



Highfield Residents' Association
Minutes of the meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 13th July 2009
at Highfield House Hotel

Present: Jerry Gillen - Chair, Caroline Knight - Sec, Bryan Wakely, Nicolla Martin, Adrian Vinson, Peggy Augier, Steve Connolly, and Allison Shelly

Apologies: Sue Hartley, Julia Brooking, Headley Rossell, Mathew Claisse , Cllr Matthew Dean , Cllr Jeremy Moulton, Josie Brown, Simon Hill and Rafeal Persaud

In Attendance: Cllr. Vincenzo Capozzoli, Roret Blue, Matt Martin and Glen Harris - University Liaison, Jenny Arnold PRG, Jean Wawman and James Cox of EBRA

Minutes of last meeting: Agreed.

Matters Arising & not on the Agenda:

- Jerry would like the contact details of the ladies from Holyrood Ave to be sent to Adrian as he would like to encourage them to write in re the HMO issue.
CK
- Page 2- Vincenzo to chase up re the appeal.
- There is to be another BBQ at The Drummond Arms to which the committee are invited. 9th August.
- Portswood Rec- the local PCSO are dealing with this problem. New lights are to be installed in Grosvenor and Kitchener Roads.

Correspondence

- An email from Catherine Powell resigning from the committee as she is moving.
- An email from Sarah Clover thanking us for the flowers.
- A detailed update from Matthew Dean. (copies available from the sec)
- Litter collection from departing students. Southampton Uni is to incorporate this idea into their plans for next year. In Leeds 250 additional tons of refuse was collected. It would be interesting to see if Southampton knows how much was generated here.

- Email re Ethelbert Ave- Vincenzo has made contact.

University Matters:

Matt Martin

- Matt has been to Crofton close to meet the new tenants. Sue and another neighbour have also introduced themselves.
- Neighbourhood News has been distributed.
- The next meeting of The Community Panel will be in Oct/Nov and the following one in April of 2010.
- Graduation Ceremonies start this week.
- Freshers Week starts on 28th September.
- 32 Granby Grove- the house is in a very poor state of repair and there was concern expressed for the students who will be moving in. It was suggested that Matt should visit.

Proposal for the SU to apply to extend opening hours

Letters have gone out inviting the Chairs of local Residents' Associations to attend a consultation re the proposal to apply to extend the opening hours for the Student Union. Local Councillors and the Police have also been invited. It is suggested that they will apply to have the hours extended to 3.00 am on Friday and Saturday and one other night in the week.

After a great deal of discussion it was decided that the majority of the local residents would be opposed to this as the disruption caused by a large number of people leaving at this hour is too much to expect residents to endure or to adequately effectively control. Although sympathy was expressed for the need of the SU to run a profitable establishment this could not be at the expense of the rights of local residents to have uninterrupted sleep.

Post meeting note- following the consultation meeting it was learned that the additional hours were to be until 4 am.

It would appear that the majority of the committee are opposed to this. It will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

Membership

Database 631 households.

Paid up membership for 2008 remains at 491 households.

Current paid up household 2008 / 2009

AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC		TOTAL
21	24	23	46	18		132

Renewed households paid up membership for 2009 / 2010

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL		TOTAL
14	29	41	agm	273	299	346		346

TOTAL PAID UP HOUSEHOLDS 478

Finance:

The finances are healthy.

Planning:

AV's report as circulated - plus:

- In Adrian's report please note that items not in bold have gone to the Planning Sub-committee.
- 1 Winn Road, Adrian thinks that it is unlikely that these flats are for the student market.
- 37 Blenheim Ave- has been approved with conditions- no fence.
- 28 Brookvale Road will now be heard in two hearings the first of which is on 22nd July.
- 1 Blenheim Ave, construction work has begun. Possible construction of summer house or shed in back garden. No notification of a planning application has been received for this. VC to enquire.
- 1 Crofton close- there is an enforcement order against the work done on this property but it is likely to go to appeal. If this development is allowed it could lead to precedence which could then lead to the deterioration of the area if Condition 16 is undermined.

- Adrian had circulated Planning Guidelines which would inform any action that HRA would take on planning applications. The guidelines demonstrate that we raise objections on a consistent and considered basis. These guidelines were accepted unanimously.
- Adrian and Jerry are working on HRA's response to the HMO consultation. We need to submit evidence particular to our area. Southampton has the 10th largest ratio of HMOs to family accommodation in the country with an 8% ratio compared to a national average of 2%. We need to encourage as many local residents to write in as possible.

Newsletter

The summer edition is with UniPrint and will go to the printers next week. We have agreed to have the front and back page in colour at an additional cost of £40.

Website: Tony is working on the new website and hopes to have it ready by 1st August.

Summer Event.

The advert for the Hog Roast is in the newsletter. The ticket prices have been reduced to £10 each and HRA will subsidise this event if necessary. The organising committee will meet next week.

Any Other Business

- It is suggested that in opposing the proposed extension of the opening hours at SU we might be able to attract new members from local residents who might be affected.
- The drug dealer who was operating in Roselands Gardens has been arrested
- Roselands Gardens is having a street party and are starting up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.
- There is a car parked on the pavement on Brookvale Road. The police say it is the Council's responsibility and the Council say that it is the police's. VC to speak to Andy Alderson.
- Following the resignation of Catherine it was decided to invite Rafeal to join the committee. It was also suggested that Roret also join.

The meeting closed at 9.00

Next meeting will be on August 10th – please note Jerry and Caroline will both be away for this meeting.