

BRAMCOTE HILLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the 54th Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 20th February 2018

At 7.30pm at Grangewood Methodist Church

1 Present: 20 attended the meeting: see separate list at end of minutes.

Apologies: Elaine Morris, Laurie Mason, Martin Plackett, Paul Nathanail, Margaret Jones, Michael Bannister

2 Minutes of the AGM Wed 15th Feb 2017 were circulated at the meeting.

Geoff Ward proposed that they be accepted, seconded by Jan Jones.

Mike Johnson asked about follow up to the discussion about the constitution: Steve Austin (SA) informed the meeting that this is referred to in his Chairman's Report.

3 Chairman's Report: Steve Austin, Chair, welcomed those attending to the meeting. His prepared report was circulated at the meeting. He commented on the following points:

- a) Review of social events held: the dwindling participation referred to last year has continued (apart from the pub ramble)
- b) Details of ongoing planning issues have been covered in the newsletters, and this will continue.
- c) Constitution. The committee felt that a priority was to appeal for new members to join the committee, and help shape the future of BHCA, so this work has been deferred to that it can reflect the changes that may follow.

Thanks to:

The Committee, for their support and advice: Richard Willan, Treasurer, Alison Wilson, Secretary. Sheena (and Kevin) Powell, thanked for maintaining the subscription and newsletter distributors network, the play scheme, and the Annual Dinner. In this they are helped by Doris Bannister. Di Nicholas and Dink Archer, thanked for producing the newsletter. Elaine Morris thanked for running and developing the Care Group: Ian Radmore for chairing the Planning Sub- committee, and Ann Hart, Alan Willis and Paul Nathanail for their time and wise counsel. Thanks also to the Editors of Bramcote Today for publishing our activities.

Fiz Hussain was thanked for developing a new logo for the Association, and a website at www.bhca.co.uk.

Retiring committee members were thanked. Sheena Powell, for her years of service organising the playscheme, and coordinating the newsletter distributors and subscription members. Di Nicholas and Dink Archer have been committee members for many years, latterly editing and producing the newsletter. They were all presented with a spring planter arrangement as a token of appreciation. Doris Bannister also received one, in recognition of her years on the committee and support in delivering the newsletters to the distributors.

4 Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts:

Compiled by Richard Willan and examined by Simon Browning, who has kindly agreed to examine the accounts for next year. The accounts were circulated and RW outlined the key points. The income from subscriptions looks impressive, but more than £600 of this was due to late submission by collectors. The playscheme received additional funds. The association still represents over 60% of

the households in the area. There was some discussion about the balance of funds held, and both the historical and current factors were outlined.

Ron Jones proposed that the accounts be accepted, and this was seconded by Ann Hart. There were no objections.

5 Committee's proposals for the year 2018 – 2019

SA introduced this item by stating that there was a commitment to keeping the Association going as it served 3 key functions. It was active in monitoring planning issues; it supported the running of the Care Group, and the Loan Equipment scheme.

The decline in support for social activities run by the Association was identified as being an area of weakness, with the ending of the playscheme, declining numbers attending the annual dinner, and reducing numbers taking seats at the pantomime. The reasons for this are varied, and have been considered by the committee, but there are no easy answers.

Last year, SA produced a consultation flyer which was delivered to every household. Very few people responded, which while not unexpected, was still disappointing.

It was acknowledged that the job that SP had done for many years with the collectors and subscriptions was key to the healthy bank balance, and that it despite asking for a volunteer to take over, no-one has come forward.

Subscriptions: at last years' AGM, one resident queried the fact that BHCA had a £6000 balance in cash, which was thought to be too high. One option would be to have a 'free' year this year, although SA acknowledged that this was not a simple proposition, and the discussion included the following points: a retrograde step, the link collectors have with residents is a key communication channel, suggest collect £1, not £3. Others felt that it wasn't worth the time and effort to collect £1. Link the Loan Equipment to the subscriptions. Use of bank transfers was suggested but it was thought that could be difficult to manage. SP commented that it is hard enough to get people to deliver newsletters, but harder to get them to collect subscriptions.

SA proposed that subscriptions would be reduced to zero during this sabbatical year, seconded by Di Nicholas: majority show of hands. This proposal was opposed by Mike Johnson. He proposed that subscriptions be reduced to £1 during this sabbatical year, seconded by Ian Morris. This proposal was not supported by those attending.

6 Election of Officers and members of the Committee

- Chair: Steve Austin.
- Secretary: Alison Wilson
- Treasurer: Richard Willan
- Committee: Current members are: - Doris Bannister, Ann Hart, Elaine Morris, Paul Nathanail, Ian Radmore, John Spencer, Alan Willis and Geoff Ward.

All were willing to continue and it was put proposed they were accepted on block. Proposed by Jan Jones. Seconded by Ron Jones. There were no objections. The Committee was duly re-elected.

A general invitation for new members to join the committee was made to the meeting.

7 Reports from the Planning Committee and affiliated organisations 2017-18

The following reports were available at the meeting. Time was given in the meeting for the reports to be read, and for questions to be asked about the reports. A copy of the reports is attached at the end of the minutes.

With regard to Neighbourhood Watch, SA is currently the coordinator for Bramcote Moor, with none for Bramcote Hills. Relevant material is published on Bramcote Today as needed. It was commented that it is not as active as it used to be. Also the implication on insurance cover of being in a Neighbourhood Watch area was raised. With regard to Public Liability Insurance, RW pointed out that BHCA does have this, although it was thought that some groups may take out their own insurance, and others feel they don't need it.

SA asked to record thanks to the Orchard Theatre Group, which was given some money in 2015, and have now returned it as the group has closed.

Neighbourhood Watch.
Friends of Bramcote Ridge.
Summer Playscheme:
Orchard Theatre Company
NWR
Wine Tasting Groups 1 & 2
Bramcote Care Group
Bramcote Hills Community Association Planning Committee
Bramcote Badminton Club
Bramcote Cricket Club
Bramcote Netball Club.

8 Questions

There were no questions raised on the reports.

9 Any Other Business

Ian Morris proposed that this period of transition gives BHCA the opportunity to widen its area of benefit to include the whole of Bramcote, allowing all those interested in Bramcote to come together. Will need to involve other groups in the area, but felt it would be a shame to lose the momentum currently generated.

This concluded the business part of the meeting.

10 SA welcomed the guest speaker, Rob Greer, from Bramcote Conservation Society, who gave a personal view of the history and work of the society, which was started in 1971. He talked through a very interesting and detailed presentation of photos and pictures of buildings of historical interest in the area that the Society had been involved with, and ongoing work including planning applications

and work with the university on conservation, including the bluebell woods. He quoted the strap line 'bluebells, not brambles'. He ended his talk by describing the involvement of the Society in the poppies display that is planned in King George's Park this summer to celebrate the centenary of the end of the 1914-1918 war.

The Chair then thanked everyone for attending, and closed the meeting at 9.30 pm. The next committee meeting of the Association will be held on Tuesday 6th March at 11 Sandringham Drive, at 7.30pm.

Minutes taken by Alison Wilson Secretary BHCA

Attendance at BHCA Annual General Meeting

Tuesday February 20th 2018

	Name	Address
	Ian Morris	26 Rufford Ave
	Doris Bannister	78 Burnside Drive
	Ian Radmore	104 Balmoral Drive
	Jan Jones	27 Wembley Gardens
	Diana Nicholas	25 Eastcote Ave
	Richard Willan	50 Burnside Drive
	M Johnson	19 Gateford Close
	Alan Willis	34 Rivergreen Crescent
	Ron Jones	70 Arundel Drive
10	Geoff Ward	26 Pimlico Ave
	Steve Austin	18 Wembley Gardens
	Alison Wilson	11 Sandringham Drive
	Les Potter	9 Eyam Close
	Dink Archer	20 Sloan Drive
	Pat Witcombe	29 Denewood Ave
	Ann Hart	1 Denewood Ave
	David Hart	1 Denewood Ave
	Sheena Powell	12 Rivergreen
	Paul Sams	15 Cow Lane
20	Rob Greer	51 Town Street