

**MINUTES OF THE STRAWBERRY HILL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD ON NOVEMBER 7th, 2011**

PRESENT

John Naish	John Armstrong
Bruce Duff	Mike Allsopp
Charles Owens	Robert Youngs
Clare Phelps	Councillor David Porter

APOLOGIES

Pam Crisp	Eugene Bacot
Teresa Read	Cllr Marlow

Robert chaired the meeting

The minutes of September 5th 2011, were agreed, and signed with one amendment. Para 6 should read **National Planning Policy Framework** and not Localism bill.

Treasurers report – John Naish**Deposit account**

Balance last meeting	£3,736.22
Interest	0.67
Transfer	£1,300.00
Balance to-day	£5,036.89

Current account

Balance at last meeting	£2,962.30
Add income	
Subs and donations	£ 70.00
Advertising	£ 423.85
Book sales	£ 90.00
Total	£ 583.85
Deduct expenditure	
Transfer	£1,300.00
Net cash increase/decreas	(£716.15)

Balance to-day £2,246.15

John said there were problems contacting advertisers, and therefore collecting what revenue was due. Clare suggested that she and Pam Crisp take over the role from Eugene of contacting advertisers. This was agreed. John left the meeting.

Matters arising

Rotary Club sign – Bruce said that he had had a letter from Ken Smith with a new design for the rotary club sign by the Golf Club, which he showed the meeting. It was agreed that it was an improvement on the last one, but still too large. It was agreed that it should be no larger than 600cmx600cm. Bruce will ask Pam to write to Ken Smith.

Bulletin 147 - Robert said this was almost ready in draft form, and he hoped to get it to the printers next week.

Planning - Mike said there was nothing of significance. Mike and Robert had attended the opening of the new college sports hall.

National Planning Policy Framework - Mike and Robert confirmed that SHRA had written to the Department of Communities and Local Government expressing concern on a number of aspects of the Draft National Planning Framework that had been out for public consultation. Whilst the desirability of simplifying the current planning rulebook was recognised, in reducing this from over 1,000 pages to just over 50, adopting a blanket 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' without properly defining sustainable, and viewing planning primarily as an aide to economic development rather than, as currently, protection of the public interest, the proposals would manifestly fail to provide adequate protection of the public interest. Of particular concern are the dropping of the current presumption in favour of developing brownfield sites ahead of greenfield ones, and the requirement for local planning authorities to grant planning permission where their local plan is 'absent, silent, indeterminate, or where relevant policies are out of date'. Also, whilst the stated aim of the proposals is to give local communities a greater say in planning matters affecting them, including allowing them in certain circumstances to override the local planning authority, this appears restricted to their saying 'yes' to additional development not to saying 'no'.

It was agreed that if our concerns are not addressed in the final legislative proposal, SHRA should write to Vince Cable MP, summarising our objections ahead of the parliamentary debate.

SMUC liason group – Mike said that the College is now employing a gardener/horticulturist, for landscaping the ground around the new sports hall, where there are plans to have a meadow type feature. The re-cycling site has been split up around the College grounds, but a resident from Clive Road has complained about it. The anti-social behaviour of students is still causing problems, but security has been increased, also outside the College on Mondays and Wednesdays, when the students have social nights.

Community and Police Partnership - Charles said that there was now a new sergeant in post, Jules Calvert, but she will be responsible for policing in both South and West Twickenham. South Twickenham policing staff are short of one PC, and 2 PCSO's. Charles said that fortunately the crime figures are low.

Christmas Event – after the poor response to the questionnaire in the last bulletin, asking residents if they wanted to continue with the carol singing event as before, it was decided that the main event would not go ahead. Instead, SHRA would just put up a Christmas tree in Wellesley Parade. Clare said that Pam has had it confirmed that the Council would pay up to £500 towards the costs of putting up a tree, with no strings attached. The meeting agreed to this, and to make an event of it, we should ask children and parents to help us decorate it, and advertise this in the forthcoming bulletin. The date agreed was Saturday, December 17th, at 3pm.

Any other business

Parking - Councillor David Porter said that following David Marlow's enquiries, Strawberry Hill has been added to the borough list of proposed parking restriction areas, and that Wellesley Parade was on that list. Residents living there would be consulted again. There was a discussion about the difficulties of persuading some residents. Robert said that residents in Wentworth Court were fed up with lack of parking, and are getting up a petition and wanted SHRA support. This was felt to be inappropriate.

Robert informed the meeting that he intends to stand down as SHRA vice-chair at the next AGM.

John Armstrong suggested that the committee should meet up for a pre-Christmas meal at Sopa's. There was general agreement that it would be a good idea, and Clare was asked to make contact with Phil Rochford about it.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Next meeting January 16th, 2012