

**Notes of the Annual General Meeting of the
Lower Henlade and Stoke Road Residents Association
held on Thursday 7 October 2010
at The Mount Somerset Hotel**



Present: Gill Ellis (Chair)
Mike Westlake (Treasurer)
Paul Stroner (Vice Chair)
Jacqueline Cairns (Committee Member)
Lisa Ashbaugh (Committee Member)
13 residents of Lower Henlade and Stoke Road

Apologies were received from:
Cllr David Fothergill
Cllr Kelly Durdan
Keith Hammond

1. TREASURERS REPORT

- 1.1 Mike Westlake gave a presentation of the accounts for the Association. Opening balance of £117 plus total income for the year of £156, less expenditure of £37 left a balance of £236.

2 CHAIRMANS REPORT

- 2.1 Gill Ellis gave the Chair's report as follows:

- ❖ There was good membership with 41 households signed up out of a total of 51 and 1 honorary member;
- ❖ Notice board has now been erected; thanks were extended to the Parish and County Councils for their support and funding. Thanks were also extended to Steve Cozens for carrying out the task of erecting the notice board.
- ❖ Letters of objection had been sent regarding Taunton Deane's Core Strategy and the planning application for affordable housing in Stoke Road.
- ❖ The social element of the association continues to be well supported and events held during the year included walks in November and May, Christmas mince pies at the Mount Somerset Hotel, and Pub games night at The Nags Head, as well as the summer picnic and barbecue which once again enjoyed super weather.

- ❖ Gill presented prizes from the games night, the overall winners of which were “Ace” (John and Lisa Ashbaugh)
- ❖ Once again the community spirit was to the fore with the return of Baxter the wandering tortoise to his rightful owners.

3 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBER

- 3.1 Lisa Ashbaugh was proposed for re-election as a committee member, and was duly elected.

4 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- 4.1 Gill Ellis reported that have been no recent developments on this issue. Summerfield was no longer involved and the developer is now Raglan Housing. Rented housing is now included in the proposal. Note 1
- 4.2 Shirley Cozens reported that conversations with Wessex Water representatives indicated that were the build to proceed it would need to link into the main sewage which would require modernising
- 4.3 Gill gave an overview of the various planning bodies appearing and disappearing under the new coalition government.
- 4.4 It appears that Taunton Deane Borough Council is wary of developing this side of the motorway, and that - currently - major development at Monkton Heathfield seems to be their preferred option.

5 SPEEDWATCH

- 5.1 Mike Westlake gave an update on the Speedwatch initiative.
- 5.2 To date the team have undertaken the speed checks on 18 occasions. Over 3,000 cars have been checked, of which 8% were recorded at speeds in excess of 36 mph. The highest recorded speed is 51 mph, and the average for the speeding cars is 46mph.
- 5.3 The fastest speeds are along Greenway Lane with the lowest recorded at Bella Vista.

5.4 Speedwatch will be coordinated by Gill Ellis until Keith Hammond is able to take up the reins again and anybody who would like to be involved should contact Gill or Mike Westlake.

5.5 John Ashbaugh volunteered to help out.

Note 2

6 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

6.1 Mike Westlake reported that we continue to enjoy very low levels of crime but we should not be complacent. Common sense precautions should be taken, such as closing all windows when you are out and reporting suspicious people.

6.2 Mike reported that no further action was to be taken by the Police following the window-smashing incidents in June, despite what appeared to be a substantial amount of evidence. All present were disappointed with this outcome.

6.3 Mike further reported that there had been a theft of a large amount of dog food from Derek Rainey's farm, and security lights have now been installed.

6.4 If you suspect a crime is in progress do not be afraid to dial 999; for non-urgent reporting ring 0845 456 7000 and the Crimestoppers number is 0800 555111.

6.5 Mike has a supply of stickers to deter doorstep sellers, anybody interested please ask him.

7 SOCIAL

7.1 Paul Stroner reported that the social events organised by the Association during the year had been well received and well attended. It was agreed that the events should be repeated.

7.2 In addition Mike and Gloria Westlake offered to arrange an evening of bowls at the Blackbrook bowling club, which was enthusiastically received.

7.3 The following events were agreed with dates to be arranged

- ❖ Pub Games Night and Quiz, January 2011
- ❖ Summer Barbecue, June 2011
- ❖ Walk, November 2010

Note 3

Note 4

- ❖ Xmas Mince Pies, December 2010
- ❖ Bowls evening, Spring 2011

Note 5

8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 8.1 The next meeting of the Association will be held on Thursday 29 April 2011, 7.30 pm at the Mount Somerset Hotel.

With thanks to Paul Stroner for these notes.

POST MEETING NOTES

- 1 There is new correspondence (November 2010) on the Affordable Housing Application on the Taunton Deane web site
<http://www1.tauntondeane.gov.uk/tdbcsites/plan/PIAppDets.asp?AppIno=31/07/0033>
- 2 We are grateful to John Ashbaugh and also to Alan Bawler who volunteered after the meeting to help with Speedwatch. They are scheduled to do their training in November.
- 3 Picnic and BBQ will be on **Saturday 18 June 2011** from 2.00 pm.
- 4 If interested in doing a walk please contact Gill on 01823 444539 or e-mail LHSRRA@lowerhenlade.co.uk.
- 5 Christmas mince pies, cakes (they were scrummy last year!), tea and coffee at the Mount Somerset: **Sunday 12 December 3:30 pm**, £5.50 per person.