

WARREN & DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Date : 3 September 2025

Start: 19.30hrs

Venue : Larks Mead Upper Warren Avenue

MINUTES

Present Elisa Miles EM (Chair), Sally Hart SH (Secretary), Stephen Bale SB, Barbara Garden BG, John Heaps JH, Bob O'Neill RON, and -Pam Reynolds P, (in part)

Apologies : Hayley Brommell HB (Treasurer), Alistair McLean AM,

WADRA Business

Matters arising from the last meeting not elsewhere on agenda-

1601 Logo - no further action

1602 Newsletter – It was agreed that the newsletter should be brief, highlighting main issues and achievements and encouraging members and potential members to attend the AGM for more information. RON agreed to print copies and all would share distribution to households. Member households would be sent it and the AGM notice by email. **Action EM**

1603 Formation of WhatsApp group. BG would prepare a consent note for potential members to sign before she could add them to the group. This would be available at the AGM. **Action BG**

1604 Report from events committee. The first event would be a working party in mid October to prepare a trench for 30 trees gifted by the Woodland Trust. Sources for manure, rotavator and mulch chippings were offered. It was agreed to hold a quiz in November. Details to be discussed at a special committee meeting on September 16th. (venue to be notified). Winter/Spring walks were considered. These could possibly link to an opening of the kitchen in the pavilion subject to availability of the location and resident interest. Ross Garden had offered to lead a geological/ historical walk.

Treasurer's report

1605 The values reported for 13th March - 27th May were incorrect – WADRA current balance was reported [incorrectly] as £1,362.81. The correct value is £1,212.55,–

13th March - 27th May							
	Balance	IN	OUT	Details IN =		Details OUT =	
Savings Account	£18,294.97	£44.93		Interest - March to May '25			
WADRA current	£1,212.55	£239.89	£390.15	Café	£239.89	Café cakes	£43.00
						Pavilion Hire	£297.15
Petty Cash	£21.00					Heights School *	£50.00
HB =	£22.24						
Grand total	£19,528.52	£284.82	£390.15		£239.89		£390.15

1606 Accounts for 28th May - 28th August –

28th May - 28th August							
	Balance	IN	OUT	Details IN =		Details OUT =	
Savings Account	£18,341.12	£46.15		Interest - March to May '25			
WADRA current	£1,212.55						
Petty Cash	£21.00						
HB =	£22.24						
Grand total	£19,574.67	£46.15	£0.00		£0.00		£0.00

1607 EM reported that a successful salvage at the Reading Festival site had yielded considerable donations to local charities and an income of £210 from a sale of the remaining items at a car boot sale.

PR left the meeting.

Planning Report from AM

1608 There have been 8 changes since the last meeting in May, all of which are shown in yellow on the table below. Four of these are permitted applications, including Cherry Croft in Upper Warren Avenue. Initially this application was submitted on 19th December 2024, with an expiry date of 25th July, however, a much larger proposal was submitted on the 17th July 2025, i.e. 8 days before the expiry date, with no revision to the deadline date for comments. The revised proposals were permitted on 22nd August 2025 and I understand Pam has discussed this with RBC Planners. The other 3 approvals include: Kawela on the Warren, 163 Upper Woodcote Road and Blagrove Cottage.

The application for 1 Gravel Hill Cottages was refused

There are three applications pending: 1 St Peters Hill, High Ridge and Land on the Warren adjacent to Darlands. I have discussed the latter with Nigel Stanbrook, who owns land adjacent to this site and he confirmed he knew nothing about it. He also confirmed this application was probably a follow up to an application made by the same applicant last year and so he intends to object to this latest application. I think we should also object along the lines we did last year.

There is still no decision on the Heights School to appeal against the decision by RBC to refuse the application to increase class sizes.

250574	1 Gravel Hill Cot.	Blagrove Lane	2 storey /single storey rear & side Ext'ns	C	21/04/2025	
250340	Kalewa	The Warren	Raising floor & roof height to existing house	D	28/04/2025	
250681	163	Upper Woodcote Road	Front Porch & New Pitched Roof	C	12/05/2025	
250244	7	Kelmscott Close	2 storey rear ext'n 1st Floor side ext'n	C		P: 09/05/2025
250499	6	Kelmscott Close	Non Material Amendment to permission 24083	D		P: 09/05/2025
250521	4	Scholars Close	Discharge of Conditions for permission :2414	D		P: 09/05/2025

1609 Members agreed that we should oppose the application to build on the plot in the Warren for the same reasons as last year. They also felt that we should react to Pam Reynolds request for support in relation to Cherry Croft in Upper Warren Avenue. The planning process appears to have been violated in that the application considered by officers or the committee differed from that which was posted three weeks previously. We need their assurance that, in future, the consultation period will begin again every time an application is altered.

Annual General Meeting

1610 The speaker from Altitude Angels was unavailable on the date but had not discounted speaking on another occasion. The owners of Oxon Wildlife Rescue had agreed to give a presentation. No current committee members were coming to the end of their term of

office but EM would invite nominees for the two vacancies on the committee. The maximum being 10. EM would enlist members help for room preparation, report presentation and images as appropriate. **Action: All**

Mapledurham Playing Fields and Pavilion Management Committee

1611 Deed of dedication. Council Leader Liz Terry had responded to approaches to resolve this issue having received an update from EM

1612 Financial management of Trust The Trust accounts being overdue for the last two years it was felt that the Charity Commission should be made aware that the Trustees may be failing in their responsibilities.

1613 Planting. Trees were expected in November. **Action BG** and volunteers

1614 Liaison with councillors re traffic safety. In early June EM, SH, Daniel Mander and Nick Haskins met with Councillors McGrother and Juthani . Main points arising-

1 The spaces in the car park are not for the school. Idling is against the highway code. A large sign outlining the ownership by the Trust, who it is for, and how they should behave would have to be approved by the chair of the Trustees sub-committee.

2 The A4074 is one of the few 30mph zones without street lights so drivers assume a higher limit. The Cllrs had identified an improved crossing as the highest traffic priority for their area. EM asked if section 106 funding (from the school development) was available for improvements or a lollipop person. The Cllrs would explore this and the conditions of service for lollipop people. NH had been told that schools have to request lollipop people.

3 Jenny McGrother is on a time limited scrutiny committee - Active Travel. EM asked if zigzag lines could be positioned at exits and entrances to the park to prevent parked cars obstructing the view of runners and pedestrians.

EM would invite her to the AGM

1615 Liaison with school Unauthorised signage had been removed. The pupils are being encouraged to participate in, and caring for, low planting around the school.

Anti-Social Behaviour and neighbourhood safety

1616 Observation walks. These had taken place when members were alerted by those within earshot of potential disturbance. Care should be taken not to interfere with those on drugs but to report illegal activity. **Action All**

Dates of Meetings in 2025 and 2026

AGM Oct 8th, Nov 12 and quarterly in 2026 with special extra meetings as circumstance dictate.

Meeting closed 21.30