

Howe Green Community Association

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 12th April 2017 at 8 pm in Howe Green Chapel

Minutes

1. Apologies for Absence

Gill and Ed Mitcham, Martin Cross, Cllr Amber.

2. Approval of Minutes of Last AGM

Acceptance proposed, Alan. Seconded, Dee. Minutes Accepted.

3. Chelmsford City Council - Cllrs. Ian Wright and Bob Shepherd

Cllr.Shepherd addressed the meeting regarding the new local plan proposals. A planning roadshow exhibition will take place on 2nd May in Sandon Village Hall. It was thought that the consultation would end around 4th May. Ken complained that this would not allow residents enough time to consider the proposals. He asked for a postponement but Cllr.Shepherd said that this would not be possible. David suggested that the roadshow be arranged to coincide with the SPC annual assembly on the 25th April but Cllr.Shepherd did not think this would be possible. *(Post-meeting: Cllr.Shepherd reported that the consultation will not close until the 11th May.)*

Cllr.Wright reported:

There are no plans to locate traveller sites in the Sandon area.

He has talked to the deputy Police Commissioner regarding failures of police to attend in response to 999 calls.

A number of planning applications for developments have been turned down and been refused on appeal. Some appellants have approached Cllr.Wright after a failed appeal - far too late for him to be able to help. He might be able to help before an application is submitted by passing by referring them to appropriate councillors.

He reiterated his previous commitment to help vulnerable residents.

Dee questioned what was happening about the councils commitment to provide ten traveller sites and suggested that sites might be located alongside main roads. Cllr.Wright said that they were looking for sites where travellers could stay briefly on their way through Chelmsford. He said that it is difficult to define a real traveller: non-genuine travellers are subject to the normal planning laws and cannot install permanent dwellings without planning permission.

Cllr.Wright expressed concern at fly-tipping and asked for vigilance on the part of residents, who should report any such incidents they observe - dialling 999 if it is urgent.

4. Sandon Parish Council Report - Cllr. Dee Hyatt

We have a new clerk, Ted Munt, who is settling in well.

Application has been made to fill the northern void of the quarry. Some of the materials brought to the site will be recycled and only the remainder will be dumped in the void.

A number of planning applications are going through.

There are still serious problems in Sandon Village, with large lorries parked etc. Essex County Council has installed bollards to prevent lorries being parked on the bridge.

Plans are well advanced for the Annual Assembly on 25th April. There will be opportunities to talk to councillors and various authorities.

In response to a query about mud on the road at the entrance to the quarry, Dee explained that they did have that problem in hand. Bretts will have wheel-washing facilities there. Please contact Dee with any complaints and she can relay them to Bretts. There is also a problem with litter dumped on site by the lorry drivers.

Bretts are willing to renew the Bridleway but have been unable to find a willing contractor. Dee has suggested to them that they widen the net. There are also ditches that need to be cleared.

A Bank has been removed to prevent slippage and gravel was put in the bottom of the void.

Filling of the void is taking longer than expected, so the permission has been extended by some years.

Yvonne raised the point that exiting the car park opposite the chapel is a hazardous business as there is no visibility up East Hanningfield Road. She suggested a mirror placed opposite. Cllr.Wright advised that we need permission from Essex Highways and then planning permission from the city. *David promised to look into this.*

5. Sandon Quarry Report - Vic Morgan/Ken Wedon

Vic reported on quarry progress, largely reiterating what Dee had said. (Vic was unfortunately delayed in arriving so missed Dee's explanation.) 150,000 tonnes were dumped last year. Time to complete the operation has been extended by six-eight years.

6. Environment

New Chelmsford City Local Plan.

(City Cllrs.Wright and Shepherd left the meeting as they could not be seen taking part in discussion of particular aspects of the proposals.)

The chairman/secretary did not put Neighbourhood Watch on the agenda there was little to report and all related matters are routinely covered on the forum.

It was pointed out that there is no provision for secondary education and Sandon School is already full. Also the local GP surgery is fully committed and cannot handle any more patients.

The biggest concern is lack of infrastructure. The existing infrastructure cannot cope with any more residents. Medical and school facilities will not cope with any more. The A414, already a very busy road, will have to carry even more traffic resulting from further developments in Maldon and Danbury. There is no co-ordination between authorities it when comes to shared infrastructures.

Provision of infrastructure must precede the establishment of communities not, as in the past, follow on years later.

Ken protested proposed development 3a, 250 houses north of Maldon Road, because of its visual impact on the river valley, a development that had been resisted in the past.

Dee suggested that the P&R does not start early enough; should start early enough to catch a 7am train. (*Post-meeting: There is a P&R bus scheduled for 06:40.*)

Other environment topics

SPR has been in touch with Chelmsford StreetClean and they have allocated a day - 21st Sept - for street cleaning. They are to be tasked with EH Road litter-pick, bushes to be cut back and paths swept and weeded on the SE Road and Hall Lane cleaning.

Yvonne enquired about the problem of flooding of SE Road when it rains. Drains have been marked with coloured paint spots, otherwise nothing has been done. Problem caused by blockages.

7. Social Events

Sunday lunch at The Cricketers, Danbury was attended by 14 residents and went very well - a good meal and gossip.

We hope to organise a summer BBQ again this year but we do need help particularly for setting up on the Friday and dismantling on the Sunday morning. I am afraid the years are beginning to tell on some of us so we would appreciate some help.

It was suggested that dates of all events be made available much earlier so that residents can put them in diaries.

If you have any suggestions as to what types of event we should organise, do let us know.

Richard suggested an outing on the barge *Hydrogen* at Maldon.

8. Treasurer's Report

See attached report

9. Election of Officers

The following are available for re-election:

Chairman:	David Pearson
Vice-chairman:	Ken Wedon
Treasurer:	Wendy Spooner

We need to elect a Minutes Secretary – a volunteer please!

There were no other nominations for election. Re-election proposed: Bob Harris.

Seconded: Barbara Pearson.

10. Election of Committee Members.

The following are available for re-election:

Martin Cross, Alan Mitchell, Vic Morgan, Richard Spooner, Dee Hyatt.

There were no other nominations for election. Re-election proposed: Barbara, Seconded: Pam Knott.

11. Any other business

Rosemary raised a question as to how emails she received from David were marked as coming from Lynn Austin. David had no answer.

Treasurer Wendy asked if she could dispose of early accounting records as she was holding 17 year's worth. It was decided she could dispose of all except the last seven years, retaining only annual accounts of earlier years.

Pam raised a question about a letter she had received addressed to Mrs D Koch on EH Road 'Guide of Sandon'. No-one could help.

Pam invited residents to support events that are held periodically in the chapel.

David asked if anyone present was not on the forum.

Introducing new residents to the association was discussed. Plymouth Brethren have been helpful.

Help is needed to care for the pinch-points - perhaps 3-4 hours per year.

Police speed traps were discussed. Speeding lorries etc. are a problem.

Meeting closed: 9:30pm.

Howe Green Community Association

Income and Expenditure Account

<u>Year End</u>	<u>2015/2016</u>	<u>2016/2017</u>
<i>Income</i>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<i>Subscriptions</i>	460.00	427.00
<i>Bank Interest</i>	2.00	2.00
<i>Surplus on function</i>	-----	328.00
	462.00	757.00
 <i>Expenditure</i>		
<i>Photocopies/Printing</i>	155.00	142.00
<i>Hire of Hall</i>		28.00
<i>Bark Chippings</i>	-----	21.00
<i>Subsidy on function</i>	45.00 Bin Stickers 32.00 B.B.Q	
	260.00	163.00
 Total (deposit and current account).		
<i>Balances at end of</i>	31/3/2016	31/3/2017
<i>Cash in Bank</i>	£5492.00	£6133.00

Figures have been rounded up to nearest pound.

Subs handed in after 31.3.17 to be included in March 2018 accounts.

N.B. Transferred to deposit account £427.00

Treasurer: Wendy Spooner.