

**NUTBOURNE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

**Venue            The Barn, Long Platt, The Street**

**ATTENDEES**

**Committee Members**

Brian White(BW)-Chairman, Bob Allison(BA)-Treasurer, Carole Martin(CM)-Secretary, Andrew Moffat(AM)-NHW  
Neighbourhood Watch

**Residents**

|                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Robin Martin (RM)                  | Chris & Jeanette Brickell (CB),(JB) |
| Roger & Susan Burroughs (RB), (SB) | Jilly Marcusson (JM)                |
| Audrey Rose (AR)                   | Rod & Gil Wilson (RW),(GW)          |
| Jane Allison (JA)                  | Frank Riddle (FR)                   |
| Nadia Guest (NG)                   | Peter Gregory (PG)                  |
| Mike & Betty Sherwood (MS),(BS)    |                                     |
| Andrea Lawson (AL)                 |                                     |

**Apologies**

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Barry & Heather Davies | Ray Quested |
| Pam & John Wellard     |             |
| Philip & Ruth Migdale  |             |
| Ian Hare               |             |

**1) WELCOME**

The chairman welcomed members and residents for coming especially for venturing out on such a miserable evening.

**2) MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (13<sup>th</sup> October 2015)**

The minutes of the meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> October were agreed as a true record.  
AL raised the fact that some minutes were still missing from the website, notably Oct 2014 with accompanying Sussex Wildlife Trust Report and Jan 2015 with accompanying South Downs National Park Report.  
BW undertook to rectify this. **ACTION BW**

**3) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - attached**

**Key Points -:**

1) BW thanked Jilly Marcusson for the ongoing use of her barn for NRA meetings and she was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

2) The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme is now well established with 73 homes covered and BW thanked AM (Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator) for all his hard work.

3) Overall, 2015 passed without too much controversy with the main ongoing topics being:-

- Air Traffic Noise which Ian Hare has taken forward with Gatwick Airports Auth. and others.
- Roadwatch where we are continuing to look at ways to further impact on speeding vehicles, parking and potholes.
- PPC Neighbourhood Plan which we have continued to monitor over the year.
- High speed Broadband ,or rather lack of, continues to be a source of frustration and a number of options have been pursued particularly BT's roll out via Open Reach. Nutbourne and a number of other rural areas still cannot access this and it is likely to be the end of 2017 before it is available.
- Social events over the year were a great success and BW thanked the new Social Cttee for their efforts. The main events were
  - Easter Egg Hunt
  - Pumpkin Rolling
  - Christmas Drinks at Rising Sun
  - Carol Concert
  - Supper Club

A number of these topics will be discussed further under Matters Arising.

Finally BW thanked Paul Seaton who is now keeping the website up to date and in particular for the excellent presentation of the Christmas Newsletter.

#### **4) TREASURER'S REPORT – attached**

BA presented the Treasurer's Report and declared that as of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015 the Association had a surplus of £372.45

BW suggested spending some of this on social events in the current year and this was supported by the meeting.

#### **5) NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT**

AM, who also runs the Horsham District NW Cttee. outlined the main issues arising over the last year.

- 1) There have been substantial government cuts to Police Services which means there will be less PCSOs than currently. However Horsham District has already made most of the required cuts and is working very closely with neighbouring areas to minimize the impact. It is worth noting that a lot of house building is taking place around Horsham with a subsequent rise in population so it remains questionable as to whether enough support remains.
- 2) Recently there have been a number of drug related arrests due to the increased effectiveness of sharing intelligence across borders.

- 3) Although overall the number of burglaries has gone down ,2 weeks ago there was a burglary in Nutbourne which has been the only serious local incident of late. Unfortunately due to a technical glitch in the 'Broadcaster' system there was a delay in AM receiving timely information which meant he didn't hear about it until a week later. As a result ,the email he sent out was somewhat after the event. At this point JB told the meeting that it was in fact The White Cottage on The Street which was burgled and the thief appeared to know that Paddy and Sue Funnell went out at a certain time each week to visit a relative.

BW emphasised the need for prompt NHW alerts as people are then more likely to remember something unusual and it also alerts other residents so that they can take extra precautions.

- 4) Finally AM mentioned the travellers who had set up camp close to Dyke Farm just before Christmas. They have now left whether of their own accord or due to Council intervention is unknown.

BW asked members to ask any residents not currently in the NHW Scheme and hence not on the mailing list, if they would like to be included .

**ACTION ALL**

## **5) ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

All current officers agreed to continue in present rolls with JM acting as alternate secretary if required. This was unanimously agreed by the meeting.

## **6) MATTERS ARISING**

### **1) Roadwatch**

BW asked for any suggestions as to how to progress effective action on the areas covered by Roadwatch.

FR asked the Chairman how many residents had reported speeding vehicles to him as suggested in a previous meeting. No one had and in reality it is difficult to catch the number of such vehicles which is vital for effective intervention and action.

BW commented that the state of Stream Lane continued to be a appalling with little action having been taken by the Council to repair potholes in spite of frequent reporting by himself and others.

AL agreed and said that although 1 or2 minor repairs had been made , the majority of the problems remained. Paul Clark, from the Council , had taken photographs as long ago as last Sept/Oct but nothing much has happened.

AM felt it important that we persevere and the more individuals complaining the better.

AL thought contacting Paul Clark again may be more effective

**ACTION BW,ALL**

### **2)Pulborough Neighbourhood Plan update**

BW reported on the latest conversation he had with Sarah Norman at PPC. Horsham Council now have the document and will be making their recommendations back to PPC shortly. When PPC has considered these the Plan will then go to examiners from the Institute of Surveyors for further comment.

Following this, a Referendum will be held in the Parish with a simple ' Yes or No' response required as to whether residents support the Plan or not.

There appears to be 2 areas of potential contention -:

- i ) West Glebe Fields PPC want the area to be classified as 'green' hence placing restrictions on potential development. However, it is Glebe land donated to the Church and Peter Gregory (PG), a member of the Parochial Church Council, said that they do not wish further constraints to be placed on development especially as for example, new car parking facilities are badly needed. PG told the meeting that they have asked for a reassessment.
- ii) Glebelands There is a question as to whether this is a brown field site or not which affects the number of developments which can take place.

MS asked whether, once such a designation is approved, PPC must abide by the conclusions. While the answer is 'Yes', developers, for example may still contest this in court.

### 3) Social Events 2016

LW said that given the Christmas Drinks at the Rising Sun was such a success, the Social Cttee were considering having a similar Summer event and asked the views of the meeting. All agreed that it would be a good idea. She also reported that £130 had been raised for the NSPCC at the Xmas Carol Concert.

It was agreed that the Easter Egg Hunt this year should continue to be held on Easter Monday rather than the Sunday.

The Social Cttee is proposing to hold a Family Sports Day/ Festival in the summer with games, music etc in The Paddock at Long Platt which has been kindly offered by JM. Various ideas were muted and suggestions made.

The 9<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> July were the favoured dates for such an event.

LW will take all suggestions back to the Social Cttee for consideration.

**ACTION LW**

BW asked if members were keen to continue support for the Supper Club. Everyone present was in favour of this. HB felt it important that diners could mix and mingle more effectively and various suggestions were made such as a buffet for the first course, 4 lots of tables for 6, changing places between courses.

BW will look into possibilities and **date for next Supper Club was agreed for 21<sup>st</sup> April** being the Queen's Official Birthday and quite close to St. George's Day.

**ACTION BW**

### 7) AOB

i) RB had heard that the new car parking Planning Application for the Station had been held up on a technicality. AL said this was the case but the scheme was likely to go ahead eventually as it made a lot of sense.

ii) SB asked if there was any further news about the silica sand extraction proposal opposite the White Horse. AR said there was no further news but noted that Horncroft Common had also been proposed as a site so we need to keep a close eye on the National Parks Planning Authority website.

iii) MS updated the meeting at some length on the latest situation and the relevant technical issues regarding connecting Nutbourne to high speed fibre broadband.

Each of the 8 cabinets in the West Chilton area has about 300 lines and each has an associated fibrec box nearby hence in theory the facility and capacity is there to bring fibre broadband to the village. Nutbourne is linked to Cabinet 6 near Harborough Hill.

However a problem was created when the Exchange was moved from West Chilton to Storrington.

This resulted in Nutbourne being approx 6.5 kms. from the Exchange and hence too far for an effective connection i.e. no worthwhile improvement in broadband speed.

Open Reach appears to have a policy only to offer fibre broadband to those much closer to the Exchange so they can fulfil their remit to guarantee speeds of around 20mbps

Nutbourne could actually get a better service if connected via Cab 6 although nowhere near that level.

Interestingly there are a few exceptions in the area where individual houses are getting really good speeds and these instances should be looked at further to see if there indeed is a way forward for all of us.

RW then summarised a conversation he had a few months ago with the officer at WSCC responsible for the roll out of fibre broadband. She concurred with the fact that OR appears to use the money provided by the government to connect those areas where the best outcomes are likely hence more remote villages such as Nutbourne continue to be bypassed.

It was also reported that BT/OR are currently evaluating new technologies in order to resolve this .

In conclusion it was apparent that there is still quite a lot of confusion and uncertainty as to when Nutbourne is likely to be able to access high speed broadband and it was suggested that the NRA (officially) as well as individuals need to request a better service by contacting the responsible official at WSCC.

RW will forward details to BW who will write to WSCC on behalf of the NRA as well as circulate contact details.

**ACTION RW,BW**

**iv) TROUT!**

AM informed the meeting that he was delighted to report that a rainbow trout had been spotted in the stream running through the Lawsons' field and also brown trout in Stream Lane. This was the first time he had heard of such an event!

**8) DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 7.15pm in The Barn , Long Platt

Accepted as accurate

Chairman's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_