

Howe Green Community Association

Minutes of the meeting of the Association
held on Monday 28th July 2004
at Howe Green Chapel

Committee Members :-

Chairman	David Pearson
Vice Chairman	Ken Wedon
Minute Secretary	None
Treasurer	Wendy Spooner

Judy Bynom
Martin Cross
Caroline Travis
David McGregor
Vic Morgan
Richard Spooner

1. Apologies for Absence

Judy Bynom, David McGregor, Caroline Travis, Richard Spooner, Vic Smith

2. Minutes from the last meeting held on 14th July 2003

Approved

3. Guest Speaker

PC Graham Easey and PCSO Lynda Samways gave a talk on community policing and the role of the Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). PC Easey outlined some of the difficulties faced by the police. Howe Green is a pretty safe environment but speed of response to any reported incident is a problem. Even with an instantaneous response, it is difficult to get here before it is all over. However, it is important to call immediately if you are suspicious of any activity in the area. Telephone Ch. 491212 and ask for Grahame Easey at South Woodham Ferrers. Make a note of what you see – car registration numbers, descriptions etc. email address: grahame.easey@essex.pnn.police.uk.

Policing is becoming more specialised so that PCs spend most of their time handling criminals and less time being seen on the beat. The function of the PCSO is to fill this gap by maintaining close contact with the community. The PCSO will not handle criminal matters, such as burglaries, but will handle other matters such as neighbourhood disputes, youth problems, prowlers, quality of life issues etc. A PCSO has no special powers – no more than an ordinary citizen – but is in uniform. Can act as a go-between between citizens and the police. The PCSO has to cover a wide area. She can be contacted on Ch.320333 or email address: 7856@essex.pnn.police.uk.

Grahame knows and understands the EH Road speeding situation and does what he can. He will see if he can arrange for a traffic officer to monitor the road.

4. Treasurer's report

The treasurer reported an income of £169 for 2003/04 and nil expenditure. The bill for hire of the hall has yet to be presented.

The total cash in the bank amounts to £1,858.00.

5. Chairman's report

- We produced two newsletters, as usual, in the Autumn and Spring.
- I compiled a database of residents so that we know who lives where in the village. I would like to be informed of any new arrivals or changes so that I can keep the database up to date.
- We have set up a web site for the use of residents. We also have an email forum for discussions.
- We would appreciate any feedback or contributions for the newsletter or the web site.
- We enjoyed a very successful dinner at the Dog and Gun in the Spring, ably organised by Vic Morgan.
- We have produced a Welcome leaflet for new residents, giving some basic information about the area and facilities. Please look out for new residents and see that they receive a copy. Copies are available on the table. They can also be obtained from me or from the web site.
- We have opposed the proposals of the Royal Horticultural Society to provide access to Hyde Hall via East Hanningfield Road, because of the increased traffic it will generate. Their proposal was rejected by the council, but I understand that the RHS are appealing against the decision, so the situation is on-going.
- Saturday rubbish collections have been cut somewhat this year, because garden rubbish is collected in the brown bins. However, we have negotiated three collections for the year. There will be two more: on 7th August and 23rd October.
- Where I have your email addresses, I have tried to keep you informed of any important developments.

The vice-chairman took the opportunity to thank the chairman for his efforts during the past year.

6. Election of Officers

The chairman, vice-chairman and treasurer are all willing to stand again. Would anyone care to propose re-election:

Proposed: Seconded

The chairman asked for a volunteer to take the post of Minutes Secretary. There were no takers.

7. Election of Committee Members

The following committee members are available for re-election:

Judy Bynom, Martin Cross, Caroline Travis, David McGregor, Vic Morgan, Richard Spooner.

Proposed: Seconded

More committee members welcome. Gabi Everett and Mark Rayner volunteered.

Proposed: Ken Wedon Seconded:

8. Parish Plan

Neville Jessop gave an outline of the proposed Parish Plan for Sandon. See appendix.

Following a question from Ann Gaylor, Neville stressed the point that the wishes of residents, as encapsulated in the Parish Plan, will influence planning decisions at borough and county levels.

Regarding the Care Village that was mooted for Howe Green and featured in the Essex Chronicle, no application has been approved. This appears to have been a publicity stunt engineered by the proposers.

It is expected to have a draft Parish Plan available by the end of 2004.

9. Hyde Hall Access

A public enquiry is scheduled for the end of November 2004.

The county architects have proposed to RHS that the cost of the public enquiry, added to the costs that the RHS have budgeted for the new road, would cover the cost of taking the county-approved route to the Shaw roundabout. Crepedge Lane would have to be improved (straightened) and would be closed to traffic via East Hanningfield.

This planning application resulted in a large number of people terminating their membership of the RHS.

10. Summer Garden Party

It was proposed that we hold a garden party this summer. The meeting concurred. We have been invited by Kenneth and Wendy Skelton to hold it at Southlands Lodge in EH Road. The date was fixed at 21st August. There will be a meeting of volunteer helpers in the chapel at 8pm on Monday 19th July.

11. Any other business

Mark Rayner raised the question of an Application for Kelly's Farm on Old Southend Road to operate as a poultry factory and abattoir on a 24 hr 52 week basis. He appealed for members to write to the Borough Council to protest about this application. He agreed to compose a letter to inform the residents and the chairman agreed to arrange its printing and distribution. Neville Jessop asked for copies of papers relating to the proposal so that Sandon PC can make representations to the Borough Council.

12. Date of next AGM

To be announced.