

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Vinters Park Residents Association held at Eastborough Primary School on 11th May, 1982 at 8pm.

In the absence of a chairman of the Association, Blair Southerden agreed to chair the meeting.

1. Opening Remarks. The chairman apologised for starting the meeting late, this was because a quorum of 25 are needed to hold a valid A.G.M. and the meeting was two people short of this.

2. Apologies for Absence. Apologies were received from Mrs Gower, Mr Barr and Mr Sinclair.

3. Minutes of the last A.G.M. It was proposed by Mr Andersen and seconded by Mrs Wilcockson that the meeting accept these as being correct.

4. Chairman's Report. The committee had met regularly during the year, there had been changes in their membership. The committee had said goodbye to Janet and Michael Skinner, who had moved away from the estate, and Sue Fry, who would be moving away shortly. The committee expressed their thanks to all three for their efforts in fund-raising for the Association, particularly to Janet and Michael for the tremendous amount of work that they had put into organising and running the lottery, also to Sue, who with Janet organised the Summer Fete. The committee had been boosted soon after the last A.G.M. by co-opting into its membership Mrs Gower, Mrs Ashurst and Mrs Wilcockson. The Fete was held in June organised by a small sub-committee, not actually by the V.P.R.A. committee, but supported by them. It had been opened by Isabel Black, who as well as being very generous at the stalls, also said that she had enjoyed herself. The chairman extended thanks to the local shopkeepers for their generosity and assistance. The Fete raised a profit of just over £220. From which a donation had been given to the Vinters Park Boys Football Team. V.P.R.A. organised a party for senior residents of the estate, who were entertained by the Eastborough School Choir and the Cuxton Bellringers. The chairman thanked all non-committee members who had helped to make the evening a success.

At the last Annual General Meeting the committee were given a mandate by those present to look at the possibility of building a Community Centre on the Minor Centre Site. There had been some progress, and the committee had been assisted by Mr Sinclair, who had recently moved to the estate, and was a technical engineer. In conclusion it was decided to rename the Community Centre, and call it a Village Hall. It was hoped that this would dispel some thoughts and horrors. If the Association were to progress with such a building, there would be two immediate needs, Fundraising - approximately £20,000 on top of the present amount held in accounts, and Assistance - with administration and organisation to get the project off the ground. Last years committee had been small and so work was spread over fewer people. It was suggested that £20,000 sounds more than we could raise, but 1500 houses donating sixty pence per week each would raise that in a year, mechanism could develop to collect it. People present were asked to put this over to neighbours and others who had not come to the meeting.

5. Treasurer's Report. The Fete had raised £226 profit, £160 had been spent on the Senior Residents Party, and two donations had been given to the Football Team, although they had offered to clean-up the estate in return. A donation of £10 had been given to the Eastborough School Choir. Subscriptions had netted £260, the treasurer thanked all who had acted as collectors and those who had organised the rounds etc. He thought it was a worthwhile exercise and would pay next years expenses, ie Stationary, Rag and maintenance of the Xerox machine. All expenditure had been met by income during the last year.

The cash at the bank had increased in the last year, and the Association now had four accounts.

Current Account - £230
General Deposit - £632
Community Centre A/C - £1569
Lottery Account - £6191

There was also some cash in hand, late subscription had now been paid into the bank. Total money held in banks £8,728.

There was a question from the floor asking if the lottery was still running? It was explained that a motion from the floor two years ago had called for all fundraising for a community centre to cease, and so the lottery was wound down. Money had been kept in a separate account although it had been moved from the Building Society to Lloyds Bank. It was asked if Maidstone Borough Council had been considered as they would pay more interest? It was requested from the floor that this aspect be looked into.

It was proposed that the accounts be accepted as correct, Mr Wilcockson proposed and Mr Costello seconded that this should be so.

6. Election Of Officers. the following had agreed to stand for election.

David Costello
Bill Barr
Jill Gower
Keith Andersen
Barbara Doyle
Ingrid Wilcockson
Bob Wilcockson
Geraldine Ashurst
John Stubbins

Blair Southerden proposed that we should accept these nominations, he stated that he himself could not stay on the committee for another term of office, due to pressure of work. David Costello agreed to have his arm twisted into taking on the position of treasurer. He did not have much spare time but would sign cheques and see to the administration but could not be more active than that. He added that if there was a volunteer he would stand down. Blair said that it was important for the Association to have a treasurer as it could not function without one. David asked about nominating a secretary, as minutes have to be taken and correspondence dealt with. It was noted that the absence of a chairman could be overcome and a secretary would have to be found from within the new committee. Mr Southerden proposed and Mr Young seconded that the nominees for committee be accepted. Mr Young also proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing committee for the tremendous amount of work that had been put in.

7. Any other business. Mr Thexton asked why fundraising had been discontinued, he said that it was because people did not like the position of the community centre. Ken Young said that he had seconded the relevant minute from last years A.G.M. but said it was not written as stated. Mr Young said the Minor Centre site had been costed out, but Mr Southerden said that this was incorrect now. All the estate had received a notice of this meeting and if they disagreed with this site they should have come along to this meeting tonight. This was generally agreed, it was also added that the site in question, which had been virtually vacated by Taylor Woodrow was now an eyesore, and the new committee would be taking the matter up with them. As the building of a community centre would involve a lot of money, the Maidstone Borough Council would want to see commitment from the V.P.R.A. before considering a grant application from us. Mr Stubbins offered his support due to his financial knowledge. A lady living near the underpass said that she had had her window smashed, and she wanted to know if the centre would create more vandalism. Mr Southerden said that in his knowledge as a policeman, more activity and people passing would cut down the problems of loitering and mischief.

The lady also wanted to know if a caretaker would be in residence. It was thought that this would not be so, the V.P.R.A. could not afford that type of 'luxury'. Philip Young stated that as the minor centre site could not be built upon, it would stand empty and attract yobs. In the past it had been considered for shops and only a gunsmith was interested, also a brewery had considered building a public house there. There developed a discussion regarding the lands designation, which was for either Community Centre/Shops. One man said that on his plans it was open grassland, as this disagreed with the original plans Mr Young stated that this mans complaint should lie with his solicitor. Mr Southerden said that some people living near the minor centre site already enjoyed a rate rebate. Maidstone Borough Council would want to see a new mandate from the estate before agreeing to allow the siting of a community centre on the estate. The new committee should be very careful as there was a minefield to go through, bearing in mind the history and the constitution of the association. Before proceeding there may have to be another referendum. Blair also stated that there was a substantial majority who wanted the centre so long as it was not near them. There was a question regarding the acquisition of the land, Taylor Woodrow had hinted that ownership could be transferred to the V.P.R.A. for the price of paying there legal fees, but Blair did not think we should take up this option, otherwise there would be insurance plus the cost of maintenance liabilities which would then fall to the association. Taylor Woodrow could perhaps be approached again by the next committee. The Vinters Boys Football Team now had between 30 to 40 boys in training, but the M.B.C. will not help with a pitch for them to play on. At present training takes place at Vinters Boys School, but they are not allowed to use the pitch there. Ken Young said that they had an agreement whereby V.P.R.A. had agreed to help financially. The team has to pay privately to use the Civil Service Club pitch. A reminder would be sent to the Council, who had agreed to re-site the goal posts on the play area adjacent to Marston Drive as this had still not been done. The committee should build up contacts throughout the estate, and would consider helping out people with reasonable projects.

At 2115 hours the meeting was declared closed.

VINTERS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Accounts, year ended 31st January, 1983

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	<u>1982/3</u>	<u>1981/2</u>		<u>1982/3</u>	<u>1981/2</u>
	£	£		£	£
<u>EXPENSES</u>			<u>INCOME</u>		
AGM Costs	16	14	Fete	-	226
Audit Fee	20	20	Interest Received	64	111
Christmas Party	-	161	Subscriptions	257	260
Donations	-	60			
Insurance	28	30			
Parkranger	89	-			
Postage, stationary etc.	27	98			
Professional fees	-	83			
Sundry expenses	16	16			
	<u>196</u>	<u>482</u>		<u>321</u>	<u>597</u>
Surplus for the year	<u>125</u>	<u>115</u>		<u>£321</u>	<u>£597</u>
	<u>£321</u>	<u>£597</u>		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

BALANCE SHEET, 31st January 1983

	<u>1982/3</u>	<u>1981/2</u>		<u>1982/3</u>	<u>1981/2</u>
	£	£		£	£
<u>FUNDS</u>			<u>ASSETS</u>		
<u>Community Centre</u>			<u>Community Centre</u>		
Balance at 1/2/82	7760	7000	NSB. Accounts	8558	7760
Interest Received	798	760			
	<u>8558</u>	<u>7760</u>		<u>8558</u>	<u>7760</u>
<u>GENERAL</u>			<u>GENERAL</u>		
Balance at 1/2/82	968	853	Deposit Account	954	633
Surplus for the year	125	115	Current Account	99	250
	<u>1093</u>	<u>968</u>	Cash	40	85
	<u>£9651</u>	<u>£8728</u>		<u>1093</u>	<u>968</u>
	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>		<u>£9651</u>	<u>£8728</u>

I certify that the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st January 1983 has been prepared from, and is in accordance with the books and records and the information and explanations given to me.

D.A. COSTELLO F.C.A.
TREASURER

D.A. Costello

K. WESCOTT
ACCOUNTANT

K. Wescott