



HIGHFIELD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8th August 2005 at the University Staff Centre at 7.30

p.m.

Present: Mr. J Gillen – Chair, Dr. J. Brooking – Vice Chair, Mr H Rossell – Treasurer, Mr. D. Ely, Mrs. P. Augier, Mrs. J. Brown, Mrs. N. Martin, Mr. P. Banyard, Mrs. J. D'Arcy, Mr. B. Wakely and Mr. J. Secchi and carer.

Welcome: Jean Wawman – EBRA, Mr. J. Cox – EBRA, Mr. S. Fidler and Mr. R. Loosemore.

Apologies: Mrs. P. Thompson, Mr. S. Connolly, and Mrs. C. Knight, Mrs. G. Gain.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th July was taken as correct. Proposed Mr. Ely and seconded by Mr. Rossell.

Matters arising from last minutes: None.

Correspondence:

The Chairman wrote to Councillor Vinson to arrange a meeting with HRA, Portswood Residents' Gardens Association and Oakmount Triangle Residents' Association.

Simon Fidler / HRA delivered 300 letters concerning the renewal of the University Students' Union Public Entertainment Licences. Letters of objection must be received by 25th July 2005.

Letter from Miss. Veronica White confirming the hire of the Pavilion for the summer social on 3rd September 2005.

Southampton City Council, planning of 73 – 75 Welbeck Avenue, SO17 1SQ.

The Planning & Licensing Secretary, Mr. D. Ely wrote to the Licensing Department and copied the letter to Councillors Vinson, Baston & Horner concerning the uniformity of hours for Highfield pubs.

Southampton City Council, planning of 29 Highfield Crescent SO17 1SG

Simon Fidler's electronic mail (copy) to Councillor Horner requesting support for the public entertainment licences of the Students' Union.

Southampton City Council Strategy for meeting the needs of Gypsies and Travellers – request comments.

Street representatives coffee morning, 5th August 2005 attended by Mr Flood, Mrs O'Sullivan, Mr Drake, Mr Raikes, Mr Clark, Mr Dicker, Mr Gillen, Dr. Brooking, Mrs Knight, Mr & Mrs Martin. Apologies from Mrs Stringer and Mr. Bradnam.

Welcome packs were given to everyone, which included new membership forms, the abridged version of our contacts for committee members and street representative, a nuisance report form and a name badge, kindly made by Mr. Edgeley. The Crown Inn has very generously agreed to sponsor 1,000 copies of an updated HRA map, which is very popular and most useful to the freshers and visitors alike. This detailed work has been done by Mr. Edgeley and very much appreciated by the committee. It was agreed that all representatives would receive a copy of the monthly committee minutes. The reps, if they have the time, to try to conduct a survey of their area, to ascertain the approximate number of permanent residents living in their area and if possible the number of Homes of multiple occupancy and students.

Membership drive At present HRA has 472 members registered and would like to increase this. **NM** to try to prepare lists of each road showing the names and numbers that are already members and street reps could knock on doors to recruit new members.

Students union Public entertainment licences Jean Wawman and James Cox both representing East Bassett Residents' Association together with Simon Fidler, outlined their proposals that they would be using in court on 9th and 10th August. The Chairman will also be attending court and will ask to speak, but felt there are no grounds for the licences to be refused. There had been 60 objections and 20 people requested to speak in court. The history is that in 1998 the Special Hours Certificate was one night a week until half past midnight AND now it is six nights a week until 2 a.m. Those going to court would try their best to, "Not grant the special permission to extended hours".

The Crown Inn Highcrown Street. Mr. Roger Loosemore of Hawthorn Road, requested Simon Fidler's assistance with the correspondence concerning letters of objection to enable him to inform his neighbours of the possibility of The Crown Inn extending their hours. The Chairman did comment, having spoken to the owner, it was not their wish to extend their hours, but should the other pubs within Highfield do so, The Crown would have to follow.

Treasurer's report shows the finances are in a good state and **HR** has prepared a budget for 2005 and 2006 estimating income and expenditure.

Southampton Voluntary Services have written wishing to know whether HRA had used their grant according to the specification. **HR** to reply and advise SVS.

Planning & Licensing Mr Ely said that he has not been able to find out anything concerning the Gordon Arms Public House having visited it.

He also said that there had been an interesting article in the Property Telegraph on moves made by Hastings Council to force owners, who are failing to maintain their properties, to carry out repairs where the building is harming local amenities, including the appearance of any neighbourhood. Hasting Council is acting under Section 215 of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act. The Council have successfully forced improvements on 208 properties with a further 62 targeted. Sixteen cases were taken to court and success in these cases ensured that later enforcement orders have been complied with very rapidly. With the spreading dereliction around Portswood and the northern edge of Highfield he thinks we should ask the Council: - If they are aware of this section of the Act? Can it be applied in Southampton? Will Council use the Act to stop the growth of "New age" slums?

There has been no response to the Houses in Multiple Occupation lobby according to Cllr. Horner who said that it did not come into force until the end of the year.

3 Brookvale Road. Change of use from a Residential Care Home to a house in multiple occupations for 16 dwelling rooms and communal facilities.

11 Russell Place. Erection of a single storey side extension and part single storey, part two storey rear extension. Approved with conditions.

53 Shaftesbury Avenue. Change of use of the dwelling house to a house in multiple occupations with an outbuilding to the rear. Formal objection has been made by the HRA on its own behalf and in support of neighbours.

34 Brookvale Road. To increase child numbers to 27 and allow the use of three additional rooms. Application refused on 27th July 2005.

2 Granby Grove. Erection of single storey side/rear extension with basement level and conversion of property into 1 x 3 bed flat and 1 x 4 bed flat.

20 Granby Road. Erection of a two storey side extension. 22 Aug 2005.

73 – 75 Welbeck Avenue. External alterations to all elevations including large rear former roof structure, removal of external staircase and balustrade and single storey front extension to facilitate conversion to 3 x 2 bed and 6 x 1 bed flats with associated car/cycle parking and refuse store. Last date for objections 25 Aug 2005.

29 Highfield Crescent. Redevelopment of the site by the erection of 2 no. 4 bed three storey semi – detached dwelling houses with associated car parking. Last date for objections 8 Sept. 2005

The Pavilion. Erection of a single storey extension to the sports pavilion.

1 Highfield Lane. Erection of a two-storey side extension. Approved with conditions.

1 – 3 Blenheim Avenue. Approved with conditions.

Oakmount Triangle Conservation status has been granted.

Newsletter Mrs Martin asked if the wording could be improved on, when ticket requests for functions, so that residents did not make their cheque payable to an individual. 4,000 copies have been printed. **JB** to distribute newsletters to Church, School and October Books. Library, Uni Staff Club, Crown and Ceno/Hotel already supplied by Chairman. Unfortunately there were no advertisements and photographs in this issue because the quality was not good enough. **JG** to circulate specifications from Uniprint.

Summer social preparation Mr Bryan Wakely offered to help Peggy Augier, Jean D'Arcy and Phil Banyard with all the preparations for this event. The Pavilion hire is from 6.30 –10.30, Saturday 3rd September 2005. **PA** to arrange the collection of keys. **PB, PA and JD** to go shopping at Tosco's for the Bread rolls and Beers. **PB** to organise ice. **CK** to make a bar duty rota. **JG** to arrange wine and glasses. Containers for ice to be found i.e. cooler boxes and a dustbin. Everyone to bring as many folding chairs. **HR** has a large Orange cool drink to give Peggy. No raffle. Committee members to arrive at 6.30 to help set up. **NM** to advise the final number of ticket sales. **JG** to reconfirm with the musician Andrew Worsfold.

Peggy Augier to chair the functions sub committee.

Donations for wine should be at least £1.50 and soft drinks 50p.

HRA will supply rolls, applesauce, stuffing, vegetarian option, salads, plates, napkins and tables.

Fundraising Ken Flood suggested a car boot sale to be held on the Avenue Campus. **PA** to ask a school how they went about the logistics of organising one. Of course the University would have to be approached. Any other ideas would be most welcome.

Committee dinner **JG** said the Cenos could do a set menu for about £15.00 including wine. Partners to be included. Friday 23rd September agreed. **JG** to make a reservation for about 18.

Website is not live and **SC** and **TK** liasing together.

Any other business Mrs. D'Arcy and Dr Brown requested that their addresses and telephone numbers not to be included on any handouts. 500 copies of the abridged version of the committee members and street representatives names and addresses has just been printed and already used in welcome packs. **NM** will destroy the remaining copies, amend the abridged version and have more printed. **Post meeting note** All Street representatives have been asked to tear all their copies up, not to black the information out, but to destroy all their copies.

PA reported that the drains at Highfield Pub smelt badly and had to call out someone to clear them.

Date of next meeting is Monday 12th September 2005 at 7.30 pm at the University staff club.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.15 pm.