

LANSDOWN CRESCENT ASSOCIATION MINUTES
Committee Meeting Wed 3rd June 2015 at DJ's 7.15pm

Present: Robin Kerr (Chair), Marian McNeir, Corinne Taylor, Mandy Shaw, Anthony Pearson, Sue Branfoot, Rachael Claire Hushon, Christopher Shaw, Delia Jay, James Whatmore

1. Apologies: Nick Bishop

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting 11th February 2015 approved without alterations.

3. Welcome to new Committee(RK)

(i) Discussion of roles.

The following were agreed:

Sue Branfoot will become the Assistant events organiser

Rachael will become our FoBRA representative - Action **RK**: add RCH to email distribution list.

4. AGM Outcomes(RK)

Constitution change

We agreed not to have an allocation of new committee members from Somerset Place at this time, as there are currently only 2 members from Somerset Place.

It was suggested that at the discretion of the committee, those with an affinity to the Crescent can join LCA.

5. Matters arising from the minutes (where not covered by agenda items).

(i) Finials - fundraising alternatives. (RK)

The Planning Permission requires the first house to undertake the finials project to act as a prototype, and will have to bear the initial cost. To help bear this initial cost, RK has approached various charitable trust, but without success so far.

MM will raise this issue with Lady Gass (ex-Lord Lieutenant and Chairman of the Fairfield Trust, as she was due to see her in the coming week – Action **RK**: send minutes to MM and discuss approach.

(ii) Wooden Stairs 3LPW - Enforcement Case 14/00871/LBWORK. (RK)

LCA has objected to this retrospective planning application. The committee felt that this was a case which should be stopped to prevent other out of character building in this Conservation area.

(iii) Pennant Stones (RK)

The pennant stones in All Saints Road have been replaced.

(iv) Fly-tipping in LPE (RK)

Thanks were expressed to James for his efforts in alerting the council to the rubbish strewn from the bin on LPE.

Black bags were left beside LPE bin

The committee agreed that a bin should remain there, but it was suggested that a big belly bin would better accommodate the increasingly-experienced larger volume of rubbish.

Marian will contact Matthew Smith regarding a big belly bin on LPE – Action **MM**

(v) Stonewood Banner (SB)

Thanks to Anthony and Simon for their success in having this large advertising banner removed.

(vi) Noisy broken drain cover, Somerset Lane. (DJ)
This has been fixed.

(vii) LCA opportunity for residents to meet (CT)
Corinne reported that 13 new members had joined LCA since February, some of whom have expressed a desire to meet others in the area.
An autumn social was suggested? Need wet weather option!
Events organisers MM and SueB will present options for autumn social.
Delia had asked her neighbour, ..., if they wanted to host this year's Christmas party, and she has agreed. Action **MM** to meet with ... and agree a date.

(viii) Parking outside Lansdown Grove Hotel (...) (RK)
RK had been in touch with traffic office, then traffic regulations officer.
The existing double yellow lines on Lansdown Road outside the hotel are insufficient, and there would need to be no-loading bars on the kerb to prevent the loading.
RK to consult with hotel management first - he was given approval to do so – Action **RK**

(ix) Beckford Gateway – discussion with Bath Preservation Trust (RK)
RK wrote to Ms Kay (BPT), who wanted to put the gateway into a charitable trust, if funds permitted.
CT mentioned that the owner of the house planned to put in another planning application.

6. Traffic Investigation (NB)

Nick Bishop had emailed the committee with his thoughts.
RK has written to Peter Bailey to monitor traffic on Lansdown Crescent, LPE and LPW

Rachael wanted to have monitoring equipment on LPW, and was concerned that it took place during school term time.
RK wanted to have it placed in a similar location as the earlier traffic monitoring exercise for comparability.
RK to speak to Peter Bailey for advice.
The idea of providing a better bus service (especially for the schools) was discussed
RK suggested involving FoBRA to suggest a bus service. Action **RK**

7. Treasurer's Report. (CS)

Accounts were distributed, including 5 year review of trends
Subscribers have risen to 132
The Highgrove trip proved successful

(i) Insurance provider
The change of insurers, now includes trustees indemnity for the same price.

£1000 donated by ... for finials

Christopher to give a more complete review at next meeting
Christopher will email accounts to SB for electronic distribution – Action **CS**

8. Social Events.

(i) Visit to Highgrove (MMcN). This had been successful and MM was congratulated.

See attachment - to be emailed to SB for distribution with the minutes – Action **MM**

The following events were proposed, but require further discussions:

Visit to Yeo Valley next summer was greeted with enthusiasm

Indoor event - Amy Frost curator of Beckford's Tower to show Beckford's Ride - virtual tour

Proposed LCA bookclub

SueB suggested a lecture - local history, arts event

Events organisers Marian McNeir and Sue Branfoot will present options at the next committee meeting – Action **MM** and **SueB**

9. Constitution Amendment

See above

10. LCA Website. (MS)

Thanked all for contributions to website, but requested more local events

There will be new pages for planning and neighbourhood watch

MS requested feedback on the website

MS mentioned that all committee members have Lansdown emails, which redirect to our personal email accounts.

Thanks were given to MS

The format for website contributions is MS Word or PDF

11. Neighbourhood Watch

Delia stood down and handed to RCH. They will meet to discuss handover. Action **RCH**

RCH reported telephone graffiti on LPW telephone box.

(i) See LCA website for update.

12. The Field and its Sheep. (JW)

The previous year's sheep had munched the grass low. This year's sheep (12 rams) have munched grass low.

Next will be shorn sheep with older lambs!

Andrew Fraser (c/o James) has scythed the nettles – thanks were expressed to Andrew

James has investigated a number of sheep that were reported to him sick, but all was well!

This approach works better than contacting the RSPCA, which can unnecessarily concern the farmer.

The primroses planted earlier have survived!

(i) Working party to clear field.

With the work performed by James and Andrew, a working party is no longer needed.

13. Membership (CT)

CT reported that we have had 13 new members since February, including our first Somerset Place members!

132 members in total, including 2 new members from Somerset Place.

Half-yearly subscriptions of £3 after July was proposed by CT and agreed by the committee.

The constitution will be changed at the next AGM to allow the committee to set the subscription fee - it is currently hard-coded in the constitution!

14. Complaints and Communication (SB)

None

15.Planning

(i)Hope House site - Planning approval granted at Appeal.

The start date for construction is not known as sale of the site is now underway (AP)
The sale is due to complete on 17th June, when LCA will be informed of the new owners
RCH wanted to request a site management plan for the future. This is a required part of any large development, and we agreed to discuss this with the new owners.

(ii)Designation of green spaces (AP)

The following areas were requested by AP to be designated, and have been so designated, as green spaces:

- Lansdown Crescent Field
- Somerset Place Gardens
- Top end of Cavendish Lodge
- Hope House parkland.

(iii)Rights of Way (AP)

AP discussed the difficulty of having a right of way across Somerset Place's gardens, but said that this right of way has a long history, and could not be challenged.

(iv)...- Development 4 Somerset Lane (DJ)

Planning approval has been applied for – it is understood that the new house will be in the same style as old, but with a larger extension, and that the existing owners will live in the new property.

16.Litter picking Rota

Field JW

General:

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| June | RCH |
| July | CT |
| August | RK |
| September | CS |
| October | MS |

Delia requested that All Saints Lane be included, but no need to do Somerset Lane, as she will continue it.

17. FoBRA

(i)feedback & Minutes from May 2015 meeting and AGM. (RK)

FoBRA's refreshed top priorities are pollution and traffic.

FoBRA wants to request a low emission zone in the town centre

Rachael was concerned about the knock-on effect of this to Lansdown.

Visitors permits – it was felt that these are indiscriminately given to hotels and guest houses, and also to tradesmen, and yet the public have not been consulted.

Community payback scheme can provide working parties – LPE telephone box graffiti removal?

(ii) FoBRA Summer Party - Thursday 23rd July in Violet Bank Farm (halfway up Widcombe Hill) (RK)

Next FoBRA meeting 30th July

Rachael was concerned of Robin's potential conflicts of interest as Chairman of FoBRA and LCA. He agreed, and it was agreed that RCH will report on the FoBRA points in future meetings.

18. Future LCA Committee Meetings & Venues.

Tuesday 1st September at Shaws

RK can host the subsequent meeting

19. AOB

SueB mentioned that the new university arts building was opened recently by Prince Edward, and that he will return for art exhibition and talk on 2nd July

Bath in bloom, invited participants for the next couple of weeks