

Deepdene Vale Property Owners Association (DVPOA)

Minutes - General Meeting held Friday 8th October 2010 at St Mary's Church, Pixham

Present

Tom Smail (no 39)- Chairman
Verity Nichols (55) – Neighbourhood Watch
Dennis Strudwick (53) Trustee
+ 20 others representing 18 households out of a total of 69

Ron Lavers (no 67) – Treasurer
Alec Dewdney (25) – Committee member

Apologies for Absence

Barbara Witts (59) Eva Armstrong(34) Audrey Strudwick (53)

1. Welcome & History from Chair

Tom Smail introduced himself as Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the members of the Committee. He explained the history behind ownership of the Vale and the purpose of the committee and trustees. It was noted with regret that David Merrikin had sadly passed away last year. He had served the Association over many years in a number of offices and he will be greatly missed. Howard Chick recently moved out of the Vale and his contribution will also be missed. Both were Trustees and Committee members. Tom thanked all the committee for their support.

2. Review of Minutes of last General Meeting held on 4 November 2004

Tom presented a review of the minutes of the last General Meeting and reported progress on a number of topics. (a) The situation regarding outstanding subscriptions had been a concern at the time but was subsequently resolved with only one defaulter who was still being chased up. (b) The agreed resurfacing of the road had been carried out in 2006 at a cost of £12,000. The standard of the work was not deemed to be entirely satisfactory. (c) It was agreed that white fences should be erected at the entrance to the road and this had been done. (d) There had been some uncertainty regarding the legal status of the road and it had subsequently been clarified that the land consisting of the roadway and the grass verges was transferred in 1981 from Major Chance's Estate to a trust representing all the property owners in the Vale. Tom reminded all the owners present that if work is to be done affecting the verges to please contact the committee for consent beforehand. This is in order to preserve the attractive look of the road.

Tom thanked Alec (25) for repainting the fences at the entrance to the road, Paul Daubney(73) for filling in several holes in the road, Paul and Sean Flynn (1) for obtaining and spreading grit in the bad weather and John and Verity Nichols for unblocking drains when the turning circle was flooded.

3. Committee Report on ongoing concerns

a) Parking - The top of the road is of particular concern with inconsiderate and dangerous parking – especially for pedestrians around the entrance to the Vale.

Alec suggested some potential solutions regarding the ongoing parking problems within the road.

i) Double Yellow lines to be put at the top of the road to discourage people parking there. It was suggested to put them also in the turning circle.

ii) Permits issued to residents so we can identify who is visiting the Vale and who is using the road to park whilst at the dentist, station or elsewhere.

iii) Gates installed at the top of the road to discourage parking.

iv) To mark the top of the road and the turning circle with diagonal block lines.

These were discussed at length and Alec agreed to investigate costs involved and Committee to consider.

b) Speeding – There was considerable support for a suggestion to lower the speed limit of the Vale from 20mph to 10mph, and to get some ‘children playing’ or similar signs to be put at the top of the road.

c) Road Surface – There was concern over the road surface and drainage due to the road not being flat. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed to get some quotations to resurface the road and for some possible new drains at the end of the Vale. A meeting can then be called to discuss the costs involved and whether residents would approve an additional payment to achieve this, as it is deemed a necessity as the road surface is showing signs of needing to be resurfaced soon.

d) Grit - It was noted that the salt/grit bins at Oldenwood and no.53 need restocking before winter sets in.

e) Private Road Services Ltd. – It has been agreed that we should join this organisation which advises on matters concerning Associations such as ours.

4. Financial Position

The Treasurer announced a balance of £14,812.60 credit.

Ron announced that 22 residents still have outstanding subscriptions but he was confident that they would be forthcoming when reminded.

5. Election of Committee and Trustees.

Tom Smail asked to stand down as Chairman but willing to continue to be a Trustee and on the Committee.

Tom proposed Alec Dewdney (25) as Chairman

Maria Stanley (9) as Secretary & Trustee

Ron Lavers (67) as Treasurer

Dennis Strudwick (53) to continue as Trustee and Committee member

Bernard Hawkes (15) as Trustee and Committee

Craig French (22) as Neighbourhood Watch and Committee

Chris Hatton (20) Committee

Barbara Witts (59) Committee

All the proposed Office-bearers, Trustees and Committee members were approved unanimously.

6. AOB

Ron Billard (7) asked to remind residents (odd numbers) who back onto the footpath to check their vegetation along the back fences, and to cut back any overhanging branches if necessary.

Ron also asked whether another social event would be organised in the future. This was agreed as possible.

Bernard Hawkes (15) – asked if a website would be of any use – it was agreed that this would be a good idea for notices and information to be easily available to residents.

Maria Stanley (9) – asked if there would be an easier way for subs to be collected to lose the risk of non payment or late payments. This is to be investigated.

Craig French (22) suggested to collect residents’ email addresses to build a database for easier communication between committee and residents.

Tom Smail ended the meeting by thanking everyone from the previous committee for their input and welcomed the new committee.