



HIGHFIELD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8th May 2006 at the University Staff Centre
at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mr. J Gillen – Chair, Dr. J. Brooking-Vice Chair, Mrs. C. Knight- Secretary, Mr. H. Russell- Treasurer, Mrs N Martin- Membership Secretary, Mrs. G. Gain, Mr. S. Connolly, Mr. D. Ely, Mrs P Augier and Mrs Angela Dyke

Apologies Dr J Brown, Mr B Wakeley, Mr. P. Banyard

Welcome Mrs Jean Warman EBRA

In attendance Mr H. Baker, Mr N Bacon and Mr James Cox

Minutes of last meeting Proposed by ??? and seconded by ???

Matters arising:

Page 1 - Cenos

Page 2 - Hot2U

Page 3 - Sainsbury's are unable to help.

Correspondence:

28th March Planning Application re Portswood Bus Depot
April 06 NW Bassett RA newsletter
10th April Letter from George Clegg
10th April Planning Application re 122 Upper Shaftesbury Ave
11th April Invoice from Manhattan Marquees
13th April Planning Application re 114 Portswood Road
13th April Traffic Regulation Order from Council proposing increase in Residents Parking Permit fees.
20th April Planning Application re 5 Khartoum Road
21st April Council notification of consultation on "Residential Design Guide" to take place 2.00 PM Friday 5th May, Sir James Mathews Bldg.
OTRA, HRA & CAF should attend if poss.
22nd April Letter of thanks from Chair to Alan Whitehead MP.
23rd April Copy of Residents objections to planning Application re 23 Denbigh Gardens, Bassett. (EBRA?) (David & Jerry assisted)
25th April Planning notice re 24 Blenheim Ave.
25th April Planning application re Land adjacent to Building 46 U of S
25th April Planning Application re 293 Portswood Road
25th April Planning Application re 24 Blenheim Ave
26th April Planning Application re 268-276 Portswood Road

2nd May Council "Customer Charter" survey
Needs to be completed and returned (David & Jerry)
" Letter from Jean Warman EBRA re Boldrewood and future liaison with University.
Response required to Steve Waring re future format for University Liaison Meetings. Suggest appoint Community Liaison Officer?
James Cox has written to George Clegg.
James and Simon will monitor timings and positions of marshalls.
David has written to Royston Smith with as yet no reply.

Membership & Street representatives:

We now have 505 households on the data base. Nicolla has sent out 117 letters re renewals and has enclosed reminders about the Summer Ball. There was discussion concerning the proliferation in requests for replacement membership cards. In future a replacement card will be provided for a charge £1.50 to cover costs. Individual cards for members (even if someone at the same address is a member) will be charged at £3.00.

AGM

- It was generally felt to have been a success.
- The acoustics in the hall were poor and noise from the kitchen was intrusive.
- There needs to be a more efficient method of signing people in.
- There were lots of renewals and new members.
- The program could have allowed for more participation.
- Next year it would be a good idea to include someone from the University.
- JG thanked everyone for their hard work.

Finance:

Headley reported that the finances are healthy.

Planning & Licensing:

- Rolling list as circulated by David.
- Subway have asked for a variation in their licence from A1 to A3/5
- Highfield Crescent
- Hot2U refused longer opening hours.
- Blenheim Gardens - Approved
- Shaftesbury Ave- Approved
- David has written re the proliferation of aerals on the top of the Travel Lodge building.
- 28 Brookvale-there is a building behind
- 18 Brookvale- not an HMO- family residence or community.
- David has written to The Small Housing Unit who are monitoring the Housing Act 2003.
- David has written 13 letters to the Council- of these only 7 have been acknowledged. It might be prudent to start the complaints procedure as the Council are failing to meet their own standards.
- We have received the Council Customer Charter which David will complete.
- JG attended the Residents Design Guide Meeting and there is a brochure available for anyone who is interested.

- Southampton Council is obligated to build 16,000 new houses in Southampton
- A design statement will be required for developments of 5 dwellings or more.
- There will be a greater emphasis on footprint to plot ratio.
- The use of more home zones will be considered with speed bumps etc.
- There is recognition of the need to preserve the City. However the Guide is a recommendation not statutory.
- A complaint has been registered re the licensing of The Student's Union.
- There is an increase in Residents' Parking Permit fees from £50 to £52.50 per year.

Jean Warman addressed the meeting with her concerns over the proposed development of the Boldrewood Site. On 7th April the Chairs of local Residents' Associations met with the Vice Chancellor and were told about the Boldrewood plan.

The proposal is the demolition of the existing buildings and replace with smaller buildings on a landscaped site. Lloyds Register will be moving from London and will construct their own buildings on the site on land that they will purchase. The Medical Facility will be moving to The Highfield Campus. There will be no firm plans until September to allow for a consultation period. The VC said that Councillors are in favour of the development. He invited Chairs to suggest how best to liaise with local communities in future. However there is a Liaison Group already in existence and yet it has only met 3 times since it was set up. EBRA is going to discuss at their meeting on 18th May.

Points to note.

The publication *STUDENTIFICATION* states on page 26 that the University should appoint a SPECIAL OFFICER to communicate with the community. JG to write a letter to the VC outlining the benefits of this approach.

Residents should be given the opportunity to put forward their agenda.

Meetings should be held quarterly unless there is a problem when an emergency meeting can be called.

This is a pressing concern for EBRA as the impact of the Boldrewood development will be huge on the residents of Bassett Cres. West in terms of pollution, environmental and health and safety.

The issue of the liaison Group and the Boldrewood Development are two separate issues. JG to write.

JC says that there has been no communication re the disbanding of the existing liaison group.

JG expressed the opinion that the Boldrewood development is very exciting and will be an improvement on what is existing.

JG to write to Prof Wakeham.

30th Anniversary 2006:

We have sold 86 tickets so still have 66 to go. There will be an events committee meeting tomorrow.

Website: Nothing to report.

Any other business:

Bert Baker raised the issue of possible development of a site in Roseland's Gardens - DE will have a look at the site but nothing can be done unless a planning application is submitted

Nicolla produced a letter that Josie has drafted to be delivered to houses when a sold sign goes up.

The Tennis Rep has never attended a meeting so we will not pursue.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.40pm.

Date of next meeting is Monday 12th June 2006 at 7.30pm at the University Staff Club.