

MINUTES OF RVR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Held on Thursday 5th March 2020
at The Bromley Court Hotel**



Members present:

Judy Adcock	Judith Fox	Anna Koffer
Clive Lees *	Euan McMaster	Catherine Morgan
Linda Müller	Carole Mullord	Beatrice Osborn
Paul Osborne	David Page	Mal Pinson
Mick Pinson	Terry Richardson	Pete Saunders
Quinton Schönknecht	Markku Syväniemi	Leslie Tucker
Leslie Watmore	Wendy Watmore	Alan Williams
Dave Wiltshire	Monica Wiltshire	

*Chair

Apologies:

Cllr. Nicky Dykes	Dolores Ealey	John Ealey	Cllr. Will Harmer
Tony Holland	Andrew Lancaster	Cllr. Michael Rutherford	Cllr. Michael Tickner
Cllr. Stephen Wells	Parisa Wright		

Absence of officers:

1 Chairman's welcome and opening remarks:

Clive Lees welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular new members.

2 Guest Speaker: Tony Banfield, Chairman of the Bromley Civic Society.

Mr. Banfield gave a very interesting talk entitled 'Conserving the Historic Environment of Shortlands' which covered an outline of the history of the area and some of the current issues.

The Bromley Civic Society was formed in 2007, replacing the Heart of Bromley Residents Association (HOBRA) which was formed 1982. Its principal aim is to continue to campaign for protection of the historic buildings and green spaces of the Town Centre. HOBRA led a campaign to designate Bromley Town Centre as a Conservation Area, which was approved in 1984. This gives protection to over 500 historic buildings and surrounding green spaces, such as Martins Hill, although this protection is not absolute and is still challenged by developers.

Bromley Park Estate was bought from Lord and Lady Farnborough by Samuel Cawston in 1881. He sold off building plots for large Victorian villas, but unfortunately few of these have survived. The distinctive Arts and Crafts Movement style of architecture started around this time and is visible today in many of the historic buildings in the town centre such as The Royal Bell and the Partridge Pub.

Shortlands village was started in 1873 and is still largely there. A campaign to make this a conservation area has been started by BCS. LBB has commissioned an independent study which is now under consideration.

The society welcomes new members. Further details on: www.bromleycivicsociety.org.uk

3 Minutes of last meeting: Approved.

4 Chairman's report: Please also see written report.

Clive Lees gave a presentation summarising some of the main events of RVR over the past year.

He highlighted the change of name of the society to 'Ravensbourne Valley Residents', the updated website and Twitter account. LBB ward changes mean that a large part of our area may come under the Shortlands Ward rather than Bromley Town Ward.

Significant planning applications that RVR objected to that have been refused include: 48 Farnaby Road fronting Madeira Avenue and 'Trees' in Coniston Road (although this decision is under appeal). There is a website advertising a possible development of 300 plus flats on the Goan playing fields, although no planning

application has been submitted to Lewisham council. The owners have been forced by the council to remove part of the fencing to continue access as this was deemed a public right of way.

RVR has worked with other residents associations and local groups to help set up the 'Bromley Climate Alliance'. The aim is to work with each other and the council to reduce the environmental impact of climate change. RVR contributed to the funding of three climate change hustings prior to the general election.

There are continuing problems with traffic speeding on Farnaby Road and we are supporting a consultation being undertaken by a member. Ravensbourne Station has been given £80,000 to spend on improving the station. Further details to follow. Consultation continues on the Shortlands Friendly Village project.

Clive Lees thanked all of the officers for their work and the road representatives and other volunteers who help in different ways to run and support the society. He also thanked the councillors for their continuing advice and support.

5 Treasurer's Report: Please also see written report.

For the year ending 31st Dec 2019 income was **£2,460.89** and expenditure **£4,675.26**, giving a deficit for the year of **£2,214.37**, and a total balance of **£10,226**.

The income from subscriptions is very much in line with those received in 2018 at £2405. Interest from National Savings and Investment Account increased to £56.00 for the year and was automatically added to that account. On the expenditure side, there has been a major increase in expenditure as compared to 2018. RVR donated a total of £3484 to community projects which included: £3000 to the LBB for phase 2 of the street tree project, £76 for tree pit planting in Crab Hill, Farnaby Road, Madeira Avenue and Warren Avenue, £408 for the recycling box net project in Ravensbourne Avenue, Warren Avenue, Farnaby Road and Madeira Avenue plus operating costs of £1191. The accounts were audited and passed by Alan Williams and our thanks go to him for continuing to fulfil this role. Wendy Watmore moved to accept the accounts, seconded by Leslie Tucker. Accounts accepted. The Treasurer thanked all of the road representatives for all their hard work in collecting the annual subscriptions. The Chair thanked Dave Wiltshire for managing the finances.

6 Determination of subscriptions for 2020-21: As we have a healthy general reserve, the Treasurer proposed maintaining the current subscription rate of £5 (those who are retired or in special financial circumstances may contribute as they are able). Agreed.

7 Reappointment of auditor: Alan Williams is happy to continue in this role and was re-appointed unanimously.

8 Election of Officers: No nominations were received before or at the meeting for the posts of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Membership Secretary or Secretary. Those currently in these posts are all willing to continue.

9 Chairman's Closing Remarks:

Clive Lees thanked everyone for coming and suggested that we ask if the students from St Dunstan's college would be willing to provide musical entertainment at the next AGM. Agreed.

10 Members' meetings continue bi-monthly. The next **AGM** will be Thursday 4th March 2021 (tbc).