asked for a show of hands to :-

1. RECEIVE & APPROVE ACCOUNTS and Auditor's Report (ITEM 5)
2. APPROVE THE PROPOSED 10 PERCENT INCREASE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS (ITEM 7)
3. APPROVE PROPOSED OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS (ITEM 8)

**All were provisionally approved by those present.**

Mark Thornton of The Close stated he was a new resident and had been used to paying substantially more. He said the value for money was a total understatement. He said the completed roadworks had diminished the accounts and wondered if people felt comfortable with finances at such a low level, maybe residents should be considering contributing more to make the residents less vulnerable. The Chairman said his comments were very well received and confirmed that very few people would be paying the increase this year. Next year 2017 will be time to take on board his comments as they are very relevant and most welcome.

Peter Dunn stated there are 3 trees that may need to be felled at a minimum charge of £1000 each for a small tree £8000 for a large tree. Two trees in RD and one in WTW.

Mr Boyce - Sharpe said the level of charges he has experienced for trimming and dismantling trees was much lower.

The Chairman confirmed that Chaffins are not the cheapest but they provide a professional service and have been doing so for a number of years. She stated maybe in the future we need to consider alternatives.

The Chairman said these areas should be raised next year when we consider spending forecasts, future plans, and Maintenance fee review.

Carol Fage raised the question of horses using the Tarmac roads in hot weather conditions. The Chairman had made various enquiries with horse associations and had the road checked by Hailsham Roadways. The road will be monitored every 6 months. She stressed the importance of notifying the committee of incidents in order that action may be taken swiftly. Mrs Boyce Sharpe stated the horses that come down Wish Hill now use Parkway.

Leah from WTW raised the question of speeding cars using it as a through road to RD and beyond. This was a major concern for the new families in WTW. The Chairman confirmed it is an ongoing issue and a continuous problem. Speed humps in WTW and gates at the junction of MW/RD were suggested, the Chairman confirmed we do not have the resources even if they were to be proposed and agreed.

Mrs Boyce Sharpe stated there is an initiative called Speed Watch, individuals are taught to use a speed gun this may be an option.

The Chairman confirmed she had had previous experience of this facility and felt it would not be available to us because of the private road status she said specialist training is involved, the security of the equipment is paramount and groups of individuals are required at the time of use. The Chairman stated it is very difficult to get any assistance from the council and official bodies because of the private road status.

The Chairman agreed to arrange a meeting between councillors and young families with children in order for them to raise their concerns.

Mrs Boyce Sharpe is the Chair of Neighbourhood First and she stated she would raise the issues at the next meeting. She said the Police and Councillors attend the meetings and any issues at all can be addressed at the meetings.

Nooshin Razavi said she raised the question of the trees in the Twitten last year and she was advised that ownership was inconclusive. She stated the Assn look after trees on the estate but not on the Twitten.

Carol Fage said that when she was responsible for trees in the past it was established that the four neighbouring householders are responsible for the trees in the Twitten.

Ms Razavi asked the Chairman if it was possible to arrange an agreement between each of them to ensure all the trees are cut at the same time.

The Chairman suggested that it was up to them to discuss with their neighbours.

Mark Thornton offered a vote of thanks to the committee for all the work they have been doing on behalf of the residents.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 21.10.

## ADDENDUM TO THESE AGM MINUTES 19MAY2016

Following the meeting it was established that the ORRA Constitution requirement for a quorum is 30 households not 30% as the Committee had believed. As a result, the attendees at the AGM was sufficient for the quorum and the provisional vote on the following items has subsequently been proposed by Mr T Clancy and seconded by Mrs C Fage to.

RECEIVE & APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR 2015/16  
AGREE THE PROPOSED 10 PERCENT INCREASE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2016/17  
AGREE THE PROPOSED OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2016/17