



EMMER GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

serving the local community

www.egra.co.uk

EMMER GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting held on 6th November 2017 at 141 Old Peppard Road, Emmer Green.

Present. Annette Fairweather (Chair), Bill Harper, Liz Lyke.

Apologies. Linda Glithro.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Association Committee held on 3rd July 2017 were agreed.

2. Matters Arising

2.8. Phone Box. Bill had met with Veronica Leeke and Victoria Marshall and had agreed actions to move the project forward. He had satisfied himself that there were no unacceptable liabilities involved. No commitments will be made until a viable plan of the actions and resources required had been prepared. A message will go to members asking for volunteer support.

2.16 Village Sign. The cleaning had been carried out. Advice had been received on the treatment required to prevent further mould growth. The material will be purchased and applied in the spring.
Action Bill.

4. Web Site. The site is now fully operational.

5 Walk. 20 members had enjoyed a really successful walk thanks to Stuart Hylton's expert guidance.

3. Future Management of EGRA

3.1 The appeal to members for volunteers to fill the vacant offices and roles had not produced any response. The work load on the current Committee had become excessive, and could not be continued. A further appeal will be made at the time the Winter Newsletter goes out, saying that if volunteer support for the work of EGRA is not forthcoming its activities will be wound down to a "care and maintenance" basis next year. Action Bill

3.2 It was agreed that the procedure for renewal of member subscriptions for 2018 would be delayed until the future form of the organisation had been clarified. If EGRA is wound down, it will be inappropriate, and a major administrative task, to seek to renew subscriptions.

3.3 The recent consultation process had shown how the function of representing member views has been changing. Individuals are now able to directly contribute their views. If these are wide-ranging and possible contradictory, it is difficult for EGRA to produce a single view without risking some conflict with what individuals think. It becomes difficult to know to how to reflect the views of the "silent majority, or to be sure that one view is genuinely representative. This is particularly the case if the Committee comprises only a small number. This challenge to the role played by EGRA will be described in the circular to members.

4. Winter Newsletter.

The outline previously circulated by Linda was agreed. An item will be added about the restoration of the horses road sign at the top of Peppard Road. Reference will also be included to the review of the future (above).

5. Bus Service Consultations

The outcomes from the two public meetings and the EGRA meeting with Reading Buses were reviewed. A draft submission was discussed and will be finalised in time for the deadline of 10th November. Action Bill.

6. Historic Tree Preservation Orders 54 Highdown Road

EGRA had been offered custody of these documents. They would not be accepted as EGRA does not deal with individual property matters and has no archive of such documents.

Planning Matters

7. Gladman Poposal.

An appeal has been lodged, with a deadline of 8th December for submissions to the Inspector. Annette will stay in touch with CAGE. A draft submission based on the original planning application work will be prepared. Action Bill

8. Golf Course

It is understood that the Golf Club is reviewing possible options for the future of the course.

9. SODC Local Plan

A final draft has been issued for comment. There are no grounds for EGRA to comment.

10. Third Bridge

A report on the Strategic Business Case for a new crossing east of Reading had been issued in May. It outlined past history and further planning and analysis work to be put in hand. No action required.

11. Feedback from Meetings

Annette reported on recent meetings.

12. Antisocial Behaviour

There have been a number of examples of unacceptable behaviour in the area around the precinct and park and around the shops at Farnham Drive. The police and local councillors had become involved and Annette is liaising with them.

13. Vandalised Trees

A price of £500 each had been given by RBC to replace two vandalised trees. This is thought to be a lot to ask of the parent who had volunteered to contribute towards replacement costs. A quote of £338 per tree had been given by Caversham Globe. There needs to be dialogue between the parties to reach a practical agreement for all. Action Annette.

14. Next Meeting.

Provisionally fixed for Monday 19th February, 7.30 at 8, Stuart Close.