

## **Wonersh Park Association**

### **Minutes of the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 19th March 2015 at the Memorial Hall**

#### **Apologies:**

Chris & Carolyn Hemsley, Rachel & Chris Taylor, Martin & Linda Colvill, Anthony & Lucy Shutes, Sarah Keen, Jon & Claire Gumble, Bruno Stalmans, Beryl & Bruce Farmer, Clive & Diana Miller, Angela Brennan, Salvador & Cecile Posso, Louise Blakeborough, Eve Menzies, Jenny Lucas, Cynthia & Dennis Cruickshank, Sally Salamon, John & Anne Baynes, Leigh Taylor, Janet Spall, Janet Hemsley, Eve Menzies

#### **Welcome**

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the 23 residents and 7 Committee members present. He asked the Committee members present to introduce themselves and identify the areas within Wonersh Park that they represent.

#### **Presentation by PC Barry Baldwin and PCSO Philip Snow**

Phil Snow introduced John Robini who is a crime prevention expert and his wife Jackie who Chairs the Crime Prevention Committee

The major points of their presentation were:

- Criminals are just looking for an opportunity
- The average burglary takes 4 minutes
- Cycle theft is still a problem – criminals identify a likely suspect in the street and follow them home – the cycle is usually abroad within 3 days
- Bikes should be marked with an ultra violet pen detailing your house number and post code
- Criminals hang about in public car parks and watch ladies hide their handbag before going for a walk then break into the car
- If you see anything suspicious call 101 and report it
- Anyone cold calling at your front door needs a Pedlar's Certificate which has to be signed by a Chief Constable. If they are not in possession of one turn them away and dial 101; if you have serious concerns dial 999.

John had a variety of leaflets and marker pens on display for distribution.

#### **Criminal Activity Statistics**

Barrie and Phil provided statistics on how criminal activity had reduced over the past 12 months.

Waverly has 13 policing areas and between March 2013 – March 2014 Wonersh Park was the 4<sup>th</sup> safest area having eight reported crimes with expensive bicycles mainly being targeted. Between March 2014 – March 2015 Wonersh Park moved up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> safest area with just one reported crime – criminal damage to an empty property.

From these statistics it can be seen that the police (in conjunction with the residents) have done a sterling job in reducing crime. A number of residents have called 101 reporting suspicious activity in The Park and these calls have been a great assistance to the police in containing crime. With four representatives from the police force taking time out to attend our meeting it was a pity that the attendance by residents was down to the lowest level for at least the past six years!

### **Approval of Last Year's Minutes**

Approval of the Minutes of the last AGM held on Thursday 24th April 2014 was proposed by Graham Oliver and seconded by David Sharpe and carried by the meeting.

### **Matters Arising**

At the last meeting Mary Rae had raised the issue of bonfires being lit during the day and the feeling of the meeting was that out of consideration for our neighbours all residents should only light bonfires after 5.00 pm and preferably only during the week. Residents should make their gardeners aware of this recommendation. Bonfires during the day are still a problem in parts of The Park and this has been exacerbated by the number of building works currently underway.

### **Treasurers Report – Julian Cathrew**

Copies of the audited accounts were circulated at the meeting and have been included with these minutes. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 the cash balance carried forward was £5,166.83 and that is an increase of £918.07 over the previous year. Since the year end a further nine households have paid bringing the total number of households that have paid up to 94. The proposal to adopt the accounts and maintain the subscription at £40 per annum was proposed by Nick Hardy and seconded by Jonathan Williams.

### **The Chairman's Comments**

The Chairman thanked Sarah Keen for once again auditing the accounts and the proposal that Sarah remains as Auditor for another year was proposed by Ann Dorian and seconded by Nigel Charlton.

A payment slip has been enclosed with these minutes and includes WPA bank account details. Tony Cheeseman asked for residents wherever possible to pay by Standing Order but please include your name and house name for easy identification. Although the majority of residents pay within a

few months (see the dates when the receipts go through the books on the financial statement) once again we struggle to collect the last 25% which creates additional work all round so please pay promptly this year.

### **Christmas Fayre**

The bottle stall generated £200 and donations brought in a further £50. Despite being a lovely November day the footfall was well down. Our contribution once again equated to just under 50% of the total takings. Thanks to David Sharpe and his family for arranging it all.

### **Gardener**

The bulk of the subscriptions collected goes towards maintaining the islands and this work has been carried out by Brian Sellwood and his son until a few months ago when the son decided to pack up work and become a stay at home Dad. Although the entrance has been fairly well maintained I know that some of the Islands have been overlooked.

It is the intention of the new Committee to go out to tender with a greater emphasis on regular attendance and maintaining a high quality standard. Also the new Committee will monitor the work more closely. If you think that your gardener or someone you know might be interested and can take away grass cuttings etc please contact Sarah & Jonathan.

### **Election of Committee**

All the members of the Committee have kindly agreed to continue in office.

The election of the Committee en block was proposed by Nigel Charlton and seconded by Martin Whitley and carried by the meeting.

The new committee members are:

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Mellersh Hill Road (North) | - Clive Miller                               |
| Mellersh Hill Road (East)  | - Sarah & Jonathan Williams (Joint Chairman) |
| Mellersh Hill Road (South) | - Graham Oliver                              |
| The Drive (North)          | - Pam Jackman                                |
| The Drive (South)          | - Susan Millard                              |
| Grantley Avenue            | - Ann Dorrian                                |
| Hill Close                 | - David Sharpe                               |
| Bracken Close              | - Claire Gumpel                              |
| Treasurer                  | - Julian Cathrew                             |

### **Other Business**

#### **Pot holes**

The problem of pot holes was raised and the Chairman said that individual householders should contact Surrey CC and report the problem. Surrey CC

have a good website to leave messages. They do respond promptly to remove fallen or dangerous trees along the verges.

Tony Varey suggested that the Committee should arrange to contact our local Councillor Victoria Young and ask for her assistance.

The Chairman thanked all the members of the Committee for their support and Pam Jackman then thanked Tony for his efforts over the past five years as Chairman.

The meeting finished at 9.15 pm and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.