

**MINUTES OF THE STRAWBERRY HILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE
MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 14 JANUARY 2026 AT THE ALEXANDER POPE HOTEL**

PRESENT: Andrew Miller, June Collins, Pamela Crisp, Peter Lamb, Mary Hughes, Jonathan Bayliss, Dany Mooney.

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest: Apologies from Sam Kamleh, Louisa Carradine, Fiona Maxwell, Mike Allsop, Cllr Richard Bennett. No declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of the last meeting: agreed and Andrew signed a copy.

3. Matters arising: Andrew contacted David Gaimster and he and Pam met with him today. Pam said that it was unlikely that we would need to buy more wine for the Carol event as we had quite a lot left in 2024. Andrew noted that the council does not have a specific plan for the St Mary's site. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held at the Alexander Pope and that meetings would then alternate between the University and the AP. Andrew thanked Dany for booking the AP meeting room

4. Councillor's report: No update

5. Chair's issues: Andrew confirmed the AGM date as 22 April and it was agreed that the Strawberry Hill Golf Club was the best venue because of its central location in the village. June will book the room and the same catering arrangement as last year. David Gaimster and Anthony McClaran will be invited to meet residents informally after the meeting. Andrew said David Gaimster was supportive of the proposal for another joint picnic in the summer but he suggested 5 July as they already had an event on our preferred date. The committee suggested an alternative of 21 June which Andrew will put to the House. The same music and entertainment as last year will be booked. David Gaimster asked SHRA to send a letter of support for their latest Lottery bid for funding for maintenance of the exterior of the House. Andrew agreed and David will forward a draft letter. The Strawberry Hill café has launched a crowd funding initiative as they are struggling financially. Andrew agreed to them putting a notice in our notice board but members commented that this was not a sustainable situation. The offer of social membership of the Golf Club was discussed. Jonathan will follow this up. Andrew said a resident student has asked if SHRA could provide volunteering opportunities e.g. litter picking for her son's Duke of Edinburgh award. A pothole or graffiti survey were suggested as alternatives. Andrew will contact the resident.

6. Treasurer's report: 14/01/2026 (Up to 09/01/2026)

Deposit Account	
Balance at the time of the last meeting on 12/11/2025	£4,155.28
Current balance including interest:	£4,158.31

Signed

Date

Current Account:	
Balance at the time of the last meeting on 12/11/2025	£5089.77
Add income:	
Subscriptions:	£116.00
Christmas sponsorship	£500.00
Book sales	£118.00
Events	£190.74
Total Income:	£924.74
Deduct Expenditure:	
Book re-print	£577.14
Testing of lamp-post	£ 180.00
Banner for Christmas Event	£72.00
CWCS website contracts	£118.78
Richmond Brass Band	£100.00
Christmas refreshments	£130.18
Christmas Tree	£660.00
Poppy Wreath	£25.00
Total Expenditure:	£1,863.10
Net cash increase/(decrease)	(£938.36)
Balance today:	£4,151.41

Subscriptions/Donations Breakdown

28/11/2025	10
01/12/2025	5
02/12/2025	10
05/12/2025	10
05/12/2025	20
02/01/2026	10
05/01/2026	15
05/01/2026	8
05/01/2026	5
06/01/2026	13
08/01/2026	10

Signed

Date

June said the £300 subscription has not been received from Fortescue Park. We still have a healthy balance and can afford some investment like restoration of the SHRA bench. Andrew thanked June for all her work on behalf of SHRA.

7. Carols in the Village: June said £191 was collected at the event and a donation will be made to the mayor's charities. The event was well attended despite the weather and the additional carols were well received. Andrew suggested we should create a booklet of the carols and get this printed professionally. Mary commented that the tree looked particularly good and June said we have the lit star to use again this year. Andrew recorded thanks to the Deputy Mayor for coming to support the event.

8. Business Liaison Update: Jonathan said he has updated the business directory and Pam will put it onto the website. He suggested we should update the layout and the way the directory is presented based on comments from business owners, Jonathon will send a thank you note to all the sponsors who supported the carol event. We should think about what we can offer in return to businesses and the committee discussed how social media could be used to help with promotion. Andrew thanked Jonathan for his work in this area.

9. Bulletin 188: Andrew said Jonathan has agreed to edit this issue. The deadline for contributions is 27 February. Peter has a couple of items he is working on and other suggestions for articles are welcome.

10. Planning: Mike sent a message to say that there are no new applications to report and no change in status for the others that he has mentioned previously.

11. Any other business: Pam said that she had been contacted by a resident asking about the planter at the bottom of Tower Road. She responded saying SHRA had been told they could not do any planting and that the council's contractor would be planting and maintaining the bed. Pam suggested asking Cllr Bennett to find out when this work is likely to start.

Date of next meeting: 4 March 2026 at 7pm at the Alexander Pope Hotel

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Signed

Date