



## HINCHLEY WOOD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Meeting of Road Representatives via Zoom on Thursday 2 July 2020

### Facilitator

Peter Jenner

### Present

Saranne Bristow (SB) – Chair  
Councillor Nigel Haig Brown (NHB)  
Councillor Janet Turner (JT)  
Peter Arthur (PA)  
Robert Fulton (RF)  
Sue Haig-Brown (SHB)  
Vina Owen (VO)

### Road representatives

Graham Bass, Eric Coulter, Linda Dabell, Margaret Faulkner-Shotter, Mike Faulkner-Shotter, Hilary Gurney, Drew Hill, Jean Hoseason, Alex Prideaux, Christopher Robinson, Sue Robinson, Peter Tozer

Apologies for absence: Diana Arthur, Tannia Shipley

### Approval of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. Proposed by Margaret Faulkner-Shotter;  
Seconded by Sue Robinson

### Matters Arising:

None

### Update on Memorial Garden – PA

HWRA had applied for and received a grant for £5,000 from the EBC Community Planting Fund to improve The Memorial Garden. In addition, HWRA had contributed £1,000.

The plan included removing two existing beds which had hedges and thorns and two very old unsafe trees.

HWRA's application for funding was approved late December 2019 and the money was received in January 2020.

The Hedges and trees were removed by Burleys who also did all the planting of the new beds. SB and RF had uploaded the "Before and After" photos on a computer and these were shown to the meeting by RF.

As planting was done in dry season and as there was no proper watering regime, some of the plants had to be replaced and some of the grass area had to be re-laid. Since then JT had watered the plants herself. The Council had now arranged for the plants to be watered three times a week. PA flagged up the possibility of applying for further funding next year and asked for suggestions to further improve the Memorial Garden.

There was a good feedback about the improved Memorial garden and more people were using it. Margaret Faulkner-Shotter thanked the Committee for their efforts.

### Reports from Councillors

Nigel Haig-Brown

- Due to the lockdown because of Covid-19, all the council work was being done via Zoom meetings and there have been challenges not experienced before
- Staff were also working from home
- All the Councillors were working flat out, including volunteering to help out in the community

- Provision of services had gone up and with it the cost. There had been loss of commercial income – car parking had been free for the last three months and likely to continue till end of August so no revenue was received from the parking
- All Leisure Centres were closed and the operators may have to be compensated for loss of profit under the terms of their contracts
- The expenditure in the last three months was 6/7 million Pounds
- EBC, with other Councils, was negotiating with the Government for additional money. More money would be needed to maintain the level of service and one obvious option was putting up Council Tax and general taxes by the Government
- EBC were actively encouraging residents to support their High Street

Janet Turner:

- Since the easing of Lockdown, the Borough had been inundated with Litter – two and a half times more than normal. Apart from the additional time needed to clear, there is increased cost involved as well. Residents were urged to take litter home if the bins were full
- Playgrounds were opening the coming weekend and parents were reminded that they were responsible for looking after their children
- Residents still needed to observe social distancing and be aware of what they were doing

JT also gave the report on behalf of Tannia Shipley:

- Councillors were working extremely hard
- Day Centres were closed so there was an enormous increase in providing Meals on Wheels
- Councillors and Volunteers were contacting vulnerable people and those Shielding on a daily basis

#### Matters raised by Road Representatives

The following points were raised:

- Kind of Reserves the Council had and the danger of using up these this year so nothing was left for the following year. NHB – Earmarked reserves were around £7million
- Money for Care Homes from Central Government. SCC were responsible for Care Homes so any increase would go to SCC
- Local Planning – the programme was pushed back a bit, but there was to be a Presentation on it the following week
- Access to Telegraph Hill from Claygate. **NHB to follow up**
- Was the funding from the EBC Community Planting Fund for any Green Spaces?
- Processionary Moths – any sighting of these should be reported to the Forestry Commission by Email. The nests would be removed if they were low down on the tree.
- Drew Hill thanked everyone who had/were contributing items for the Food Bank
- Residents were asked to be aware of Ticks in the long grass at the top of Telegraph Hill. Both dogs and humans were susceptible to these Ticks.

#### Any Other Business

SB thanked Peter Jenner for his help prior to the meeting and for facilitating this meeting via Zoom

#### Next Meeting:

Thursday 3 September 2020 at 8pm **VIA ZOOM** – Peter Jenner kindly agreed to facilitate this meeting

**July 2020**