

WARREN & DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Date : 29 March 2023 **Start:** 19.30hrs

Venue : Larks Mead Upper Warren Avenue

Present: Elisa Miles EM (Chair), Hayley Brommel HB(Treasurer) Sally Hart SH (Secretary)
Martin Brommel MB, Alistair McLean AM, Bob O'Neill RON, Pam Reynolds PR

Apologies: John Heaps

WADRA BUSINESS

Minutes of committee meeting on 15 February 2023

1424 These were agreed as a correct record

Treasurer's report.

1425 HB presented her report. Storage costs were coming down and a credit was expected as one invoice had been paid twice. Much material had been removed and was being digitised by RON. Some chairs still had to be disposed of and it was hoped the remainder could go in the back cupboard, Caversham Trents were selling some of the surplus bamboo cups with the proceeds being shared. Café cakes were an item which would be reported separately as the cost needed watching. It was noted that EM retains a cash float of £50.

16th February - 29th March							
	Balance		OUT	Details IN =		Details OUT =	
Savings Account	£ 17,906.24	£ 8.07		Interest - March			
WADRA current	£ 3,607.14	£ 248.63	£ 1,312.53	Café	£ 232.63	Café cakes	£ 135.60
				Members x 2	£ 10.00	Café sundries	£ 13.77
				Photo comp	£ 6.00	Pavilion hire	£ 169.80
						Pitman DoD 1/22	£ 765.60
						Storage [64.13 paid twice credit reqd]	£ 227.76
Petty Cash	£0.00	HB =	£22.24				
Grand total	£21,513.38	£256.70	£1,312.53		£248.63		£1,312.53

ACTION RON and EM ongoing storage reduction . EM to cancel provisional booking for pavilion on Bank holiday

Planning .

1426 AM presented his report. There was discussion about the prospect of a shade awning being positioned on the school playground. Regarding speculation that the capacity of the Heights School might be increased by four per class it was thought that

such a step would be subject to planning permission. HB suggested that the 3 ward councillors be asked for their view in the light of falling rolls in other schools in the area and the commitment made by RBC not to increase class sizes at the Heights.

				WADRA Planning Report		28/03/2023
				Current Planning Applications		
Key: O: Objected: C: Commented: N/A: No action: P: Permitted, R: Refused, W: Withdrawn						
		CD: Conditions Discharged	Con: Start of Consultation Period			
		C: Committee Decision	D: Delegated Decision			
Number	Property	Road	Description	C/D	Dated	Result
2023		2023				
221644	Blewgarth	The Warren	Dem'ion of existing ,applic'n for new house	D	21/11/2022	P: 23/01/2023
221790	4	Hewett Close	Flat Roof Dormer at Rear	D	12/12/2022	P: 23/01/2023
221819	2	Kelmscott Close	Single Storey Rear Ext'n	D	12/12/2022	P: 27/01/2023
221825	55	St Peters Ave	18 High Street Pole & 3 cabinets	D	19/12/2022	R: 27/01/2023
221878	Crawfordjohn	Upper Warren Ave	Rear Ext.n	D	04/01/2023	P: 04/01/2023
221625	The Moorings	Upper Warren Ave	Replacement House	D	09/01/2023	
221827	5	Grass Hill	Approval of details reserved by Condition 3	D	09/01/2023	P : 31/01/2023
230291	25	St Peters Ave.	2 Storey Rear & single storey Front Ext'ns	D	20/03/2023	
230339	30	Chazey Road	Loft Conver'n with 2 dormers and front porch	D	27/03/2023	

Membership drive

1427 It was agreed to prepare several elements aimed at recruitment of members and retaining their interest. These include welcome pack containing useful things to know, a leaflet explaining what WADRA does for the residents and a Bridge article perhaps looking more to the future. In order to have an accessible master list of members EM agreed to show HB and SH how to use Google groups. It was suggested that members could receive a free tea or coffee at the community café.

The AGM had recommended that a category “ friends of WADRA” be created which would include people who espoused the WADRA mission to preserve, protect and enhance the area but did not qualify for membership as residents. They would not have AGM votes but would be communicated with via an email list.

ACTION EM/SH/HB

Photo Competition

1428 SH reported that only three eligible entries had been received and there was now way of knowing how many people intended to enter by the deadline.

Logo.

1429 There was little progress and it was decided to approach alternative designers.

ACTION EM, PR

Next Newsletter,

1429 This would be related to the work on the Bridge article looking to the future.

ACTION EM

Future events

1430 Themed and sponsored café afternoons are at the planning stage and will be advised by social media and within the café. One suggestion is a show and tell of Coronation memorabilia

(AGM Oct 11th Pam Reynolds was invited to speak about her work with Reading based Gurkha families and the SSAFFA. Later Pam asked to be reserve speaker)

Mapledurham Playing Fields –

1431 **Report of management committee** 15 March. EM summarised the last meeting and highlighted the following – upgrading of paths, noise control within the pavilion acoustic panels have been completed, damage after hiring and retention of deposits,, damage and CCTV ,sharing of storage space by regular users, responsible use of refuse bins, and the wifi which has now been installed. She observed that the Deed of Dedication had not been acknowledged as part of the Committee’s business despite it having been regularly discussed previously. There was also concern about sources of funding for ongoing maintenance of the area.

1432 **Deed of dedication/local plan.** EM stated that she was taking advice from a number of experts . obfuscation by RBC representatives Members expressed concern about delays
Action EM

1433 **Anti-social behaviour/ Parking** The discussion concerned the increasing incidence of evening gatherings of teenagers around the school and the play area when the lights were on. A recent incident had led to the police turning out in force and three arrests. MB felt that the channels of communication and reporting responsibilities for residents were still unclear. Parking irregularities by parents and visiting football teams were still disrupting legitimate users of the pavilion and local residents. The Management committee had advised that it was down to residents to educate those responsible for bad parking. Several strategies for achieving more considerate parking were discussed

1434 **Mitigation of sound and light nuisance.** The sound measurement provided by RBC were deemed to be inadequate in many respects and MB would be querying them further before taking the matter to the next stage of complaints procedure.

1435 **Hall/kitchen bookings.** Some of the furniture needed to be replaced and it was hoped that unreturned deposits would be used. The cakes were proving popular but cost had to be watched.

1436 **School** MB and HB had maintained their dialogue with the Head. Current issues concerned parent parking at the end of the day and the need to encourage walking to school. Disturbance to neighbours during and beyond the school day and term was an ongoing issue and WADRA sees improved acoustic screens as a priority.

1437 **Neighbourhood safety** North Reading Safer Neighbourhood Forum -MB updated members on the staffing situation with respect to community policing

1438 **Dates of further committee meetings in 2023**

May 10th

August 9th proposed

Sept 27th proposed

Oct 11th AGM proposed