

DRAFT

MINUTES OF VPRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT VINTERS BOYS SECONDARY SCHOOL, HUNTSMAN LANE, ON THURSDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 1975

The Meeting was opened at 8.00 p.m. by the Vice-Chairmen. The Chairman was unable to be present at the start of the Meeting. Personnel on the platform were then introduced as follows:-

Mr. T. Cawdron	-	Vice-Chairman
Mr. R.N.D. Storey	-	Vice-Chairman
Mr. A. McDougall	-	Treasurer
Mrs. S. Storey	-	Secretary

Councillor B. Betteridge

There were 18 people present. The Agenda was then followed.

1. Chairman's Report

This item was taken by the Vice-Chairmen.

It was reported that membership for 1974/75 was 422, which represented approximately 60% of the total number of households on the estate. This figure was above the previous year's total of 362, which represented 57.1% of the total at that time.

Four newsletters had been distributed during the year. The format had been changed from previous years and items such as advertisements, information on clubs and societies and a competition included, as well as information on the Committee's activities during the year.

The Committee had met seven times during the year, including a Special Committee held on 8 May 1975 to discuss the question of the Local Authority buying up private dwellings on the estate.

The Committee had also continued the link with the Howard de Walden Youth Club.

The Vice-Chairmen then listed a few points as examples of the Committee's activities over the year:-

Planning application for new development on Vinters Park

Councillor Betteridge stated that a low density development had been approved by Maidstone Borough Council, although he personally was not in favour, and had now been passed to the County. He stated that a new access road would have to be provided from the existing estate and that Northfleet Close would be used for minor access only, if at all.

Letterbox and telephone kiosk for upper part of estate

A letterbox had now been provided in the area of Aldon Close. Agreement had been received in principle for the siting of a telephone kiosk, and the Committee had written to the authorities, urging that a telephone kiosk be provided as soon as possible, particularly in regard to the shortage of private lines in the new parts of the estate.

Other matters which the Committee had dealt with had been reported to residents in the newsletters.

The Vice-Chairmen concluded by thanking the residents who had attended the meeting, but regretted that the attendance was very low. The Committee members and Secretary were thanked for their work during the year.

2. Minutes of the 1974 A.G.M.

Copies of the Minutes of the last A.G.M. had been available for inspection from 7.30 p.m. onwards and were handed out before the Meeting started. These were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising

Page 3, Section 3 - Paths

Further letters had been written to the Borough regarding the tarmacing of the grass area at the entrance to the car park on Snowdon Parade. The Borough had replied to the effect that in the present economic situation it was unlikely that anything could be done in the near future.

Page 3, Section 3 - Noise

It was reported by Councillor Betteridge that Cartiers Freezer Foods had applied for, and obtained, planning permission for an insulated housing for their freezer motor unit. However, the permission gave Cartiers five years to erect the insulated housing and nothing could now be done about speeding this up. Residents were still complaining about the noise and it was suggested by a Committee member that they might try to get a reduction in rates until the work was completed. It was also suggested that the information about the insulated housing should be given to residents in a future newsletter.

Page 3, Section 3 - Bus Survey

A copy of the bus survey had been sent to the authorities and it was generally agreed that there had been an improvement in the bus service.

Page 5, Section 5 - Dangers to School Children in Snowdon Avenue

The Committee had written to the Education authorities about the danger to school children but had been disappointed in the response. Further letters had been written but no action had been taken by the authorities.

Page 5, Section 6 - Proposed Acquisition of Dwellings by the Local Authorities

Following the motion carried at the 1974 A.G.M. to write to the developers about the above, letters had been sent to Taylor Woodrow Homes Limited and Bovis Limited. In both cases, replies had been received, giving assurances that they had had no intention of selling to the local authorities.

The Special Committee Meeting held on 8 May 1975 had been attended by Councillor Jarman, a Maidstone Borough Councillor, who also lives on the estate. He stated at that meeting that the authority owned five houses on the estate which were let to essential services only, i.e. teachers, doctors, nurses, firemen and policemen. Councillor Jarman also said that the Government had informed local councils that they were only to buy new houses if they were left on the market empty for over six months. As

for second hand houses the maximum price the Council could pay was £11,500 but there is nothing stating that they could not go over this figure. The Committee had decided that there was nothing they could do at that time about the situation but agreed to watch the position. Councillor Jarman had said he would be happy to attend any other meetings on this subject if he was able.

Councillor Betteridge endorsed the view that the Council had only bought private houses for essential services.

4. Treasurer's Report

A Statement of the Accounts was made available at the meeting and is attached.

R. Freakes proposed that the subscription should be 30p again for the next year. This was seconded by A. Newman.

5. Competition Results

The winning competition entries were read and the winners were:-

1st prize - Mrs. T. Evans
2nd prize - Mrs. T. Evans
3rd prize - Mrs. Wright

The winners would receive book or record tokens.

6. The Chairman joined the meeting at 9.25 p.m. He apologised for not being present earlier, but he had had to take an examination. He endorsed the comments of the Vice-Chairmen given under the Chairman's Report item.

7. Election of Officers and Committee for 1975/76

Chairman	Mr. A. McDougall, 15 Northfleet Close
Vice-Chairman	Mr. J. Overy, 21 Commodore Road
Vice-Chairman	Mr. C. Harding, 10 Basmere Close
Treasurer	Mr. D. Moore, 25 Blendon Road
Secretary	

Committee Members	Mr. D.F. Albert, 40 Alkham Road
	Mr. T. Cawdron, 11 Cudham Close
	Mr. R. Storey, 31 Northfleet Close
	Mrs. L. Robson, 45 Bedgebury Close
	Mr. D. Layman, 16 Blendon Road
	Mr. R. Freakes, 31 Birchington Close
	Mr. A.S. Newman, 7 Littlebourne Road
	Mrs. A.M. Rudham, 27 Milstead Close

Mr. R. Storey said that he would be moving in a short time, but would be happy to serve on the Committee until then. The Chairman asked members if they would help to find a Secretary for the Association.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.30 p.m., having thanked Councillor Betteridge and the residents for attending.

Chairman

Date

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS OF THE VINTERS PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1975

INCOME

Deposit Account as at 30.9.74
 Current Account as at 30.9.74
 cash in hand as at 30.9.74
 422 Annual Subscriptions @ 30p
 Interest on deposit account to 30.9.74

160.41
 27.11
 10.01
 126.60
 13.31

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£337.44

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EXPENDITURE

Duplicating and Photocopying
 Receipt Books
 Stamps
 Competition prizes
 Stationery
 Gift/Caretaker
 Gift/Retiring Chairman
 Insurance
 Augustus Barnett/Gifts
 Hire of Halls
 Cheques to Bank
 Balance Current Account
 Balance Deposit Account
 Cash in Hand

5.82
 3.10
 2.45
 6.03½
 22.89
 1.00
 2.59
 10.00
 6.63
 10.35
 6.30
 61 o/d
 259.32
 1.56½

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£337.44

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A.J. McDougall
 Honorary Treasurer
 30.9.74