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GREAT HOLLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on

SATURDAY 12th May, 2018 at 11.30am in the Village Hall

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Linda O’Reilly, Eddie Forrest, Graham Hughes and Anne Lott.

Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer reported the current balance of £3,618.10. Income for the year was £388 and expenditure was £151.53.

The Treasurer provided a breakdown of membership by road and commented that a number of roads had no members at all. In 2017 there were 416 households, a number increased by recent construction. Currently, there are 35 members compared with the same time in 2017 of 83. The previous highest total was 110.

Election of Officers

The existing officers, apart from the retiring treasurers, were willing to stand again. Liz Oakley kindly offered her services as the new treasurer. Accordingly, the following were elected unopposed:

Chair: Paul Fletcher-Tomenius

Vice-Chair: Robert Caines

Treasurer: Liz Oakley

Secretary: Birgitta Fletcher-Tomenius

Planning Officer: Eddie Forrest

The Meeting agreed with the Chair’s suggestion that we record a vote of sincere thanks to Lindy and Denys Strich for their great service as Treasurers over the years.

Minutes of the Meeting of meeting of 13th January 2018

The minutes were approved.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising

PCSO Report

There was no report this time and the Chair apologised to the meeting for failing to inform the PCSOs of the changed time. It subsequently transpired that an officer did attend at the usual time to be confronted by a karate class. The PCSOs have now received full details of the next three meetings in writing to avoid a recurrence of this oversight.

Planning Report

Eddie Forrest summarised recent developments in a written report read out by the chairman. In brief, the inappropriate approvals by the TDC were listed, namely the Pork Lane bungalows, the Larges Farm development and the bungalows next to The Veldt.

Thankfully, 13 other new dwellings were rejected and the appeal against the refusal of a third house on the Nursery site was turned down.

There are pending applications for a further, new bungalow in Pork Lane and 41 dwellings at the Beaumont Manor Care Home complex.

The draft local plan has at last been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and the adoption of the plan is anticipated some time during 2019.

The next meeting of the TDC Local Planning Committee will be on 18 June at 6.30 pm in the Princes Theatre, Clacton.

Date, Time and Venue of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Great Holland Residents Association will be held on Saturday, 6th October at 11.30 am. PLEASE NOTE THE LATER TIME. SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS WILL BE AT THE NORMAL TIME.

Any Other Business

A number of concerns were expressed concerning issues in Pork Lane:

1. An appeal has been lodged in respect of the additional dwelling at Mrs. Hutley’s Birch House Farm. This application is to provide accommodation for the next generation of farmers.
2. There was a complaint that the lane was being narrowed by spreading debris from the verges. The Chair pointed out that if there is any obstruction of the existing highway, it is a matter for the PCSOs. Obstruction of the public highway is a criminal offence.
3. There was further discussion of the overturned tipper lorry. There is no official explanation, but the workers on the new bungalow site reported that the lane had been partly obstructed by one of their machines and the driver of the lorry was unwilling to wait for them to move it. The lorry was stated to have gone on to the soft verge and become stuck. When an attempt was made to tow it out, the lorry overturned. There is still debris from the skip in the field which Councillor Bucke has urged the insurance company to remove.
4. There are complaints of excessive speed and irritation that Essex County Council has declined the request to change the limit or to prevent access by HGVs. The application for “Quiet Lane Status” is being pursued but with no sign of progress as yet.
5. There has been no action to reduce the height of the hedge along the playground and Councillor Bucke continues to push for the work to be completed.

It was reported that the access to the Larges Farm Development has been moved so that it enters the main road near the bus shelter, rather than half way around the corner into Rectory Road. Concerns were expressed that this did not deal with the danger of entering a fast section of road on a bend.

It was reported that a new camera has been purchased in Tendring which can be used by the PCSOs as a basis for issuing speeding tickets. Unfortunately, there is only one available for the whole area, but efforts will be made for a significant period of monitoring of Little Clacton Road. It was commented that the £8,000 purchase price would be rapidly amortised by assiduous use of that camera along that highway.

Councillor Bucke reported that repairs to the drain under the bridge had been delayed by the discovery of a leak, presumably in the chamber. There is no date for further progress and a cone has been placed over the drain. This has created a dangerous, effective narrowing of the road at this point.

Complaints were again made regarding failure to cut the hedge at the end of Little Clacton Road.

Sandra Mooney proposed that a defibrillator is installed in the village. One has recently appeared in Frinton and another in Kirby Cross. Others are planned for Walton and Kirby Le Soken. The approximate cost is £1,800 and there is a need to train local people for maintenance purposes. The meeting voted unanimously to seek the approval of the Village Hall Committee for installation there and subsequently to approach Frinton and Walton Town Council for assistance, offering a contribution from the GHRA of £1,000.

Jane Kurzweil kindly volunteered to man a stall for GHRA at the Village Fête in August. As the GHRA has been unable to find volunteers last year, this was very much appreciated. Louise Goodwin has the banner and other materials for the stall, as she has manned in the past.

The meeting closed at 12.30 pm.