



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Association held at Vinters Park
Community Centre on Wednesday 20th April 2016

1. OPENING

The Chairman, Gerry Kirrage, opened the meeting at 7.45pm by welcoming everyone attending. (The signatures on the Attendance List indicated that 32 were present).

Apologies for absence were received from Maggie Middleton, Martin Cox, Val Nightingale, Chris Jarvis and Sarah Long.

The Chairman thanked Carol for providing refreshments this evening and asked all present that if they wished to discuss anything with our guests, Ian Chittenden, David Naghi and Neil Kinrade to please do so after the close of the meeting. It was also pointed out that proposed plans for the Waitrose development had been displayed on the noticeboard.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22nd April 2015, having been circulated at the meeting, were approved and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman presented his report (a copy of which is inserted in the Minute Book). There were no matters arising.

Due to the age of the building, water problems had been experienced this year which would need looking into a lot more with the possibility of installing new toilets. There had also been heating problems, which have hopefully now been resolved. Fred Burton had contacts for servicing the boilers.

Street Party (Aldon Close and Cudham Close) 12th June 2016 from 1pm, to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. It is proposed that the streets will be closed from 1pm onwards. The Hall has been booked and tables and chairs would be made available. Activities: games, dancing, competitions. Own food and drink to be provided. All residents invited.

Gerry noted that he had served on the Executive Committee as Chairman for 15 years, 4 years previously as Vice-Chairman. He also noted that Peter Lott had resigned from the Committee with a view to concentrating more on the VVPT. Peter had been on the committee from day one and always provided good input and ideas and had been a valued member of the group. Gerry wished him well.

4. PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS

The Association's Finance Manager, Mrs. Siobhan Wood, presented the audited income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 January 2016 and the balance sheet as at that date with the Independent Examiner's report. Copies of which had been circulated at the meeting earlier.

Siobhan reported that she had lost a couple of bookings and pre-school had reduced their hours. There was no change to wages. Maintenance had been the biggest outgoing this year. Still pay £300 per year to VVPT. The bank accounts remained healthy.

The meeting duly **APPROVED** the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 January 2016 and the Balance Sheet as at 31 January 2016, copies of which are inserted in the Minute Book.



VINTERS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following members, having been nominated prior to the meeting or elected at the meeting, were duly **ELECTED** to the posts indicated:

Chairperson:	Kay Lowe
Vice-Chairman:	Barry Smith
Secretary:	Juliet Johnson

Appointed Managers

Finance & Bookings Manager: Siobhan Wood
Premises Manager: Derek Butler

Executive Committee:

- (1) Individual Members: Gerry Kirrage, Carol Bell, Fred Burton, Tony Hewson, Sarah Long, Maggie Middleton, Val Nightingale, Jackie Young, Chris Jarvis, Amanda Rose and Chris Shiers.
- (2) Group Representatives: Jayne Judge (Pre-School)

The Chairman indicated that there were four places free on the Executive Committee and invited those present to consider if they or someone known to them would be interested in serving on the Committee.

The Chairman also asked if anyone was willing to take over as Chairman. Kay Lowe was nominated, seconded and **DULY** elected as Chairperson.

Gerry received an ovation from all present in recognition and sincere gratitude for his service and commitment as Chairman over the last 15 years.

6. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

It was duly **AGREED** that Steven Hill be appointed as the Independent Examiner for the current year.

Prior to **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**, the Chairman invited Neil Kinrade and Ian Chittenden to present their latest reports:

NEIL KINRADE:

Snowdon Avenue: Assault. 15th April – criminal damage to a fence and criminal damage to a car.

A suspicious male had been reported at Ashurst Road play area.

Nuisance vehicle in Snowdon Avenue car park.

Car obstructing the pavement on Bargrove Road.

5th April, nuisance youths at Ashurst Road play area.

5th April, noise from a party in Alkham Road.

Bedgebury Close – dog escaped from a property and bit another dog.

19th April, Commodore Road – a driver getting into a vehicle carrying a can of beer.

A Registered Charity, No. 273861

AGM 2016 Minutes, Page 2 of 3



VINTERS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Chairman thanked Neil for his presentation.

IAN CHITTENDEN

Ian presented his latest report – a copy of which is inserted in the Minute Book.

Ian's report covered Ashurst play area, Speedwatch, road safety work on Sittingbourne Road, tree replacements, underpasses (cleared and unblocked), footpaths, litter pick – if anyone interested to contact Martin Cox, local development.

Ian conveyed his thanks to Neil Kinrade for the excellent work he has been doing around the estate and also thanked Gerry for inviting him this evening.

The Chairman thanked Ian for presenting his report and reminded all present that if they wished to discuss anything with him, Neil or David to do so after the close of the meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman opened the floor to any other business.

(1) Ken Goodchild, Crayford Close

Ken noted that he had received very good results and speedy responses from the council regarding streetlighting and new trees.

(2) Mike Evendon, Guston Road

Mike asked why the underpasses on Hampton Road couldn't be blocked off, as there is a zebra crossing above one of them. Very often nuisance youths congregate there, who were not necessarily from the estate and rubbish is often left behind.

Ian responded by stating that the council do monitor the mud/silt problems and that it is still a safe means of crossing for younger children and mothers with prams. Ian also asked Neil if he could police the underpasses, to help prevent these issues.

7. CONCLUSION

There being no other business the Chairman concluded the meeting by thanking those present for their attendance. The Chairman then closed the meeting at 8.33pm.

APPROVED

K Phawne

(Chairman)

Date: 26 April 2017

Ian Chittenden

Report for meeting of Vinters Park Residents Association AGM on 20th April 2016

Our thanks to the residents association for inviting us to the meeting today and allowing us to present an annual report to you.

David Naghi is here today with me and you are also represented locally by Borough Councillors Dave Martin Cox and Nicola Fissenden.

Two points first. As local councillors we work together on many of the issues that arise, but often if one of us takes the lead on an issue, the others will leave it alone as it can get confusing. Also some of the issues we have to deal with can be dealt with simply and quickly and others, as we have found over time, can take years.

The 40% cut in Government money over the past 5 years to both Borough and County Councils is making life very difficult when trying to get anything done. It has unfortunately also required that some non statutory services have had to be reduced or cut altogether. A good example is the cancellation of the well-used weekend freighter service which we as local councillors believe will lead to an increase in fly-tipping. Where this occurs please report it to the Borough council by telephone or through the web site or report it to one of us.

As Councillors, we report anything we see that need dealing with such as lights not working, potholes. Broken street nameplates, overhanging hedges etc.

Before I go onto general items, I still as County Councillor get a small devolved budget which I can use to deal with local problems in North and east Ward. We agree how its spent, but I do like to spend 50% on improving local road safety. Devolved budgets to Borough Councillors were cut a number of years ago.

Just to go through some of the work we have done over the past year on Vinters or are in the process of doing.

Ashurst play area – We were delighted that after three years of pushing the council, the new play area off Ashurst Close, which contains items for infants and older children was completed and has proven very popular. We also make sure that the other main play area at the Upper Fullingpits wood site is regularly maintained.

Speedwatch – This is a formal system, used to deter speeding on our local roads, operated by trained local residents with police support. We had hoped to be

able to have this up and running by now, but the equipment is, belatedly, just about to be ordered and I must take the blame for the delay. There are already local volunteers prepared to operate it and the equipment suppliers and Kent police are in place to give the training. I would like to thank Neil Kinrade, as our local PCSO, and local residents for their support. I suspect we should now be able to arrange the training in the next few weeks. We have to work with the police to agree which roads are suitable.

Road safety work on Sittingbourne Road – This year the 30mph limit has been extended from Tudor Avenue to The Chiltern Hundreds. Kerbs have been lowered at 4 points along the footpath to improve movement for pedestrians with push chairs etc. and a Speed Indicator Device is being installed to deter speeding on the up road out of town. Also four dead trees along the road, which are on land with no registered owner, are going to be felled by KCC for safety reasons in the next few days.

Tree replacements – Every year trees are removed by KCC for safety reasons. Unfortunately KCC have no budget to replace any so over the past 5 years we have paid for replacement of over 40 trees in North and East Ward from the devolved budget. This year on Vinters the two trees on Crayford close have been replaced.

Underpasses – The two underpasses have been cleared and drains unblocked. Please advise if you see any future blockages as they are vulnerable to silting up.

Footpaths – about 5 years ago we were able to get KCC to resurface 70% of older footpaths on Vinters. Unfortunately with the budget cuts, only small sections are now being repaired where they are considered unsafe.

Litter pick – We are happy to arrange local litter picks. These are supported in a number of areas by the Borough Council providing gloves, pickers and bags and appropriate insurance where there are organised events. Would you be to take part and help keep our area tidy If so please email Martin Cox on martincox@maidstone.gov.uk or Tel 07970 723975.

Local development – It's unfortunate that the National Planning Policy Framework which is the main planning law in this country directs that motoway junctions should be targeted particularly for Commercial development. While we can control conditions of planning and to some extent design, refusal of applications can be difficult. The only major success we have had recently, was the Newnham Court Village which would have had a dramatic effect on retail sales within the town centre. We are still awaiting information as to when Waitrose will be making a formal application for a store on Eclipse park, but understand it will be in the next few months.