



# EMMER GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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### MINUTES OF THE 32<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held in St Barnabas Church Hall on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 8pm

- 1 Attendance.** 50 Members were present, with apologies received from a number of others.
- 2. Minutes** of the AGM held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2015 were agreed by the meeting, with no matters arising.
- 3. Annual Report.** The Chairman, Annette Fairweather, presented the main points set out in the Report, which had been circulated to Members.
- 4. Annual Accounts.**
  - 4.1 The Treasurer, Bill Harper, introduced the Accounts, copies of which were made available at the meeting. The Association had a surplus of income over expenditure, resulting from the receipt of a donation of £500 as a result of the closure of the Bugs Bottom Action group and a low level of spending. Questions were answered, and a suggestion accepted that it would be good to find a specific project that might benefit from the £500.
  - 4.2 The Examiner, Janette Joyce, was thanked for her work. She is willing to continue in the role.
- 5. Election of Officers**
  - 5.1 Annette had taken the role of Acting Chairman during 2015, and was now willing to be re-appointed. This was enthusiastically agreed by the meeting.
  - 5.2 Bill was willing to be re-appointed as Treasurer, and this was agreed.
- 6. Committee Roles**
  - 6.1 Vice Chairman. The current Vice- Chairman, Barry Prior, wishes to step down from the role after many years' service. He was thanked for all he had contributed, and received a small gift. Michael Denoon-Slater is willing to take on the role for the future.
  - 6.2 Membership Secretary. Annette had been covering this important role, and is hopeful that a candidate had been found to take it on in future.
  - 6.2 Events Management. Liz Lyke is willing to continue her good work.
  - 6.3 Education. Annette takes this liaison role, but it would be good to have someone willing to work on this topic.
  - 6.4 Newsletter. Linda Glithro is willing to continue as Editor for another year.
  - 6.5 Planning. Veronica Leeke makes a considerable contribution monitoring and researching local planning issues.
  - 6.6 Environment and Health. Margaret Ormonde looks after these topics. She now wishes to step down from the Committee, having retired as Chairman last year. She is, however, willing to maintain

an interest on these issues on behalf of EGRA. Annette paid tribute to the substantial support Margaret continues to give, and confirmed that she would now have the status of Honorary Member.

6.7 A proposal from the floor to give a vote of thanks to the Committee was supported by the meeting with applause.

### **7. Support Roles**

Annette drew attention – with thanks – to the support given by a number of Members on tasks such as newsletter delivery and notice board maintenance. The wider involvement of Members to supplement the work of the Committee Members is really appreciated, and offers of help are always welcome.

### **8. Topics of Local Interest**

8.1 Clean for the Queen. Local communities are encouraged to undertake some clean-up work as part of the celebrations for the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. EGRA members will be circulated with a request that they take responsibility for cleaning a street name sign near them.

8.2 Caversham Globe. The hope was expressed that EGRA would continue to support and promote the environmental and related activities of Caversham Globe. This will be done.

8.3 Village Sign. It is accepted by the Committee that the Sign is not in good condition. The problem is that action must be avoided that might do more harm than good. This continues to be a topic for consideration.

8.4 RBC Local Plan. Reading Council is currently reviewing and consulting on its Local Plan, and in particular the Government priority to make more land available for housing. EGRA had been involved with other local interest groups in giving responses to the consultation documents. It was stressed that no proposals for action were being made at present. A further draft Plan would be issued in January 2017. A concern was raised about possible development on land at the Reading Golf Course. Loss of local amenity would be regrettable, but more important would be to properly recognise, and react to, the impact on local infrastructure and services of significant increases in population.

8.5 Local Libraries. The widespread reductions in Library provision should not affect Caversham Library because of its special status. However, it remained a matter for vigilance and more public events and displays would raise its profile and use. EGRA is Liaising with CADRA.

### **Presentation.**

At the conclusion of the formal business Mr K Fostekew from the Museum of Berkshire Aviation gave a presentation on the activities during the First World War of the Technical Training School for the Royal Flying Corps (later the RAF) which had been located in Reading.

### **Display**

Richard Bennet from the Trooper Potts Association was present with a display of material on the memorial project.