

# VINTERS PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

## **Minutes of meeting of Annual General Meeting**

**Held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at Vinters Park Community Centre**

### **Opening**

The Chairperson, Tony Hewson, opened the meeting at 7.00pm by welcoming everyone attending. (The signatures on the attendance list indicated that 25 were present).

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairperson. There was no meeting in 2023 due to a number of restrictions.

### **Chairpersons Report**

Welcome to this, the 2024 AGM of the Vinters Park Residents' Association and I thank you all for attending.

You will be aware due to various restrictions this is the first AGM since 2022.

Sadly, since then we have lost our caretaker Derek Butler who passed away in June 2022. We have also lost two committee members, Philippa Jaffray who moved away from the estate and Sam Thomson stood down. Philippa was our Vice Chair but fortunately Michell Zevla has stepped into her shoes and has been doing an excellent job, thank you Michelle. Also, thanks to all the committee members who do a sterling job running the coffee mornings and other events.

Work and activities have continued in the centre, we have had a new fire alarm system and CCTV system installed and Cllr. Ian Chittenden gave us a grant of £1500 for new curtains in the large hall which has helped the acoustics in the hall. Other events included our Easter egg hunt, a Coronation lunch, car shows and the Christmas fair, notwithstanding our coffee mornings which have continued on the first Friday of every month and continue to grow in popularity, all which help to fund the hall. If you haven't been do come along and join us. In fact, we are always looking for new committee members, so please give that some consideration and come along and help us run the community centre.

At this point I would like to give a big thank you to Craig McAteer who has stepped in since we lost our caretaker, he does an immense amount of work to keep the community centre functioning, and also organises the litter picks which take place on the estate, you wouldn't believe what we find. Thank you Craig.

In conclusion I would like to confirm that for 2024 our events at the hall will continue, coffee mornings, car show in May, BBQ in August and the Christmas fair. If anyone has any ideas for new events, please let us know or perhaps come along and help us organise them.

Once again, thank you for attending this evening.

### **Presentation of Accounts**

The Association's Finance Manager, Emma Stannett, presented the audited income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 January 2024 and the balance sheet as at that date. Copies of which had been circulated at the meeting earlier.

The meeting duly APPROVED the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 January 2024 and the Balance Sheet as at 31 January 2024, 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 2024 - 2025:

Chairperson	Tony Hewson
Vice-Chairperson	Michelle Zevla
Secretary	Caroline Corry

### **Appointed Manager**

Finance and Bookings Manager Emma Stannett

### **Executive Committee**

Individual Members Fred Burton, Michelle Zevla, Ken Goodchild, Cathy Webster, Tina Deverson, Jacqui Badham, Vicky O'connell.

### **Cllr. 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. Please support the committee or come and help.

Finance update on KCC. The Government continues to make cuts whilst costs have risen dramatically. There will be further cuts next year making it harder to get things done.

The biggest problem over the past few weeks has been the waste collections. This was awarded to a new provider this year and they have tried to make big changes to routes from day one. This has resulted in large numbers of bins not being collected for weeks resulting in very high numbers of complaints to both KCC and MBC. They have now gone back to the old system so hopefully the problems will reduce over the coming weeks.

Bearsted Road improvements. Progress is still very slow, phase 1 has started but phase 2 has not been finalised yet.

Fly tipping, any instances reported are generally being dealt with the following day.

There was a bad sewerage leak in Aldon Close but it was all dealt with within a few hours.

Chris Price thanked Ian for getting the graffiti cleaned up so quickly, unfortunately there is more appearing. Ian said to report it to MBC who will get it cleaned up.

### **Any Other Business**

The Chairperson opened the floor to any other business.

David Naghi announced that he will no longer be representing Vinters after the local elections taking place this week.

Chris Price said that she has spoken to the Head Teacher of Valley Park school regarding the high numbers of pupils hanging around the estate and the amount of litter they are leaving. She was told that there are two teachers from the school up there every day to keep an eye on things. Also, student parking is still a big problem, especially in Bedgebury Close. Ian said it's very difficult to get anything done and although it is a genuine grievance he is not sure how it is going to get solved.

Fred Burton is concerned about the steps at the shops, they are in very bad repair and are dangerous. Tony has spoken to the shop owners and although it is the landlords responsibility it gets charged back to them so they are planning on doing it themselves. Ian said he will speak to the owners and if necessary place an enforcement notice on them.

**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 7.50pm.

**Approved .....(Chairperson)**

**Date:.....**