

Green Street Green Village Society



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

16 MAY 2014

GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE at 7.30 p.m.

The Chairman, Tony Bradley, welcomed many Village Society members and guests to the Meeting, including local ward Councillors.

He announced that Larry Lewis, the honorary President and previously the Chair, died this week, aged 95. He was also decorated several times during the war and still has connections with the RAF. His funeral will be at St Mary's at 2:30pm on 3 June.

Due to the imminent election, Cllr Samaris Huntington-Thresher advised that she would not be speaking or answering questions during the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Pat Clarke, Peter and Greta Davies, Mr & Mrs Chris Garrard, Marjorie Parker, Gill Russell, Pam Shoebridge, David Smith and Bob Trott.

2. **MINUTES OF AGM HELD ON 17 MAY 2013**

The Minutes of the AGM held on 17 May 2013 had been circulated. The Chairman moved that they be accepted and this was unanimously agreed. Proposed by Brenda Newman and seconded by Joyce Lowes.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

None that are not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

4. **TREASURERS' REPORTS**

Printed accounts were circulated. Copies are filed with the Master Minutes.

4.1. **GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Alan Garelick presented the report:

- Not much variance from last year
- Balance sheet – fixed assets - £15,211 added, representing the kitchen refurbishment, insulation in the loft and a couple of windows
- Future expenditure – new central heating system and repair of front of hall and repainting of exterior

The Accounts were agreed. Proposed by: Barrie Newman

Seconded by: Dot Ryder

4.2. GREEN STREET GREEN VILLAGE SOCIETY

Colin Warner, presented the Report:

Subscriptions are unchanged from last year. There is a healthy bank balance. The War Loan asset is down slightly due to the economic climate.

Balance: £3,478

Fixed assets: £1,256

The Accounts were agreed. Proposed by: Stan Mortimer

Seconded by: Eddie Sims

Stephen Gates was not present. The Chair asked for the meeting to re-elect him as Honorary Auditor and this was agreed, pending confirmation that he is willing to continue.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Tony Bradley gave a summary:

The Centre:

- Busy – occupied nearly all the time – not many spaces
- Available for children's parties at weekends
- Kitchen refit has been very successful
- Emergency lighting put in all round the side of the building
- Ceiling insulated which will keep pre-school warm in the winter
- Two new windows, replacing ones which were rotten
- At back of hall there are two old heaters, so they will be replaced by a blow-fan gas heater over the door, with a radiator in the hallway and a new boiler
- Steps up to the stage are to be improved
- Christmas Raffle was a great success - £1288 – a lot more than previously
- The committee is hoping to get the Council to do something about the muddy patch outside the entrance
- The Chair gave special mention to the following:
 - Peter Fowler – the cleaner is always here cleaning up and keeping checks on necessary repairs
 - Chris & Esther Arnold – Pop In – did a lot to identify the needs of the kitchen
 - Joyce Lowes – keeps a fine eye on the building and reports any issues – particularly the tree stump which has finally been removed by the Council
 - Eddie Sims – volunteered to take over review of the centre, as Centre Manager, together with Alan Garelick.

The Society:

- Bob & Meriel Mills continue to do a splendid job – Membership over 600. Bob is also Chair of the Community Advisory Panel and was on the committee of Friends of Glentrammon Road Recreation Ground, which moved forward from an issue raised on the Society agenda – the summer event is on 29 June
- Parking review – meeting with Metrobus and the Council on 6 February – plus Beechwood RA Chair. Need to follow up
- Brittenden Parade opened up this year – been campaigning for it for a long time. Contract for cleaning only covers the pavement in front of Brittenden Parade. Sections outside Belmondo's and from Waitrose to Brittenden Parade are private property
- Cycle path proposal – Green Street GreenWay – to make it safer to cycle from Orpington to Green Street Green

- Social calendar – very successful talk on archaeology in April. Another one on 4 September on the history of playing cards

Constitution – the following issues have led to the need for revision:

- Original constitution 2006
- Done important things within the Society which do not comply with the original constitution
- Boundary vague in original constitution
- Have Road Contacts in specific area, so it has restricted the coverage
- 2 organisations – Association and the Society – 2 treasurers
- Centre owned by 4 Trustees
- Society is managed by the whole committee

A sub-committee was set up to review and propose a revised constitution. The final draft was unanimously agreed by the Committee.

Question: Voting system by household – how will you police this?

Chair: In future, this would be covered by issuing voting papers. Voting on the new constitution is under the old constitution terms which do not describe specific terms.

The Chair proposed adoption of the new constitution. Seconded by Rob Clark
Vote: 45 in favour and none against (57 in attendance, including 12 couples)

6. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

The Chair announced his retirement. Stan Mortimer and Margaret Lawrence retired earlier in the year. Committee members Barrie Newman, David Smith and Miriam Welch also stood down.

Members of the committee were elected first:

Kim Botting, Rob Clark, Elizabeth Downie, Tamara Galloway, Alan Garelick, Richard Gibbons, Ian Matheson, Bob Mills, Meriel Mills, Margot Rohan, Gill Russell, Dot Ryder, Eddie Sims, BobTrott and Colin Warner

Proposer: Tony Bradley

Secunder: Barrie Newman

The retiring Chair, Tony Bradley, introduced Bob Trott, who was unable to attend. Although he has only recently joined the committee and been in Green Street Green for two years, he has a lot of experience chairing committees.

Proposer: Tony Bradley

Secunder: Margot Rohan

The Meeting agreed officers as follows:-

Chairman:	Bob Trott
Vice-Chair:	Bob Mills
Greenwood Centre Treasurer:	Alan Garelick
Village Society Treasurer:	Colin Warner
Secretary:	Margot Rohan
Membership Secretary:	Bob Mills
Lettings Manager:	Dot Ryder
Planning Secretary:	Tamara Galloway

The Chairman, Vice-Chair, Greenwood Centre Treasurer and Secretary are Trustees of the Greenwood Centre Charity – Bob Trott to replace Tony Bradley.

Honorary Auditor: Stephen Gates Agreed by the meeting (see 5 above).

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND OPEN FORUM**

Tony Bradley wished the Society well for the future. Barrie Newman has also retired from the committee and Stan Mortimer left the committee during the year. Both Barrie and Stan have done a lot of work keeping the centre in good repair. David Smith and Miriam Welch have also resigned.

Dot Ryder, was also mentioned. She is 90 and continues to manage the Village Hall Bookings.

Cllr Russell Jackson is not standing for re-election but said a few words about the various organisations in the area and that he had enjoyed being councillor for the last four years.

Meriel Mills asked if there was an update on parking in the area.

Cllr Julian Grainger responded: There have been some positive responses regarding the high street. It has been agreed that a few additional parking spaces will be created in front of the I-Care Centre at the A21 roundabout end of the high street. Recently there was an accident outside the Bombay restaurant but there were no parked cars, so it could be that parked cars slow the traffic passing through. At World's End Lane junctions – Farrant Close, Kingsley Road, exiting into World's End Lane - some short double yellow lines may help. Further up there are differing opinions. The issue will be considered road by road.

Public conveniences – change of use – councillors would not support any loss of space in the front.

Metrobus – the CEO left within a week of the meeting. Reports of bad behaviour by Metrobus drivers continue – tipping out ashtrays in Glentrammon Road.

Kingsley Road – residents found human excrement with toilet paper in the footpath down to the high street – someone went prepared, although there is no evidence to identify the perpetrator.

Shire Lane – appears to be attracting more cars at the Metrobus end – so hopefully Metrobus drivers.

Question: Why does half of Windsor Drive have double yellow lines but no yellow lines near the park?

Cllr Julian Grainger: Improving sightlines at Woodlands Road is an ongoing project. The Council is under pressure across the borough. Proposals involve double lines by Woodlands Road and single yellow lines on the hill. However, there is a need to protect the entrance to the park. However, the new proposals have not yet been agreed.

Cllr Russell Jackson: Councillor Colin Smith was closely involved in the meeting with Metrobus. He is frustrated by their attitude and behaviour. He has taken a personal interest in parking around Green Street Green. Post election he will be looking at reviewing the whole of parking in the area. Regarding Windsor Drive – the new councillors will take up the issue with Councillor Smith.

Mausoleum – Cllr Jackson chaired the committee which refused the application. He explained that it has been taken to appeal but believes there are good grounds for the appeal to be dismissed

Question: Parking: Ash Road – trouble parking due to businesses with vans. Yellow lines on corners will reduce parking – if it is done, can parking with 2 wheels on pavement be legalised?

Cllr Julian Grainger: Council officers are reluctant to legalise it due to disabled access issues – for both pavements. However, most people in such narrow roads are usually agreeable, as long as one side is accessible. There is an argument for yellow lines on corners if there is a road safety issue.

Eddie Sims: Grass cutting was done recently, having left it until it was a foot high and then the cuttings were not cleared away.

Cllr Russell Jackson: The company which did this has been fined for the poor quality of work – not cutting and clearing up as contracted to do.

Bob Mills gave thanks to Tony Bradley, Barrie Newman and Stan Mortimer for their work over their time on the committee:

Stan has been involved since 1982 – he has a talent for making and repairing things. He designed the village sign on the green. He was presented with vouchers for B&Q.

Barrie has been a member of the committee for over 30 years. To mark the millennium – he organised the new clock outside the Centre and has altered the clock for summertime annually. He has painted and decorated many times over the years. He was presented with a bottle of his favourite ‘tipple’, plus garden vouchers.

Tony has been the chair for the last 10 years. He has quickly passed on problems to the Council and ensured they were quickly rectified. He was instrumental in increasing the members group – from 40, when he took over, to over 600 today. He oversaw improvements and repairs and applications to the Lottery for grants. His chairmanship has greatly improved the running of the committee.

Tony’s wife, Gwyneth, was also recognised for her support of the chair and the society. Tony was presented with a bottle of his favourite whisky and vouchers for them both to enjoy meals at The Royal Oak.

The Meeting closed at 8:46pm, followed by refreshments.