

## VINTERS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION HELD AT VINTERS PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE ON 12 MAY 1999.

There were some 45 residents and guests present and the Chairman started by welcoming everyone to the meeting. The Chairman expressed the Association's thanks to Inspector Simon Black and P.C. John Ansell of the Crime Reduction Unit for coming to speak on Local Policing and also to Mr. Geoff Russell, the Highway Manager, who would tackle questions raised on highway and related matters. The Chairman also thanked Councillor J. Munson, Chairman of Boxley Parish Council and Judy Rider, the Head Teacher of the Vinters Park Community School who would no doubt be happy to answer any questions within their respective spheres.

Apologies were received from Ann Widdicombe M.P., Andrew Rowe M.P., County Councillor Mrs. M. Featherstone, County Councillor Dr. F. Simpson, Councillor D. MacGrory, Councillor P. Sellar, Councillor Mrs. M. Shaw and Councillor M. Yates, Mr. D. Abrams the Head Teacher of East Borough Primary School, Mr. and Mrs. D. Evans and Mrs. M. Stubbins.

#### 1. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20 May 1998 were circulated at the meeting, approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### 2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

The Chairman's written Report had been circulated with the Notice of Meeting and Agenda in the Spring issue of "The Park Ranger". Mr Val Elton congratulated the Chairman on an excellent report. No questions were raised directly relating to this Report or to the Minutes of the 1998 A.G.M.

#### 3. PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS.

On behalf of Avice Harms, the Finance Manager, John Stubbins presented the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 January 1999 and the Balance Sheet as at that date, copies of which are inserted in the Minute Book. He referred to the expenditure on maintenance of the building which naturally tends to increase as the property ages. He pointed out that this was the third year when the accounts had produced a deficit. The general position was not serious, but the Executive Committee would need to look at increasing the letting charges by some 5% to keep pace with the growing level of expenditure. Although as auditor he would be asking the Finance Manager to investigate the benefits of putting a higher sum into a suitable form of deposit account, he was confident that the Finance Manager had done very good and efficient job.

There were no questions and the Meeting approved the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 January 1999 and the Balance Sheet as at 31 January 1999.

#### 4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

The following members were duly elected to the posts indicated:

Chairman Neil Sinclair

Vice Chairman Noreen Latham

Honorary Secretary Keith Rogers

Executive Committee John Ashdown, Peter Fever, Sue Fry, Gerry Kirrage, Peter Lott, and Terry O'Connor.

#### 5. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY AUDITOR.

It was RESOLVED that John Stubbins be appointed as Honorary Auditor for the coming year, but it was left to the Executive Committee to settle the amount of the honorarium to be paid for his services in this post.

#### 6. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.

It was RESOLVED that the Annual Subscription be again waived for the coming year.

#### 7. PRESENTATION ON LOCAL POLICING.

The Chairman then introduced Inspector Simon Black to speak on the Maidstone/Malling Policing plan for 1999/2000. He explained how the previous concept had been for the police who were geographically placed to seek to respond to all incidents and this had met with only limited success. The current thinking had changed to analysing all the information received with a view to developing tactical options and setting priorities. Inspector gave a breakdown of local crime statistics which had helped to formulate a set of objectives for dealing with the most common forms of crime.

The Police were especially keen to drive out burglary, car related crimes and drug misuse. On burglary as well as seeking to solve the crimes so as to reduce the number of offences much attention was given to the victims. There was evidence that any burgled property was likely to receive a return visit within the subsequent two months. Because of this the victims were given crime reduction advice so as to make their premises less vulnerable. Public safety was also a concern of the Police who were seeking to make the roads safer by driving down the speed of motorists. Racially motivated crime was also a concern of the Police. With young people the aim would be to tackle any form of minor problems before they developed into offences.

At this point in the proceedings Inspector Black was starting to embark on answers to questions when a football was propelled into the Hall through an open window. Inspector Black and P.C. Ansell went off in pursuit of the culprits, soon to return empty handed but with a name or two in mind of those who might shortly be helping the Police with their enquiries.

In reply to a number of points from residents questioning the effectiveness of Police response to reported crimes or criminal activity Inspector Black claimed that the use of centralised resources through a Community Co-ordinator was a highly efficient method of operation. Calls were classified according to their perceived level of priority. Matters regarded as issues of social importance did not attract an immediate response, but would be logged for future reference. A number of residents expressed the view that what was wanted was for the Police to be seen about the estate on a regular basis, but Inspector Black insisted that this was not an efficient use of resources. He emphasised the need to be able to tackle more serious crime even if this meant the Police were not around to deal with minor matters. He also asked people to be willing to report what they see and to continue to do so.

The Chairman thanked Inspector Black and P.C. Ansell for their attendance and presentation.

#### 8. QUESTION TIME.

The Chairman then invited residents to submit questions on highway, environmental and related topics and introduced Mr. Geoff Russell, the Highway Manager of the Highway Management Unit who would respond on those matters within his province. The matters raised included the following:

The general level of the maintenance of environment on the estate appeared to have deteriorated badly over the last few months. The footpaths in particular were being sadly neglected with damage to the surface not being repaired and shrub and tree roots growing through the surface. The infrequent and erratic clearance of weeds in gutters was incomplete and quite unsatisfactory. Geoff's response was that this is due to the severe cut in the finances made available.

On the failure to replace road signs we were advised that we need to report when they are damaged or disappear as the road signs are only checked once a year. There is a programme for replacement, but the process does take time.

The reason for the failure to provide the previously proposed pedestrian crossing in Bearsted Road from the Crematorium to Notcutt's was given as being due to the downgrading of the road scheme and lack of financial provision for the lower prioritised scheme

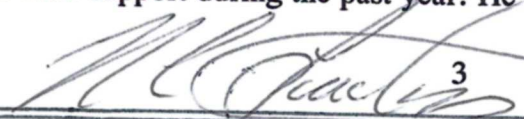
P.C. Ansell stated that the illegal use of motor bikes on land in the vicinity of the park and ride site/Chilterns Hundreds had led to police action being taken and charges being brought.

Among other matters raised and noted as appropriate were the playing of football and use of goalposts with nets on highway land in Matfield Crescent, problems of litter, trees in Challock Walk, the lack of a marker at the start of footpath KB9 and the condition of that footpath, graffiti on garages, the provision of dropped kerbs and the expected problems with wheelibins.

Judy Rider replied on points raised about behaviour of youngsters on their way to and from school. The school did seek to exercise supervision over the accesses to the school and anyone seeing any pupils behaving badly was asked to help by reporting it to the school.

#### 9. CONCLUSION.

The Chairman thanked everyone present for their attendance and the members of the Executive Committee for their support during the past year. He then closed the meeting at 10.10 p.m.

  
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CHAIRMAN



# VINTERS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 January 2000

	1999/00		1998/99	
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>				
Community Centre hire				
Regular hirers	7,540		7,094	
Casual hirers	1,595		851	
Bank Interest	58		5	
Boxley Parish Council: Grant	250		-	
Other income	60		5	
	<u>        </u>		<u>        </u>	
		9,503		7,955
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<i>Community Centre Costs:</i>				
Caretaking & cleaning	3,004		3,182	
General maintenance	375		546	
Structural alterations & repairs	200		752	
Grounds maintenance	70		130	
Equipment: new & maintenance	199		445	
Electricity	768		398	
Gas	467		432	
Water	98		83	
Sewerage	121		114	
Insurances	722		693	
Performing rights	cr 100		96	
	<u>        </u>		<u>        </u>	
	5,924		6,871	
<i>Administration &amp; Other Costs:</i>				
Managers' salaries	819		820	
Secretarial expenses	128		130	
Subscription	10		30	
Grant: Vinters Valley Trust	300		300	
Donation	30		-	
AGM expenses (Parkranger)	85		70	
Audit fee	50		50	
	<u>        </u>		<u>        </u>	
		7,346		8,271
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>		<u>£2,157</u>		
<b>DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR</b>				<u>£316</u>

## Balance Sheet as at 31 January 2000

	1999/00		1998/99	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Accumulated Funds:</b>				
At start of year	3,212		3,527	
Add: surplus for year	2,157		-	
Less: Deficit for year	-		-	
	-		cr 316	
At end of year		5,369		3,212
<b>Deposits Held:</b>				
At start of year	115		75	
Received	767		700	
Returned	cr 762		cr 660	
With-held	cr 50		-	
	-		-	
At end of year		70		115
		£5,439		£3,327
<b>Represented By:</b>				
Bank current account	1,027		2,555	
Bank reserve account	4,058		1,067	
Debtors	817		208	
Receipts in advance	cr 57		cr 98	
Creditors	cr 406		cr 405	
	-		-	
		£5,439		£3,327

AVICE HARMS - Finance Manager

I have examined the respective records and vouchers and certify that these accounts give a true and fair view of the transactions of the Vinters Park Residents' Association for the year ended 31 January 2000 and of the financial position at that date.

JOHN STUBBINS, CPFA - Honorary Auditor