

MINUTES OF THE STRAWBERRY HILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, 6 MARCH 2024

PRESENT: Andrew Miller, Pam Crisp, Mike Allsop, Louisa Carradine, Sam Kamleh, John Tjaardstra, June Collins, Peter Lamb, Cllr Bennett.

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest: Apologies: Julia Fiehn, Mary Hughes, Cathy Bird, Siobhan Oktay, Robin Moran has resigned from the committee. No declarations of interest. Andrew proposed thanks to Cathy and Julia who will be leaving the committee at the AGM.

2. Minutes of the last meeting: agreed with a spelling change in item 3. Andrew will sign an amended copy.

3. Matters arising: Andrew said the council is advertising for tenants to replace Antipodea at Radnor Gardens café. He confirmed that the toilets are being opened and closed daily. Andrew has spoken to Robin Moran who said she no longer has time to be a member of the SHRA committee. He accepted her resignation and thanked her for her contribution. Andrew said he had investigated the idea of holding the AGM in the Waldegrave Drawing room but the room was not available on the AGM date and the costs for finger buffet and drinks were substantially greater than the Golf Club option. June confirmed that the cheque for the carol event collection has been sent to the Mayor's Office. Mike said the letter in response to the planning application for the music block at St Catherine's school was sent and Andrew has also submitted questions about the drainage scheme at Tower Road. St Mary's university has confirmed they do not have anyone who could help with updating the website (even for a fee).

4. Councillor's update: Cllr Bennett said that he was unable to attend the Friends of Twickenham Green meeting (he has taken over the role from Richard Hudspith who resigned in 2023) because it clashed with the council meeting. He said the main issue FoTG were dealing with was the proposed development on open land behind First Cross Road. The developers have submitted an appeal against the planning refusal and residents have responded. The process is ongoing. Council tax rises in the borough are in line with guidelines. He said the council's finances are well controlled but future projections look challenging.

5. Chair's issues: Andrew said he, John and June had been to look at Lot 51 in response to comments about the look of the shop and Everydays regarding disruption to the pavement. Cllr Bennett will ask the Streetscape team to review the frontages of both businesses. Andrew has received a comment from a resident about the difficulty caused by the large puddles that develop in the area when it rains heavily. The green verge on Orford Gardens is being churned up as vehicles mount the pavement when parking. There is a small bollard on the closed part of Bonsor Road that is a danger to pedestrians – this has been reported using the Council's system. The issues will be reported to the Highways team. Comments have been sent to Andrew regarding questionable practices at Baab Thai Massage. It was felt that these should be dealt with on an individual basis and residents would be told to report to the Police. Andrew said that the noise barriers at the station (installed as part of a Network Rail national initiative) have been removed and replaced by chain link fencing at the request of South Western Railway. He will contact SWR to try to get feedback on this decision. Andrew confirmed the AGM will be held at Strawberry Hill Golf Club on 24 April and suggested it should be more of a social event. Louisa agreed to coordinate arrangements and to liaise with Pam and Andrew.

Signed

Date

6. Treasurer's report: June circulated the latest balances at the meeting. The annual accounts will be audited following one minor change.

Treasurer's Report, 6th March, 2024
(Up to 4th March, 2024)

Deposit Account:

Balance at the time of the last meeting on 17 th January, 2024	£4,057.08
Current balance including interest:	£4,062.40

Current Account:

Balance at the time of the last meeting on 17 th January, 2024	£3,819.59
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Add income:

Subscriptions:	£25.00
Christmas sponsorship	£100.00

Total Income: £125.00

Deduct Expenditure:

Richmond Brass Band	£50.00
London Forum Subscription	£19.00
Digital Certificate Website	£70.80
Mayor's Fund Donation	£220.00

Total Expenditure: £359.80

Net cash increase / (decrease) **(£234.80)**

Balance today: £3,584.79

Subscriptions/Donations Breakdown

16/01/2024	5
23/01/2024	10
01/03/2024	10

7. Events: Mary has suggested engaging with local businesses to provide a discount to residents as part of a promotional event lasting say a week in July. It could link to John's business directory but needs further discussion. It was agreed that this was too late for this July. It will also need someone to take a lead on organising and liaising with businesses possibly doing a feasibility study first, to see if there would be demand for such a week among our businesses.

Signed

Date

8. Planning report: Mike said there is nothing new of note apart from an application for a certificate of lawful development for a 'caravan' in the rear garden of a property in Waldegrave Road. The modular building, of significant size, has been erected on site and functions as an independent dwelling. Sam noted that the government is consulting on extending permitted development rights. Mike will review the proposals.

9. Bulletin 182: Andrew circulated a draft of content for the bulletin prior to the meeting and thanked John and June for their comments. He asked for responses from the rest of the Committee by Friday.

10. Any other business: Mike commented that the house in Strawberry Hill Road that has been sold by SMU has been subject to a significant amount of work but no planning application has been submitted.

Louisa said she had been approached by a resident asking if a volunteer for litter picking could do this as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award. Pam said we had attempted this in the past but it was not possible to give the appropriate supervision and feedback.

John suggested that we should make a request for someone with WordPress skills to help with updating the website.

Date of next meeting: 15 May 2024

The meeting closed at 9:05pm

Signed

Date