

**MEETING OF THE LOWER HENLADE AND STOKE ROAD
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
HELD ON TUESDAY 14TH APRIL 2015**



Present:

Gill Ellis (Chair)
Paul Stroner (Vice Chair)
Mike Westlake (Treasurer)
John Ashbaugh (Committee Member)

12 residents

Apologies were received from:

Shirley Cozens
Gloria Westlake

MINUTES

1. REVIEW OF CONSTITUTION.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Constitution of the Association remain unchanged and the twice yearly cycle of meetings is appropriate bearing in mind the potential issues that may be raised under planning matters.

2. PLANNING MATTERS

A303 /A358

Gill Ellis reported that there is now a firmer commitment from central government to fund road improvements in the South West, with the planned road infrastructure upgrades to the A303 and the “dualling” of the A358 from J25 of the M5 to the A303 looking much more likely to go ahead.

Furthermore, Somerset County Council are expected to apply for Local Enterprise funding for the remodeling of J25, and Taunton Deane appear to be in favour of an employment site East of the Motorway.

Gill further noted a letter from the Minister of State in the Department of Transport to Devon County Council regarding the design phase of the project, and the tie in of the A358 to the M5. This letter states that there is a commitment to start construction of the A358 linkage within the coming 5 year programme.

Whilst the forthcoming General Election may have some bearing on proceedings, there is currently a commitment to fund these works.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

It was noted that this work had now commenced and there is potentially an issue of lorries not exiting the site onto the A358 but rather coming down Stoke Road and through the village. Should anybody witness this please capture evidence on camera and submit to Gill Ellis.

3. FLOODING UPDATE

Gill reported that Karen Goldstone has resigned as a parish councilor and also as Chair of the Flood Committee.

Gill tabled documentation from the Environment Agency, which seemed to show that we are now living on a flood plain and a large number of houses appear to be subject to increased risk of flood. It was further reported that one property sale had fallen through because the prospective buyer could not get a mortgage because of the perceived flood risk. She has contacted the Environment Agency and is waiting for a response.

4. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH.

Mike Westlake reported that all was generally quiet and reiterated the message about not becoming complacent. Despite the warm weather please close windows when leaving the house. There have been some attempted thefts of valuables from cars in Ruishton and Creech St Michael recently. Please do not leave valuables on display.

5. SOCIAL

Gill confirmed that the Bar B Q will be held on Saturday June 27th, start time 2 pm.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Pub games night could be a Pub Quiz night.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Following discussion there was general consensus that the Speed Watch campaign should be put back in place to act as a deterrent. Mike Westlake undertook to take this forward.

7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 12th October 2015, 7.30 pm at the Mount Somerset Hotel