

VINTERS PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Invicta Grammar School on the 14 May 1985.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Bob Wilcockson, Ingrid Wilcockson and David Evans.

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

The Minutes of the last A.G.M. were agreed by those present to be a true record.

3. Chairmans Report

Community Centre matters occupied much of the Committee time. There will be a report on this later.

Other matters dealt with during the year:

Jumble Sales / Fetes

Sue Fry took responsibility for organising these events and the success of them helped our fund raising efforts. Thanks to Sue given.

We have booked a stall at the Eastborough School Summer Fete to raise further funds for the Community Centre. We will be inviting donations of 50p in return for signatures in a formal record to be kept in Centre when it is opened.

Delivery of Free Newspapers

In response to residents' requests the distributors have been contacted to try to get deliverers not to walk across lawns and flower beds.

Vandalism

John Stubbins did an interview for Radio Kent shortly after last years A.G.M. on this subject. Fortunately it seems that many of the problems reported to last years A.G.M. have abated. We have kept close contact with our local policeman and he has made strenuous efforts to keep an eye on areas where occurrences may arise.

Graffiti

The underpasses have been painted by the Council which has deterred graffiti to a certain extent, but it still does occur.

Street Lighting

There appeared to be lengthy delays in repairing some lamps due to difficulty in obtaining some replacement parts. Lights in the underpasses were constantly vandalised.

Youngsters Riding without Lights

This matter continues to cause concern for motorists on the Estate. An appeal to parents was made in last issue of the Park Ranger.

Parkranger

In an effort to keep costs down, the Parkranger is now issued to paid-up members of the Association only.

Bedgebury Close

Some senior citizen residents in Bedgebury Close have been concerned about undertakers vehicles belonging to 'Serenity' being parked in the road outside one of the houses. The Council's Planning Enforcement Officer has been contacted regarding possible infringement of planning laws relating to home businesses. The matter has now gone quiet and so we are awaiting developments.

Northfleet Close

There has been a problem concerning an invalid car which backs along a footpath to an 'Unofficial' hardstanding in a resident's front garden. A retrospect planning application has been made for the hardstanding. A planning committee decision is awaited.

Weyhill Close

We have had correspondence with Bovis regarding a hedgerow at the rear of Weyhill Close, which is not being maintained and causing problems for the residents. We are hopeful of resolving this in the near future. We have asked that each resident may be given, free of charge, the section of hedgerow adjacent to their property so that they may maintain it themselves.

Conclusion

Early in the Committee Year two members resigned, also during the year our Secretary had a serious and prolonged illness. Therefore it was impossible to get round the whole estate to collect subscriptions. Mr Stubbins thanked Members of the Committee for their hard work and effort during the year.

4. Treasurers Report

Accounts were taken as read. It was agreed to retain the services of Mr Westcott as Auditor and that an honorarium of £25 be given to him.

5. Election of Officers

Chairman - John Stubbins
Treasurer- Keith Andersen
Secretary- Sheila Chittenden

The above were all proposed and duly elected. The committee gained two new members and would be as follows:

Connie Davis, Sue Fry, Jean Low, Ingrid and Bob Wilcockson, David Evans, Neil Sinclair and Peter Lott.

6. Subscriptions

It was agreed that subscriptions will remain at £1 per household and 50p for Senior Citizens.

7. Community Centre

There have been many discussions with the Architects D.C. Hudson and Partners and Taylor Woodrow concerning the Community Centre. This resulted in a full planning application being submitted together with worked up drawings and a quotation for the cost of works. Taylor Woodrow have agreed to:

Carry out site works

Layout Car Park

Lay foundation Slab

Donate the land to the Association for a consideration of £1

Taylor Woodrow's only constraint is that they be allowed to erect 6 dwellings on the other half of the site which they are retaining.

St Lukes P.C.C. have agreed to donate £ 2,000

T.V.S. Charitable Trust will also donate £ 2,000

The playgroup will also be making a donation.

The Borough Council will give a 25% grant

The County Council will give a 50% grant.

Since the quotation of cost was received for the Community Centre inflation has occurred and extra funds may be needed. As a contingency Mr Stubbins has arranged for a Building Society mortgage offer of up to £15,000.

Letters have been sent to Maidstone District Health Authority and Kent County Council inviting them to consider using the common room as a permanent clinic - this should generate a regular source of income in addition to that from the Playgroup and Toddler group. We hope that other local organisations (e.g. scouts brownies, guides, Womens Institute etc.) will be able to use the facilities and we will ensure that charges are kept reasonable. There will be no alcohol allowed on the premises and therefore some income from private functions will be lost. However it is hoped that the use already anticipated will be sufficient income.

It was agreed that the opening hours for the Community Centre will be:

8 a.m. - 10.30 p.m. Sunday/Thursday

8 a.m. - 11.00 p.m. Friday/Saturday.

8. Constitution

Mr Stubbins went through proposals to amend the existing constitution. These were all accepted.

9. Newnham Court Farm

A planning application has been made for an industrial and commercial development at Newnham Court Farm. The Residents Association has objected to this and it has also been refused by the Maidstone Borough Council and Kent County Council. The applicants have now appealed to the Secretary of State. It was decided to continue the fight against the scheme.

10. Sittingbourne Road Widening Proposals

It has been proposed by the Council to widen the Sittingbourne Road on the Vinters Park side, thus bringing traffic and associated noise, vibration, fumes etc. closer to the houses facing the road. It was agreed to oppose the new line of the road and to suggest that it should be more centrally placed, taking some of the land from the other side of the road as well, instead of just the Vinters Park side.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.

38 Members of the Residents Association were present