

Minutes of Steering Committee No 51, Thursday 16th January 2025,

At The village Centre, Victoria Street, Englefield Green, 6.30pm to 8.45 pm

Present: Mike Kelly (Chair), Alan Sloan, Melanie Frobisher, Tanja Rodenburg.
Albert Jamieson, Erik Juul-Mortensen

- 1) **Apologies for Absence;** Terry Barnett, Fred West
- 2) **Approval of Minutes of Meeting No 50;** Approved
- 3) **Declaration of personal interest in topics to be discussed;** none.
- 4) **Accounts;** Fred had submitted an accounts sheet which was approved. Mike to ask why a payment to Rob Buick for use of his server has not been paid?
- 5) **Application for re designation of the Forum;** RBC are progressing this - 6 to 8 weeks to completion of the formalities.
- 6) **a) Membership.** Melanie seeking comments to finalise a flyer for distribution door to door whilst seeking residents registration with the Forum. March considered the earliest for the door to door due to the weather. Facebook and other advertising will flow from this, so it needs settling first.
b) Volunteers. Tanja is proposing to assemble a list of volunteers and what they are prepared to do. This would be for all activities in the Village, not just the Forum. she requested we all identified and submitted to her any volunteering requirements. These could range from 'one off' jobs to committee member requirements.
c) Fund Raising- a dedicated committee member is probably needed at some time in the near future- we first need to see if we can get funds out of Surrey CC and then identify specific projects for public funding.
- 7) **Infrastructure Development Schedule-** Requires comments by 14th February to RBC. Mike/ Alan/ Albert to review and comments to Mike for submission.
- 8) **NDHA update.** Letter to all proposed NDHA households sent by RBC and awaiting response.
- 9) **English Devolution White Paper.** Proposal to scrap Borough Councils and divide Surrey into two unitary councils, North and South. We must be aware that this proposal is likely to go ahead soon and therefore that we must get our projects moved to a point where they are either funded or somewhere in the Surrey CC process in order to maximise the chance that they will not be lost in the changes. Alan raised the possibility of a Parish Council which he is investigating. The advantage being that it gave some local control over matters. Alan to pursue via our MP Jack Rankin (AOB note- As a statutory Body could the Forum have more powers or where will it stand in the re organisation?- Alan to ask CEO Surrey CC)
- 10) **Projects arising from the Neighbourhood Plan**
 - a) **Parking:** Parking questionnaire planned for the New Year. Briefing of Andrea Bernadi for his Transport sub committee meeting with RHUL.
 - b) **Speed Limits and One Way systems.** Alan is still getting no response from Surrey Highways but will keep trying.
 - c) **The A30, Liveable neighbourhoods, National Cycling route 4;** Disappointing that despite being promised to be on the consultation list for the LCWIP for the

A30, we were not invited to the recent briefing though RHUL were. Mike to complain to Marisa Heath.

- d) **Transport Hub.** Inviting bids for the Phase 1 work. Closing date end of Jan with submission of fund application early February. Mike proposed site notices for both this and Bond Street hedging to inform residents what we are doing and inviting comment. Mike to draft wording. Melanie to prepare and get printed.
- e) **Bond Street Hedges.** Need for someone to look after this. Mike to e mail Surrey CC to make sure this is on track and whether there is anything we can do at this stage.
- f) **Other tree projects-** no comments
- g) **Forest Estate Garden Project-** still in abeyance.

11) Planning;

- a) Fairmont tree houses- Further significant submissions have been made by the applicant but we have not been informed formally. Mike to complain to Ashley Smith. All to review and comment.
- b) Barbara Clark House- Still nothing seems to be happening at the moment.
- c) Victoria Street 16-18 and no 19. Mike met with Vicky Gibson (senior planner) at the site and agreement reached to make the best of a bad job with various modifications that make the current installation blend in. (subsequently saw that these mods had been carried out).
- d) Oaklands driveway. Withdrawn but watch this space as it will go in again.

12) AOB-

Action left from last meeting; Meeting with Windsor Park; Mike would try and set up a meeting with Nick Day.

Web site; Needs updating. Mike to look at.

13) Next Meeting- 13th February 2025