

VINTERS PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of meeting of Annual General Meeting

Held on Tuesday 26th April 2022 at Vinters Park Community Centre

Opening

The Chairperson, Tony Hewson, opened the meeting at 8.00pm by welcoming everyone attending. (The signatures on the attendance list indicated that 25 were present).

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2019, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairperson. There were no meetings held in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID restrictions in place. There were no matters arising.

Chairpersons Report

Welcome to our 2022 AGM.

You will be aware that Covid restrictions have caused much disruption to the everyday running of the Community Centre over the last two years, with restrictions being imposed, lifted and then re-imposed. That of course did not stop the continued running of the centre, the playgroup provided facilities for the children of key workers during this period and the committee provided extra sanitation products and facilities to ensure the centre was made as safe as possible during this period, our thanks go out to our dedicated cleaning team for ensuring that the centre was kept up to standard.

During this time the committee were able to identify several shortcomings following a recent risk assessment survey carried out for us and put in place plans to rectify these situations.

During a period when restrictions were lifted, we were able to put on our Christmas fair in December 2021 which proved to be a great success, with a good attendance from both stall holders and the general public, my thanks go to the members of our committee who put in so much hard work to made this event such a success.

The coffee mornings have continued when allowed and continue to grow in popularity. It is good to see so many residents turning up to have a chat and share their experiences. If you haven't joined us yet, you don't know what you are missing; the homemade cakes provided by our committee members are something to write home about. In fact, I hope to see more of you at our many events which we have planned for this year, we strive to create a community spirit within the area. The regular litter pick organised by Craig McAteer is an excellent example of this spirit and we do thank him, so come and join us.

I would like to extend my thanks to Cllr. Ian Chittenden who has provided a great amount of help to the Community Centre over this period.

Summing up, it has been a testing time since our last AGM but the committee and I are looking forward to better times and some very interesting events in 2022.

Presentation of Accounts

The Association's Finance Manager, Emma Stannett, presented the audited income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 January 2022 and the balance sheet as at that date. Copies of which had been circulated at the meeting earlier.

Emma reported that bookings enquiries are extremely healthy again the conversion into actual bookings is not as good.

The meeting duly APPROVED the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 January 2022 and the Balance Sheet as at 31 January 2022, copies of which are inserted in the Minute Book.

Appointment of Independent Examiner

It was duly AGREED that Steven Hill be appointed as the Independent Examiner for the current year.

Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members

The following members have indicated their willingness to continue on the Committee for the year 2022 - 2023:

Chairperson	Tony Hewson
Vice-Chairperson	Philippa Jaffray
Secretary	Caroline Corry

Appointed Manager

Finance and Bookings Manager Emma Stannett

Executive Committee

Individual Members Fred Burton, Michelle Zevla, Ken Goodchild, Sam Thomson, Cathy Webster, Shelly Moore, Tina Deverson

Ian Chittenden

The Chairperson then invited Ian Chittenden to present his latest report.

Ian began by thanking the VPRA for the work they do on the Community Centre and the success of its coffee mornings.

Ian outlined a number of the issues that the councils have had, and are still, dealing with due to the Covid, Brexit, illegal immigrants and now the Ukrainian war. These have brought unprecedented strain on councils both with staffing, workload and finance. Even though things are beginning to get back to some normality their workloads have still increased substantially due to high levels of sickness and problems getting money from central Government.

During the pandemic a lot of local road resurfacing of major roads was brought forward as the roads were very quiet and the work could be completed quicker. However, public footpaths saw an upsurge of people using them during the same period and the damage caused by this has now caused a three year back log.

The sink hole that appeared in Bonnington Road has been fixed.

Bus services are another area of concern as there as numbers fell off dramatically during the pandemic and now the issue with high numbers of drivers off sick with Covid. Providers have seen their income drop and KCC has removed £2.2m of supported services.

Bearsted Road improvement scheme has been delayed due to a number of reasons but work is now scheduled to start in the next few weeks. The work will take a year to complete.

Any Other Business

The Chairperson opened the floor to any other business.

Sandra Thexton asked how our events are advertised outside of the VP Facebook page as there are a lot of people who live on the estate are not on it. It was explained that we put notices up around the estate, at the Community Centre, in the local shop windows etc. but it is always something we are trying to improve upon to get to more residents.

Conclusion

There being no other business, the Chairperson concluded the meeting by thanking those present for their attendance. The Chairperson then closed the meeting at 8.47pm.

Approved(Chairperson)

Date:.....