Meeting: Nutbourne Residents' Association
Date and Time: Monday 13 May 2013 at 7.15pm

Venue: The Rising Sun Pub

# **Committee Members**

Brian White (Chairman)
Diane Smith (Secretary)
Bob Allison (Treasurer)
Andrew Moffat (NHW)
David Seaton (Website)

#### Residents

Mick Smithers

Mary Smithers

Barry Davis

Heather Davis

Andrea Lawson

Frank Riddle

Jeanette Brickell

Pam Wellard

John Wellard

Jim Hool

Tess Conway

Arthur Conway

Chris Brickell

# **Apologies**

Jean Baker Derek Baker Bridget Gladwin

# 1. Welcome & Apologies

The Chairman welcomed members and residents, and BW expressed thanks on behalf of the Committee and all residents to the Rising Sun Pub for making their premises available for our meeting.

# 2. Minutes of the last meeting (21 January 2013)

Minutes were AGREED as an accurate record of the meeting.

#### 3. Guest speaker – PC Parker 'Making your home secure'

PC Parker began by stating that this area is considered a low crime area, and the most prevalent complaint the police receive is burglary non-dwelling crime eg sheds and garages. However, this is not a big problem. In the Pulborough area over the last year, crime figures were down. Reports were received of petty criminal damage and minor anti-social behaviour. To deal with burglary in non-dwellings, he recommended that valuable equipment in sheds and garages could be protected by substantial locks, alarms that ring in the house or to a mobile telephone, wireless CCTV, small infrared cameras and automatic sensor lighting. Expensive lawn mowers could be padlocked into the cement floor. To prevent burglary in a dwelling he recommended CCTV, good quality locks on windows and doors, shutting all windows and doors, good quality window glazing, security chain on the door and screwing shut unused windows. He remarked that most offenders do not attack windows, but prefer doors; therefore he recommended installing additional locks on doors or change doors to double glazed doors which are very difficult to break.

PC Parker commented on residents' concern about vehicles exceeding the 20mph speed limit in Nutbourne. He stated that speed cameras and SIDS are effective but not in Nutbourne because of the narrowness of the road. He recommended pinch

points, speed bumps and for residents to report speeding cars/vans/lorries to 'Operation Crackdown'. He explained that residents can report the registration number of speeding vehicles online or by telephone. If a registration number comes up three or more times, the police contact the owner of the vehicle. The Chairman and residents thanked PC Parker for an excellent informative talk.

#### 4. Matters Arising

**Gypsy & Travellers Study Update.** BW reported that a meeting was scheduled to take place on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2013; however no minutes are yet available; nor has Sarah Norman, Clerk to Pulborough Parish Council received any information. A document is due shortly which will commence the public consultation process. BW will keep the residents informed as to any further developments. **ACTION BW** 

Speeding Matters: Pinchpoints/Speed Bumps. A number of residents have reported vehicles exceeding the 20mph speed limit, and asked if the NRA would look into what the residents could do about the problem. DS reported that she spoke to Jonathan Ullmer of the West Sussex County Highways Commissioning Department who explained the process for residents to seek traffic calming funded by the Highways Department. Step 1 - in order to seek County support Nutbourne residents would have to show that the current 20mph speed limit was not effective; step 2 views of the residents need to be canvassed; step 3 - seek the support of Pulborough Parish Council and County Councillors: step 4 – seek advice from Ed Dickinson, Community and Economic Development; step 5 – file application. The County Local Committee meets quarterly to approve schemes, with approval they are then put forward to the Highways Department. Warning: sometimes applications take years to progress. If an application is not successful, residents may consider funding the project themselves. If public funding is not required, then the support of the County and Parish councils is required. John Wellard considered the issue of pinch points and speed bumps in light of a recent news report about the residents of Bramber seeking to have speed bumps removed from their village due to the damage they have done to ancient homes in the village. John stated that speed bumps cause excess noise, vibration and fuel pollution, damage buildings and affect the progress of emergency vehicles. He added that pinch points would not be effective as the roads in Nutbourne are too narrow, there is no two way traffic and there is no street lighting to see the pinch points. BW stated that the traffic speed data collected two years ago showed that most vehicles travelled between 20-30mph through Nutbourne; therefore we could not produce a strong application for public funding. BW has found that contacting the company advertised on vans exceeding the speed limit has been effective. John Wellard suggested residents report vehicle registration numbers to 'Operation Crackdown'. Residents voted unanimously that pinch points and speed bumps are not appropriate for Nutbourne.

Car parking in Nutbourne. BW stated that there is increasing concern about cars parking on both sides of the narrow road. He recalled that earlier in the year the refuse truck was unable to pick up the weekly rubbish because they couldn't get through the road as cars were double parked. BW pointed out that this is a potentially serious problem for emergency vehicles. John Wellard confirmed that they frequently have problems with cars parked in front of their house where the road is particularly narrow. In one instance late in the evening, he was unable to get into his driveway. He contacted the pub with the vehicle registration number and the car was moved. David Seaton suggested residents put notices on their gates and BW added that notices on the vehicles may be useful.

**Grit Bags.** BW contacted Sarah Norman, Clerk to PPC about Horsham District Council providing a grit bag for Nutbourne. Sarah reported that they will only deliver a grit bag if it was needed because of severe weather.

**Dog Bin Policy.** BW reported that Sarah Norman enquired about the HDC dog bin policy with no result. Emptying the bins is a problem. Andrea Lawson stated that the PPC Chairman Ray Quested is attending a meeting with HDC if Nutbourne would like to participate. David Seaton stated that there is an increasing number of visitors to Nutbourne Common to walk their dogs. ALL AGREED that reminding people to pick up after their dogs is preferable to introducing dog bins.

### 5. Any Other Business.

**Litter in Nutbourne.** Jeanette Brickell commented that the village was looking very good, free of litter. BW encouraged residents to continue picking up litter on a regular basis.

**Defibrillator Training.** Bridget Gladwin has sent a message to say that she will be organising a training day soon, and will contact BW or DS. **ACTION Bridget** 

**Improving Broadband.** David Seaton is seeking to improve Broadband in Nutbourne. Half of the residents in attendance stated that they would be interested. **ACTION David Seaton** 

#### Nutbourne within the Pulborough Parish.

Andrew Moffat stated Pulborough is increasingly becoming a large town, and Nutbourne is paying an annual precept but not benefitting. AM proposed that the PPC Chairman or Finance Officer attend the next meeting to discuss the precept and what Nutbourne residents receive from it. ALL AGREED. BW to contact Sarah Norman, Clerk to PPC, to make the arrangements. **ACTION BW** 

**Nutbourne Common.** David Seaton stated that further tree cutting is taking place in Nutbourne Common. Andrea Lawson, PPC Parish Councillor, explained that the recent tree cutting was part of an annual tree cutting plan to maintain the Common. All agreed that BW contact the PPC to request an update on the programme of work and enquire why Nutbourne residents have not been consulted. **ACTION BW** 

**Nutbourne 9K.** This annual run will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2013 in the aid of the St Nicholas Nairobi Fund.

**Annual subscriptions.** BA reminded residents that the annual subscription was £5 per resident, and he would be happy to accept contributions at every meeting.

**Local public footpaths.** BW and FR have recently walked several local public footpaths noting where fence posts holding barbed wire have fallen into the public footpath. All agreed that local landowners should be informed by the NRA. **ACTION BW** 

**Stuart's Wood.** BW reported that several residents had commented about their disappointment over the closing of Stuart's Wood to the public by the new owner. AM stated that he had been informed by the Forestry Commission that the agreement to allow public access to the wood for 10 years had elapsed; however the protection of the trees was for a further 20 years. All agreed that the NRA should contact the new owner to discuss limited access for residents. **ACTION BW** 

6. Date of next meeting.  Next meeting to be held on Monday 22 July 2013.
Accepted as accurate
Chairperson