

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE V.P.R.A.
HELD AT VINTERS BOYS SCHOOL ON SATURDAY 26th APRIL, 1980

1. The meeting was opened at 2.30pm by the Chairman Richard Humphrey in the presence of approximately 60 members. Observers included Dr. Felicity Simpson (K.C.C. Councillor) and Charles McKenna (Borough Councillor).
2. APOLOGIES
Apologies were received from Mr. R. Enfield and Ms. M. Ashton, (Borough Coucillors); Ms. S. Fry and Mr. G. Neal, (Committee Members); and Mr. Allen (Member).
3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
Copies of the minutes were circulated to all at the meeting. There were no matters arising.
It was PROPOSED by Ms. A. Knoll and SECONDED by Mr. I. Chittenden that "the minutes of the previous AGM are correct". The motion was carried.
4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
The Chairman gave his report to the meeting. Reference was made to the cancellation of the lottery, the campaign against the Remand Centre and other activities. The Chairman thanked the local councillors and Mr. J. Wells M.P. who had given their support in the campaign against the Remand Centre.
The Chairman reported that the V.P.R.A. was contesting a planning application by Taylor Woodrow to build 201 houses on area 10.
The report was concluded with a request for active support from members at the meeting.
5. TREASURER'S REPORT
Mr. K. Luxford, Treasurer explained the accounts, copies of which had been circulated to the meeting. There were no questions from the floor and the Treasurer PROPOSED and Mr. R. Wilcockson SECONDED the motion that "the accounts for the last financial year be approved and accepted". The motion was carried.
6. ELECTION OF 1980/81 OFFICERS/COMMITTEE
 - (a) The following nomination had been received prior to the meeting:-
Chairman - Angela Knoll
Treasurer - Blair Southerden
Committee Members:-
Robert Horn
Robert Wilcockson
Janet Skinner
David Costello
Robert Rasheed
Alan Rowlands
Keith Anderson
Susan Fry
 - (b) At the meeting, Mr. Ian Chittenden PROPOSED and Mr. R. Wilcockson SECONDED Mr. A. Barker's nomination as committee member; Mr. R. Horn PROPOSED and Mr. B. Southerden SECONDED Ms. A. Piper's nomination as Secretary.
 - (c) The meeting adopted the officers and committee as nominated; their nominations to take effect at the closure of the meeting.
 - (d) Mr. Humphrey remained in the chair for the remainder of the meeting. He explained that he was standing down because of his imminent removal to Lincolnshire. Dr. Simpson asked the meeting to show their appreciation to the retiring Chairman.
- (7a) COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT
The Chairman gave a short history of the Community Centre Project. He gave

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a report of a meeting held at the invitation of the Penenden Heath Social Hall Committee to consider the possibility of a joint venture. This venture had been rejected by the P.H.S.H. annual general meeting.

(7b) CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT (Section 2 para b)

The Chairman explained the effect of a constitutional amendment to this section on the charitable status of the association.

There were questions and comment from the floor about the need for a community centre and the advisability or otherwise of the constitutional amendment.

The Chairman PROPOSED "that section 2, paragraph (b) is deleted from our constitution". This was SECONDED by Ms. A. Knoll. A vote was taken, there were 17 For, 25 Against. The proposal was DEFEATED.

The Chairman PROPOSED "that next year's committee have the authority to look into Area 10 as a potential site for the community centre, and to start fund raising." The proposal was SECONDED by Mr. D. Costello. After a vote the proposal was passed by a majority of four.

8. CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS (Sections 3,5 and 7)

The Chairman explained the effect of the amendments. He then PROPOSED "the alterations to section 3 as circulated are accepted". The motion was SECONDED by Mr. B. Southerden and carried by the meeting.

Mr. R. Humphrey PROPOSED "the alterations to section 5 as shown, are accepted", Mr. D. Costello SECONDED and the proposal was carried.

Mr. R. Humphrey PROPOSED and Mr. K. Luxford SECONDED the motion "that alteration to section 7 as shown, is accepted". The motion was carried.

Mr. R. Humphrey PROPOSED and Mr. M. Skinner SECONDED the motion that "the voluntary subscription for the year is 50 pence". The motion was carried.

Mr. R. Humphrey PROPOSED and Mr. K. Young SECONDED the motion that "the Committee have the authority to find an auditor for the financial year 1980/81." The motion (was carried.

9. AREA 10 APPEAL

A discussion took place about Taylor Woodrow's appeal against the refusal of a planning application to build 201 houses on Area 10. It was reported that the appeal had been deferred for three months. Great concern was expressed over possible damage to trees on this land. Mr. A. Barker said that he was making a thorough investigation of the area, inspecting and photographing trees for preservation. It was agreed that the Association should continue to register objections to the granting of the appeal.

10. LITTER

The Chairman reported that following complaints from residents about litter, the Association would hold an anti-litter campaign and would hold a clean-up day on June, 15th.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) FETE. Plans for the third fete were reported. The Chairman asked for volunteers to help.

(b) EDUCATIONAL CAMP SITE. Dr. Simpson reported that investigations were being made for the K.C.C. to form an Educational Camp Site on Vinters Park. Access would be from New Cut Road and the camp would be used for children to study the area (botanical and nature). The suggestion met with a favourable response from the meeting.

(c) JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB. It was reported that about 20 boys regularly attended Saturday morning sessions with Mr. K. Young. New members should contact Mr. Young.

- (d) "CONTACT" A letter from Ms. J. Gower the instigator of the "Contact" group, was read to the meeting reminding members of the aims and meeting times of the group.
- (e) SHOPS. The Chairman answered a question from the floor about the structural damage to the shops, and explained correspondence between the Association and the Chancery Land Company. The committee would continue its interest in this subject.
Concern was expressed about lorries parking overnight in the car park. The Chairman said he would look into the provision of a "Private Car Park" sign.
- (f) L. DRIVERS. With the completion of the top part of the estate it was felt that the status of Hampton Road had changed, and Mr. A. Barker expressed fears from learner drivers performing emergency stops and three point turns in this road. The Chairman said he would explore the opportunities for getting the test route removed from the estate.
- (g) CYCLING. The Association was asked to discourage cycling on the footpaths with an article in the "Rag". It was asked if a staggered barrier could be erected across the estates bottom footpath.
- (h) GIRL'S SCHOOL. Concern was expressed about the obstruction caused by cars attending events at the Girl's school.
- (j) VOTE OF THANKS. Ms. J. Skinner asked for a vote of thanks for Mr. K. Luxford (retiring treasurer) and Ms. P. Heath (retiring secretary) for their work and efforts for the Association.

12. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chairman thanked those who attended the meeting and closed the meeting at 4.55pm.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The amendments as circulated to the meeting and as adopted are as follows:-

- 1. To delete from Section 2 (objects of the Association) paragraph 2(b) in its entirety. This paragraph states that the objects of the Association shall be:-
"to establish or secure the establishment of a community centre and to maintain and manage, or to co-operate with local statutory authority in the maintenance or management of such a centre for activities promoted by the Association in furtherance of the above objects."
- 2. To include and alter paragraphs in Section 3 (Membership) as indicated in inverted commas.
 - (a) Membership shall be "open" (change to "given") irrespective of political party, nationality, religious opinion, race or colour to all persons aged eighteen and over, residing in the area of benefit. "(Delete next sentence). Each eligible person shall become a member by paying a subscription to the funds of the Association."
 - (b) The annual "voluntary" (word to be added) subscription for each ensuing year shall be determined by the Annual General Meeting.
 - (c) The subscription shall become due as from the date of the Annual General Meeting for the ensuing year "(delete rest of paragraph) and if no subscription be paid during any year membership shall be considered lapsed.

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3. To alter and include in Section 5 (The Committee) paragraphs 5(b) in the final sentence as shown by inverted commas.
The total number of co-opted members shall not exceed "one-third" (change to "one-half") of the total number of members of the Committee (then include) " as elected at the Annual General Meeting."
4. To alter in Section 7 (Annual General Meeting) the ending of the Association's financial year from 5th April, to 31st January.

The reasons for the alterations are as follows:-

1. The deletion of our commitment for a community centre is the result of a motion approved at the Special Meeting on the 29th November, 1979.
2. The alterations of membership to the Association as stated in Section 2 of the Constitution, are a consequence of the present Committee's desire to see each resident on Vinters Park having the right to membership of the Association. They also wish members the privilege of not having to pay a compulsory annual fee. The voluntary subscription will be needed to fund the expenses of the Association throughout the year. It will also give us a guide to the amount of active support the Association has. Obviously the more support the Association has the more sway it will have when dealing with the Local Authorities, other organisations, etc.
3. The alteration to the possible make up of the Committee has from past experience (e.g. last Special Meeting) proved necessary. We therefore wish to be able to co-opt more Committee Members outside of the A.G.M. The overall majority of elected Committee Members can, of course, only be altered by the A.G.M.
4. The alteration of our financial year is to enable us to prepare our audited accounts for the A.G.M. without rushing.