

# Green Street Green Village Society



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

11 MAY 2018

**GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE at 7:30 pm**

### **MINUTES**

The Chairman, Margaret Lawrence, welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly Councillors Keith Onslow (now Petts Wood ward), Mike Botting, Samaris Huntington-Thresher and Mike Botting.

#### 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from , Paul & Ann Bussy, Rosemary Bullen, Mr & Mrs Philip Davies, Chris Fleming, Mrs Garrard, Stephen & Jo Gates, Sandra Holder, Joyce Lowes, Sharon Luck, Eleanor McIntosh (now Pardoe), Ruth Sharp, Linda Sokoloff, Jenny Thornton and Megan Wyatt.

#### 2. **MINUTES OF AGM HELD ON 12 MAY 2017**

The Minutes of the AGM held on 12 May 2017 had been posted on the website and copies were available at the meeting. Agreement of the minutes as a true record was proposed by Brenda Newman and seconded by Chris Arnold and the meeting **AGREED** them unanimously.

#### 3. **MATTERS ARISING**

- Plans to extend the Greenwood Centre and install disabled facilities are progressing
- There has been no successful outcome with regard to Public Realm Improvement funding or the Glentrammon mini roundabout
- Crofton Academy has resolved all their BT issues and now have telephone and broadband. The Green Street Green Association has a reciprocal arrangement with Crofton Academy for the occasional use of their broadband facility.

#### 4. **TREASURERS' REPORTS**

Audited accounts were posted on the website and some copies were circulated at the AGM. Copies are filed with the Master Minutes.

#### 4.1. **GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Alan Garelick presented the report:

- Annualised accounts for 2 lots of six months – old charity became a CIO
- Income greatly increased mainly due to Crofton Academy 8am-4:45pm Monday to Friday
- Reduced repairs but capitalised the assets – new flooring; flat roofs repaired
- Healthy bank balance - £16,201 – now £16,108.97

Dr Philip queried the depreciation. Alan explained that the capitalisation has increased over 5 years.

The Accounts were **AGREED**. Proposed by Tony Bradley and seconded by Chris Arnold. The meeting voted unanimously in favour.

#### 4.2. **GREEN STREET GREEN VILLAGE SOCIETY**

Colin Warner, presented the Report:

- Biggest expenditure is for newsletters
- Shed is now an asset
- Bank balance nearly £6,000

No questions were raised.

The Accounts were **AGREED**. Proposed by Chris Arnold and seconded by Councillor Mike Botting. The meeting voted unanimously in favour.

#### 5. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chair's report will be posted on the website. (See Report)

Margaret Lawrence gave a brief summary of the year's events and achievements:

- This year we have more than satisfied obligations to the community
- Concerns over accidents at roundabout, parking, public toilets
- Supported St Christopher's on the Green
- Would have offered financial help to keep the school crossing lady but crowdfunding and sponsorship was raised by the school association
- Noticeboard put up and wall knocked down
- Two newsletters distributed to over 600 homes
- Two Quiz Nights, Cream Tea, Village Cuisine curry night, Raffle and Christmas event
- Maintenance of hall is greatest expenditure but income from all-day pre-school has put the charity in a robust financial position

The report was accepted, proposed by Gill Russell and seconded by Jean Garelick. It was agreed unanimously by the attendees.

#### 6. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE (after item 7 and 7a)**

The Chair announced the retirement of Alan Garelick as Trustee and Treasurer of the Association charity and Committee member, and a presentation was made to him for all his tireless efforts during his term in office (10 years), including organising urgent repairs when emergencies arose at the hall.

'Alan Garelick has served this organisation for over 10 years He was the Charity Treasurer but has now decided to put down his pen and close the chequebook and retire!! Yes retire! Over the years Alan has been the unsung hero of the Greenwood centre and has carried out tasks over and above anything he probably thought he would ever have to do. Alan has been involved with our printing, producing everything from raffle tickets to newsletters. He has swept up leaves and shovelled snow before going on to his proper job!. He has attended all sorts of meetings. He has emptied bins, bought toilets rolls and supervised all manner of repair work, as well as keeping the accounts and of course, from time to time, he has moaned! Usually it has been at me for getting things wrong. Sometimes it has been because of others. Alan you will be sorely missed. We will miss your wealth of knowledge and your commitment. And I know you will miss us. So Alan, on behalf of everyone here I thank you and am pleased to inform you that your period of community service is over and you are free to go. Have a long and very happy retirement.'

Eddie Sims and Colin Warner also stood down from the Village Society Committee and were wished an enjoyable retirement.

The following Committee members agreed to stand for re-election:

- Chris Arnold
- Esther Arnold
- Kim Botting
- Elizabeth Downie
- Tamara Galloway
- Margaret Lawrence
- Eleanor McIntosh
- Margot Rohan
- Gill Russell
- Janet Stacey

Proposed en bloc by Nigel de Gruchy and seconded by Eddie Sims. Unanimously agreed by the attendees.

Bob Trott will retire as Chairman of the Board of Trustees later this year, as he is moving away from the area this year.

The Meeting then elected officers as follows, the current office holders having agreed to re-stand and there being no other nominees:-

Chair:	Margaret Lawrence
Vice-Chair:	Eleanor McIntosh
Secretary:	Margot Rohan
Membership Secretary:	Janet Stacey

Proposed en bloc by Chris Arnold and seconded by Brian Philp. Unanimously agreed by the attendees.

Honorary Auditor: Stephen Gates had advised that he was agreeable to being re-elected.

Proposed by Ken Bullen and seconded by Chris Arnold. Unanimously agreed by the attendees.

The Trustees have appointed a new Trustee, Chris Arnold, who will take over as Treasurer.

## **7. AMALGAMATION**

Margot Rohan explained the decision to invite the Village Society members to become Associate Members of the Association (charity). Some queries were raised about the meaning to members. The Charity Trustees have authorised two Committees – The Village Society and the Events Committee – and they will continue much the same as previously. The membership subscriptions will be held in a separate account, although the funds will belong to the charity. The Charity has been renamed The Green Street Green Association, to reflect better the fact the it covers more than the maintenance of the hall, which is an asset of the charity.

Proposer in favour of the amalgamation, with Village Society members becoming Associate Members (non voting) of the charity: Bob Trott. Seconder: Janet Stacey. A vote was held and the meeting unanimously voted in favour.

### **7a. Terms of Reference**

Margot Rohan explained that, as Committees of the Charity, the old Society Constitution is no longer valid. Terms of Reference have been drafted to cover the responsibilities of the Committees. (Available on the website on the AGM page)

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND OPEN FORUM**

Margaret read out two queries which had been received. Paul and Ann Bussy - Glentrammon Avenue – parents of school children park and cause pedestrians to walk in the road. Asked for bollards.

Cllr Samaris Huntington-Thresher: Long term issue which school and council have tried to solve, using a camera car and with the head encouraging parents not to park inconsiderately. Bollards not been considered but if residents willing to have them, it could be investigated.

Glentrammon Gardens – double yellow lines but now some residents are complaining they did not want them. Cllr Samaris Huntington-Thresher explained there had been a consultation and residents were encouraged to reply. Responses are collated and then the Council takes a view based on those and the views of traffic officers. Decisions can be reviewed and tweaked. They are open to change if new arrangements do not work. A resident claimed he took round a petition and over 90% agreed with the decision.

Woodlands Road – sight lines are bad and people park too near the junction. Cllr Huntington-Thresher will take it on board and see if the Council can adjust the yellow lines.

Mr & Mrs Holmes are concerned about litter – particularly in Waitrose alleyway. Brenda Newman often asks Waitrose to clear up rubbish around the trolleys but they do not do it regularly.

Cllr Keith Onslow mentioned that litter picking schemes have been successful across the borough. Nearest one is Friends of Warren Road – organised every couple of months. It is an effective way of clearing up rubbish, particularly in wooded areas. Windsor Drive by shops has not been swept for some time so the Council put in some cleaning services which seem to be working. Litter picks: all equipment is supplied by the Council. Brian Wilson (Warren Road) will be able to advise.

Area between Waitrose and the surgery: Council did a deep clean. Not clear which land belongs to the Council or to local businesses.

Jean Garelick said she and some other residents did a litter pick around Waitrose and filled ten bags in a short time.

Brenda Newman mentioned that some years ago the Council was asked for a litter bin outside Queen's Head – rubbish gets left there.

Cllr Onslow – problem with the bin was that local people put domestic rubbish in it and it overflowed. That is why the bin was not replaced. Eddie Sims explained that it was removed during the IRA troubles.

Cllr Huntington-Thresher: Several studies have shown that bins attract more rubbish which is left around not in the bins. How often are bins emptied anyway? If not regularly, then no point in having them. It needs education to encourage people to take their rubbish home.

Tony Bradley – a number of bins are in the high street on lamp posts and are well used. Bags are regularly changed – at least once a week. Our high street is very clean. Brittenden Parade is the responsibility of the Council – the road was adopted but there are still issues about to whom the pedestrian area belongs. Cllr Samaris Huntington-Thresher agreed that there is still some degree of uncertainty about the exact borders.

Alan Garelick suggested Council officers should monitor people in the high street – have a blitz on anyone throwing down rubbish and fine them. Cllr Onslow said there are officers in main high streets. Street Wardens were criticised in the past because they were fining people!

Jean Garelick asked what is the update on the wall opposite Waitrose? Cllr Onslow confirmed that the Council has taken enforcement action. Cllrs will follow up. Tony Bradley mentioned that all broken bits have been taken away, just leaving a broken wall.

Brenda asked about privacy with the new GDPR regulations. Margot Rohan will contact all the non-members to confirm whether we can continue to hold their records on the database.

It was also reported that bus drivers are using the footpath near the bus stand as a toilet. Margaret will take it up with the bus garage.

Barrie Newman complained about the ex public toilets. Development started and now has been left with rubbish and rubble and the hoardings protecting the site have been taken down. Margaret phoned Brit Developments and there is a dispute between them and owners. TheCllrs will look into the situation.

Alan Garelick mentioned a neighbour complaining about not being able to park between 11 and 12 in Laxey Road and it is the same in other roads. Why can the times not be staggered as the purpose is to prevent non-residents all-day parking.

Cllr Onslow advised that a survey will be done later in the year. The Council can look at the possibility of staggering times.

Footpath from Chelsfield Station to Homestead Road is overgrown with nettles. Cllr Huntington-Thresher explained it is British Rail land but they have to be reminded by the Council and then they will cut it back.

Brenda Newman thanked Cllr Onslow for his work as one of the ward Councillors. He is now a ward Councillor for Petts Wood & Knoll.

Potholes in Glentrammon Road are very bad and it is a bus route. Cllr Huntington-Thresher said that potholes everywhere are 'on the list'. There is now additional funding committed to filling all the potholes.

Fly tipping: There have been recent instances in Skibbs Lane, Old Hill etc. The Council is working with the police to try and tie the rubbish to a perpetrator, so they can be prosecuted. Cllr Huntington-Thresher stressed the importance of residents using contractors checking they have the correct waste disposal licence. Eddie Sims suggested having a camera monitoring bad tip areas – Cllr Angela Page mentioned that Star Lane had cameras but the perpetrators got to know where they were and managed to avoid them. Someone asked if the Council could circulate advice about how to check about licences in the next Enviro newsletter.

Alan Garelick mentioned a company which is recycling plastic to produce a material which can be used in repairing roads, which is more hardwearing than what is currently used.

The Meeting closed at 9:32pm, followed by refreshments.