

# WARREN & DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING

## MINUTES

**Date** : 20 March 2024 **Start:** 19.30 hrs

**Venue** : Larks Mead

**Present:** Elisa Miles EM (Chair), Hayley Brommell HB (Treasurer), Sally Hart SH (Secretary), John Heaps JH, Alistair McLean AM, Bob O'Neill RON, and Pam Reynolds PR

**Apologies:** Barbara Garden BG

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1487 Apologies were received from Barbara Garden.

1488 The minutes of the committee meeting on 17 January were agreed.

### **Matters arising**

1489 Members were asked to continue to advise HB of known changes of owners and residents in their vicinity. EM said the work on the logo was ongoing. SH and RON had made progress on the archives and a memory corner had been developed for display at the café.. **Action ALL**

**Action EM** to advance the logo design.

### **1490 Treasurer's report**

17th January - 19th March							
	Balance	IN	OUT	Details IN =		Details OUT =	
Savings Account	£ 18,075.30	£ 30.92		Interest - February to March			
WADRA current	£ 1,438.64	£432.75	£568.85	Café	£432.75	Café cakes	£356.60
						Pavilion hire [x5]	£212.25
Petty Cash	£45.00	HB =	£22.24				
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>£19,558.94</b>	<b>£463.67</b>	<b>£568.85</b>		<b>£432.75</b>		<b>£568.85</b>

HB reported that RBC was still not indicating the dates of bookings for which WADRA was being billed. The numbers attending the café had increased but it had not attracted sufficient locals during the winter months to break even. The preponderance of school related customers meant that it had been decided to close for two weeks at Easter when the school would be closed. In order to broaden the base of the clientele it was decided to invite local clubs and societies to use it as a shop window in early May. Publicity in the Bridge and social media as well as direct approaches to clubs would be necessary. Sponsorship would be sought. AM would approach a contact. The current sandwich boards were no longer fit for purpose and it was agreed that lighter, but durable signs could be purchased **Action EM, AM**

## 1491 Planning Report

230887	6	Mapledene	Timber Orangery to replace existing	D	03/07/2023	
230979	11	St Peters Ave:	Single Storey side Ext'n Arboricultural Impact	D	31/07/2023	R: 15/02/2024
230982	11	St Peters Ave:	Assessment	D	31/07/2023	P: 24/01/2024
231002	Blewgarth Stable	The Warren	Approval of details : Biodiversity	D	31/07/2023	P:17/08/2023
230913	Cottage	Upper Warren Ave	Proposed works to a Tree Removal of exposed limb of Cedar Tree	D	24/07/2023	P: 24/07/2023
231038	8	Wychcotes	Single Storey rear Ext'n and Garage Conversion	D	25/07/2023	P: 25/07/2023
231040	20	Chazey Road		D	07/08/2023	P: 11/10/2023
231023	Heights School	Upper Woodcote Road	Increase in Class sizes Variation in Conditions: to improve living cond.	C	14/08/2023	
230967	5	Grass Hill	Proposed new Detached House	C	28/08/2023	P: 12/10/2023
231084	Plot 11 a	The Warren	New Double Garage & 2 Storey Side Ext'n	C/D	28/08/2023	W/D: 12/10/2023
231246	6	Kelmscott Close	Loft Conversion with dormer & Rear Conserv	D	11/09/2023	P: 27/11/2023
231294	75	Chazey Road		D	25/09/2023	P; 03/11/2023
231270	Warren Creek	The Warren	Redevelopment for new house Single side, double storey ext'n to Rear	C	16/10/2023	
231724	16	Ridgehall Close		D	11/12/2023	P: 29/01/2024
231675	Telscombe	Avenue	2 Storey extension	D	18/12/2023	P: 17/01/2024
231848	2	Little Woodcote close	Single side and rear and roof extension	D	15/01/2024	
240089	31	Chazey Road,	Single storey Front Ext'n	D	29/01/2024	
240254	12	Wychcotes	Rear Ext'n to ground floor and 1st Floor	D	11/03/2024	

AM reported that since the last meeting in January 2024, there have only been 7 changes, shown in yellow on the table. Of the 7 changes, there were 3 new applications, 3 permitted applications and 1 application was refused. The 3 New Applications were: 2 Little Woodcote Close, 31 Chazey Road and 12 Wychcotes Close, none of which seem controversial. The 3 Permitted Applications were: 11 St Peters Avenue (Arboricultural Impact Assessment), 16 Ridgehall Close and Telscombe on Upper Warren Avenue. The 1 Refusal was for 11 St Peters Avenue and the reason for refusal was that the proposed garage was considered excessive and would appear to be obtrusive within the street scene. However it was not dissimilar to a neighbouring development which had been granted two years ago.

**1492** He also noted that Reading Local Education Authority had commented on the Heights School Application to increase class sizes and it had recommended the application be refused because of the impact on other local schools in Reading. Members commented that they had put this case when the original proposal to build the school was heard but as this was now coming from a different source, i.e. the Local Authority, it may have more impact. Members had entered further objections with respect to the recent submissions by the school re parking and noise.

**1494** There was discussion about the sudden erection of a high communication mast alongside an existing one on the east side of the Woodcote Road. AM had written to RBC to enquire whether it was within permitted development as it appeared to be in addition to the original planning permission and on a different spot. The committee would have objected if planning permission had been sought.

**1495** RON drew attention to the retrospective application to create an enclosure of decking at the Persian Palace on Caversham Bridge. Warren residents and river users were concerned about the eddying effect on the water flow. Committee members were concerned that a photograph of the structure differed in many respects from the plans on the application and AM was asked to investigate. **Action AM**

**1496 RBC Policy Consultations** It was agreed that WADRA would alert members to proposals which might affect their homes and environment but would not comment on proposals from a party political standpoint.

**1497 AGM** There was discussion about a topic for the AGM. Suggestions included: cyber security, dogs and health, keeping fit in old age. All to consider an entertaining speaker on such topics and alert EM. **Action All**

**1498 Mapledurham Playing Fields Management Committee.** EM reported that the full minute of the last meeting had not been produced so had little to add since her last report. However, she had met the chair of the RBC Trustees sub-committee which would now oversee the Mapledurham Trust. As Chair of the Management Committee she had written to him and the Council Leader outlining the concerns of all the stakeholders and suggesting ways in which the decision making process and management could be more effective. As a result Councillor Hornsby-Smith had invited her to give a 5 min presentation to the Committee on Jan 26<sup>th</sup>. SH and HB would also attend in support. **Action EM,HB,SH.**

**1499 Anti-social behaviour.** JH, Martin Brommell and Paul Carnell had attended a zoom meeting with the street pastors of Reading and learned their views which were to offer compassion, with no direct action. JH circulated some key dates when it would be helpful if members could have a presence in the park in an observer capacity. He would prepare a programme to ensure coverage.

**Action JH**

**1500 Safer Neighbourhood Forum** RON had circulated mins of the last meeting

**1501 Any Other Business** RON enquired about the apparent demolition of 196 Upper Woodcote Road. Although just outside the WADRA area it had an impact on road and pavement users. There did not seem to be a planning application in the system for a complete rebuild. AM was asked to investigate. **Action AM**

**The meeting closed at 21.30**