MINUTES OF THE STRAWBERRY HILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2022

<u>PRESENT</u>: Andrew Miller, Pam Crisp, Mike Allsop, Mary Hughes, Julia Fiehn, John Tjaardstra, Robin Moran, Siobhan Oktay.

- **1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:** June Collins, Zoe Prindiville, Louisa Carradine, Peter Lamb, Sam Kamleh, Cathy Bird, Sharon Willoughby, Cllr Bennett, Cllr Lee. No declarations of interest.
- **2. Minutes of the last meeting:** agreed and Andrew signed a copy.
- **3. Matters arising:** There is no update on the e-scooter trial. Andrew noted that David Cornwell has made a donation towards the printing of the book. This contribution was initially given as a loan. The Committee formally thanked David for his generous contribution. The book sales continue but slowly.
- **4. Local issues:** None reported. Siobhan Oktay said that the provision of local 'warm hubs', where people could gather for respite from cold homes, would be a priority in the coming months.
- **5. Chair's issues:** Andrew said that he and Peter Lamb have a meeting scheduled with Anthony McClaran on October 6. Ideas to discuss included sponsorship of the Christmas tree (£100), student participation in litter picks and The Big Litter Pick, and printing extra copies of the carol sheets. Robin raised the idea of a student representative on the Committee.

Andrew noted that given we will now have a fairly accurate idea of the costs of running SHRA for a year, then we should be in a position to set a target for subscriptions to (at least) cover costs. We need a push on subscriptions and it was agreed that this was best done alongside the distribution of the Bulletin in late November/early December.

6. Treasurer's report: 14TH September 2022

(Up to 9th September)

Deposit Account:

Balance at the time of the last meeting on 6 th July 2022	£4,000.67
Current balance including interest:	£4,000.68

Current Account:

	Balance at the time of the	e last meeting or	n 6 th Julv.2022	£1.174.34
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Add income:

Subscriptions	£172.00
Book sales	£256.00
House Histories	£50.00
Events	£10.35

Total income £488.35

Deduct Expenditure:	
Cost of printing History of Strawberry Hill book	£500.00
Refreshments for Book Launch	£89.40
Purchase of Laminator, pouches and ties	£58.26
Richmond Brass Band for Family Picnic	£200.00

Total expenditure	£847.66
Net cash increase /(decrease)	(£359.31)
Balance today	£815.03

Subscriptions/Donations Breakdown

£172

22/06/2022	10
04/07/2022	10
07/072022	10
11/07/2022	30
21/07/2022	20
08/08/2022	10
15/08/2022	15
24/08/2022	10
05/09/2022	17
06/09/2022	30
07/09/2022	10

TOTAL:

The balance sheet should reflect the actual cost of printing the book which was £747.25 with £500 subsidised by £100 loan from David Cornwell (now turned into a donation) and a £147.25 loan from Andrew.

7. Events: Julia said that the Big Family Picnic was a success and that everyone appeared to enjoy themselves. All members of the Committee attending had been invited to contribute to the 'round robin' evaluation which was now finalised setting our pluses, minuses and learning points from the event. It was unfortunate that numbers were far lower than expected. Robin said that if we charged for tickets Eventbrite would take a small fee (c.2.5%). It was felt that we needed contingency plans in the case of bad weather. It was agreed to explore an earlier event when the weather was likely to be better, perhaps in June. Other issues included provision of tables and chairs and the cost of First Aid cover. To allay costs it was recognised that other members of the Committee could benefit all by undertaking first aid training. Mike volunteered his interest in undergoing training and Andrew said he would explore possible options with SMU. In conclusion, members thought we should repeat the event next year but consider a different time of year, charging for tickets and increasing the booking limit (to the maximum of 250).

Strawberry Hill House have offered to host a Twilight Tour for SHRA with arrangements still to be finalised.

Julia circulated a checklist of preparations needed for the Christmas carol event to be held on December 9 between 6 and 8pm. John will try to get business sponsorship for the tree which could be acknowledged on a banner which Andrew will source (free) from Pure Signs of Hanworth.

Andrew thanked Cathy and Julia for their work on coordinating the events.

- 8. Transport report: Andrew said that he had taken part in a Zoom meeting with the Paula Aldridge, Community Rail Manager, and David Wilby, Regional Development Manager, of South Western Railway to discuss the adopt-a-station scheme. One of the points highlighted was that they operate a 'no dig policy' on the platforms which means planting can only be done in raised beds. It was clear that SHRA would need a clear rationale on what to do at the station with plans for who was going to take responsibility for delivering and maintaining any scheme (e.g. heritage boards or book exchange scheme). At the last meeting no members of the Committee expressed an interest in taking it forward. A resident had contacted us about planting the flower bed on platform 1 but she had not been in touch when Andrew suggested she might like to take on the project supported by SHRA.
- **9. Litter picking:** Andrew thanked the six residents and four committee members who took part in the third Village litter pick on September 10. Dates for further picks have been scheduled up to Christmas 8 October, 12 November and 10 December (second Saturday of the month from 9-10am). The plan is to organise twice yearly The Big Strawberry Hill Litter Pick across the whole SHRA area using Committee Members as the basis for the pick (each having 2-3 streets). Andrew had circulated the paper written with Louisa about how the Big Picks would operate. The first was planned for October but it was felt that it was best held before the next AGM probably on Saturday 1 April (NB. the usual second Saturday in April is Easter Saturday so bringing it a week forward).
- **10. Planning report:** Mike said that the 14 Waldegrave Park development has been approved by the council. The owner of the property with the entrance on Pope's Avenue has left Mike a message saying the council are happy with the positioning of a planter in front of the enlarged entrance. Mike will continue to monitor this. The application for Ryan House, a Grade 2 listed property on Cross Deep, indicates that the house will be renovated and returned, where possible, to its original layout. The 55 Waldegrave Park basement application has been withdrawn. Strawberry Hill Golf Club have applied for a certificate of lawful development for a large shed which will be used for storage. It is a very large unattractive building which would be visible from the road. Mike will speak to the planning office about the application.
- **11: Website:** Robin said that she will begin the work on updating the website by making changes to back pages, e.g. Events and Membership. She will start this work in November and asked for any comments to be sent to her by the end of October. She will also develop a business/advertising section.
- **12. Bulletin 178:** Andrew said the deadline for copy is 26 October and a draft contents had been circulated ahead of the meeting. Suggestions for additional articles included something on new businesses, an item on the Heritage trail and an update on new exhibitions at Strawberry Hill House.
- **13. Any other business:** Mary will monitor the impact of the extension of the CPZ to Strawberry Hill and Waldegrave Roads.

Date of next meeting 2 November 2022 – venue British Legion (Andrew to book via Cllr Michael Butlin).

The meeting closed at 9 pm