

LANSDOWN CRESCENT ASSOCIATION MINUTES

Committee Meeting Wed 18th January 2017 at Sue Branfoot's (55 ULM) 7.30pm

1. Apologies please to the secretary

Marian

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting 23rd November 2016

The minutes were approved.

3. Matters Arising from the minutes (where not covered by agenda items)

(i) Parking outside Lansdown Grove Hotel (**Shaws and NB**)

There is nothing new to report.

(ii) Paving stones by Lansdown Grove Hotel are uneven. Contact Age Concern for assistance in pressurising the council (**JW**)

Four stones have been reset. James has noticed and reported four more further up the hill -
action JW

(iii) The PERA drafted standing order form is to be checked for acceptability with RBS and will then be included with the new year's subscription request (**CT**)

The form required minor updating, and will then be circulated - **action CT**

4. Treasurer's Report (CS) including Actions from AGM

The Winter party made a small surplus. The idea was discussed of allowing the summer party to subsidise a more modest party later in the year.

The handling of the remaining finials funds was discussed.

Robin will draft a paper on the subject for discussion at the next committee meeting - **action RK**

(i) Reserves questionnaire

22% response rate was deemed too low to change the constitution. At such a low response rate (22%) no firm instruction for change could be construed. Some of the minority views expressed were unlikely to gain more than marginal support if put to the vote. It was resolved to implement what

appeared to be the most well received recommendation on the reserves i.e. to establish a capital and contingency reserve of £10,000 and to retain the residual funds in a general reserve. A further questionnaire on constitutional change would be unlikely to stimulate useful instruction, and should be abandoned.

(ii) Constitutional study

Christopher felt that only two constitutional changes were of vital interest: absentee (or proxy) voting, which had been raised as an issue at the last AGM (see below), and widening of the objectives (not entirely desirable). Only the voting change should be addressed this year, with other items being addressed in future when the electorate is settled.

(iii) Proposal for absentee voting

Robin felt that electronic voting (e.g. by email) would be too complicated for such a small (and amateur) organization, necessitating (as it would) either a question decided prior to the meeting where a subject was to be discussed, or two meetings (with the added risk that the second one would be poorly attended). However, he suggested that members who knew that they would have to be absent from the AGM could pass their vote to another member, to use on their behalf as they saw fit (proxy voting). This approach was approved by the committee. Christopher and Simon to investigate - **action CS and SB**

(iv) Expense claims

There were none to approve

5. Hope House (RK, JW & NB)

Newsletter and progress:

Robin read out a progress statement from Acorn's PM (Kelly), including the following:

- On the week commencing 23rd January the hoardings will be changed to include advertising for the development. Lansdown Road will be one way outside peak hours.
- A change in main contractor to JJ Rhatigans (for the main build), who will be holding a Residents' meeting in the hotel to introduce themselves.

6. Traffic (NB)

HGV sign: The sign has been ordered and Peter Bailey is waiting for it to be delivered. It is expected sometime in January.

7. Social Events. (MMcN and SueB)

(i) Carol singing and Christmas Party

Concern was raised that many residents in LC did not answer their doors to make a donation.

*Robin to speak with Judith - **action RK***

The Christmas party was judged a success. A vote of thanks was expressed to Sue, Marian and Sarah for their catering.

(ii) Events 2017

Social plan, including AGM (**MMcN**)

xx has offered her house and garden for the summer party. Social Team to liaise with her
- action SBt and MMcN

The idea of a Beckford's Ride evening at St Stephen's was discussed, but requires further thought. **Action SBt**

8. Projects

Next project? See 23rd Nov 16 Minutes para 9

- Relaying (part of) the cobbles on LC - James to discuss with the conservation officer - **action JW**
- Repaving the field-side pavement - Simon to check his costing spreadsheet from a couple of years back - **action SB**
- Cleaning the paving stones on LPW - Rachael to arrange for cleaning - **action RCH**
- Central bench? - The two nearest residents would need to be approached out of courtesy.

9. LCA Website (MS)

Cats and dogs: MS said the content of articles on the website was the responsibility of their authors. Mandy agreed to post details of the road closure the following week (see para 5 above).

10. Neighbourhood Watch (RCH)

Fake charity collectors and utility workers.

Car crime in Bath.

11. Field and Sheep (JW)

Removal of fallen tree and any residual damage: The tree, being rotten, has been removed by the council. Sue asked about the trees in Hope House by the Dell and it was agreed to ask Acorn at the forthcoming HH meeting.

12. Membership (CT)

Subscriptions: 5 new members.

13. Planning

(i) James was welcomed as a volunteer for this position!

Michael Forsyth will help in the hardest of cases.

(ii) 11 LPE (JW)

Robin and James objected to the Red and White plastic barriers and after a site-meeting with the developers, they were replaced with fencing.

The highways officer has said that the pavement will not be shut.

(iii) 3 LPW – replacement of staircase handrail

Replacement staircase handrail has been approved and will be wrought iron-type.

(iv) nnn LC

No further news.

(v) Beckford's Broken Wall

Now with the High Court - to be heard after 7th March 2017.

14. Litter Picking Rota

(i) Continuous: Field (JW) and SL (DJ)

(ii) Rota volunteers

- January - CS
- February - RCH
- March - MS

- April - NB

15. FoBRA

Feedback & minutes from meetings. **(RCH & RK):**

- The Council held a press conference for the Park and Ride to the east of Bath, and announced their determination to press ahead in line with the unanimously-approved Transport Strategy.
- Bath A36/A46 link - Ben Howlett is pursuing this (with a petition as well as promises of financing at Cabinet level).
- Parking consultation by council – circulate FoBRA proposed response - **action RCH**
- Weekly or fortnightly black-bag rubbish collections in the context of the Council's new Refuse policy were discussed

16. Future LCA Committee Meetings and Venues (SB)

(i) AGM planning

St Stephen's is available only in school holidays, but we felt that a date not in the holidays would attract greater attendance.

Simon to check prices of Lansdown Grove Hotel and also available Saturday evenings at St Stephen's, since it was decided that a Saturday could attract more members if sufficient notice were given - **action SB**

(ii) Proposals for next committee meeting: 5th April at Nick Bishop's.

17. AOB

None.