

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NORTH EASTHAYLING RESIDENTS'

ASSOCIATION HELD IN NORTH HAYLING RECREATIONAL HALL ON FRIDAY 19TH MAY 2023 AT 7.30PM

Derek Bowerman (NEHRA's Chairman) welcomed everyone to the meeting and especially our guests: Mark Coates, Councillor for Hayling East; Leah Turner, Councillor for Hayling East; Rosie Raines, Councillor for Hayling East and Mayor of Havant; Julie Richardson, Councillor for Hayling West and Brenda Linger, Councillor for Hayling West.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Alan Mak M.P. for Havant, Councillor Clare Satchwell, Craig Stainton, Fenella May, Simon Minns, Tom and Ruth Dyche, Alison and James Griffin, John and Marilyn Blake, Karen Peacock and Mary Makin.

MINUTES OF THE WINTER GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2022

These had been circulated to the members and were approved as correct.

MATTERS ARISING

None that are not covered in the rest of the meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Derek introduced the members of the NEHRA Committee:

Jane Dodsworth on major planning; Karen Peacock and Judy Clark on local planning; Chris Emery on bar and entertainment; Alan Bartlett on publicity and pantomime; Tom Dyche on website; Lesley Shayler as treasurer; Fenella May on membership and Mark Glasgow as secretary.

NEHRA have had a busy time. On the 15th December Carols in the Village with the St. Peter's Singers was held in the Village Hall. A collection afterwards raised £239 which was given to Hayling Holiday Lunches.

In January the pantomime Cinderella was performed with the help of HIADS. There were two performances both of which were sold out. From the money raised, £450 was given to Hayling Food Bank and £450 was given to Hayling First Responders. Derek thanked Alan and Fiona Bartlett for all their hard work.

Chris, Jane and others have continued Litter Picking in the village. Derek thanked Chris for his good work with the bar and helping to organise social events.

A Pop Up Pub was held in the Spring. Derek said it is important to keep the village together with social events and Derek thanked the Village Hall Committee for their support of NEHRA events.

Looking forward Derek mentioned an evening of plays by Oscar Wilde called Love and Marriage on Saturday 2nd September. The plays are being put on by William Baggs. Tickets are to be on sale for £10. NEHRA are planning another POP UP Pub in the Autumn. Derek revealed he had just heard that there were plans for another pantomime in 2024.

Derek said NEHRA have been involved with North Common and the problem of flooding and tidal flaps. NEHRA have also taken an active interest in the Coastal Management Strategy and sea defences, sewage discharges and the new 'Local Plan'.

Derek thanked the committee for their hard work and their regular attendance at meetings. He also thanked all the ladies that have helped at the social events. He said the events had been good fun and hoped everyone enjoyed them.

Derek then read out a letter he had received from Alan Mak. The letter congratulated NEHRA on the pantomime and thanked NEHRA for their contributions to the charities. He said he was looking forward to NEHRA's future events.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Copies of the income and expenditure reports had been sent to all the members. Lesley commented specifically on the Pop Up Pubs which were very welcome after lockdowns. The Jubilee Party made a loss of nearly £340 but it was enjoyed by everyone and the idea was a time of giving and celebration. Everyone particularly enjoyed the Jazz trio.

Lesley said that the donation of £239 from the Carols in the Village was given to Hayling Holiday Lunches. This organisation provides lunches for families on Hayling who are referred to them by schools during school holidays when some families struggle even more because their children are not getting school lunches.

Lesley mentioned that at the Winter General Meeting NEHRA gave Hemmy and Mahesh Patel a painting to thank them for their work in the Stoke Post Office which is now closed.

There were no questions. Accounts proposed by Mark Glasgow and Seconded by Angharad Pike.

PLANNING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Jane attends Chichester Harbour Conservancy meetings. She represents Havant and Hayling Island. Jane talked about the council's new 'Local Plan' and North Common.

Local Plan. The initial consultation is now closed. Havant Borough Council are considering the feedback and are preparing a plan for submission. There will be further consultation in the first quarter of 2024. In the second quarter of 2024 they will finalise the plan and submit it to the Secretary of State. The plan will be scrutinised by a planning inspector in the third and fourth quarters of 2024 to make sure that the plan meets the Government tests for a local plan. In the Spring of 2025 the Secretary of State will adopt the plan providing all the assessments have been met.

North Common. Ten years ago there was a Steering Group for North Common comprising Havant Borough Council, Chichester Harbour Conservancy and residents. This group dissolved. A new group has been set up comprising Chichester Harbour Conservancy, Havant Borough Council represented by Craig Stainton, Friends of Chichester Harbour, Coastal Partnership, Rosie Raines, Lance Quantrill and NEHRA represented by Derek and Jane.

There is a draft Site Management Plan for North Common and Saltmarsh on Hayling Island. This plan is on the Chichester Harbour Conservancy website. The purpose of the resurrected group is to formalise management of the site as other similar sites are managed in this AONB. The purpose of meeting will be to agree to a programme of work. Craig Stainton on behalf of HBC told the group of a Biodiversity Initiative that allowed councils to sell land credits to developers to offset the building of houses. North Common could be one of these sites that could qualify. This could mean that North Common becomes an ecological education centre. The income generated by the selling of the land credits would be used to enhance the individual sites. Each land credit would last for thirty years. The scheme would involve planting trees, managing brambles, improving paths, putting in benches

and generally managing the area. The scheme goes live in November 2023. The North Common group are due to meet again in September 2023.

David Smith asked whether the money generated could be hived off and used for other schemes. He also commented that there were many partners involved with North Common and he was keen for it to remain a natural environment. He also requested dog waste bins.

Jane answered that this is a Government scheme and the money would be ring fenced for the specific areas. She also mentioned the involvement of the Chichester Harbour Conservancy Ecologist. Brambles are good and the area would not be changed that much but it would be managed.

Andrew Berry asked about the access for dog walkers and Jane reassured him that there would be no restrictions.

Julie Richardson, Councillor for Hayling West, commented on Jane's good review of the Credit scheme. She added that it is a national scheme and is very complicated. It is associated with Net Zero and Biodiversity. It is about saving our countryside and beauty spots.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

This report was read by Lesley as Fenella was somewhere in Scandinavia. Fenella apologised for not being at the AGM and thanked Lesley for reading the report. Currently there are 209 members which is well on the way to last year's total of 245. Fenella commented on the benefit of renewing by Standing Order. This saves one and a half hours in processing the membership. Fenella thanked the other committee members for their help and support and sent good wishes to everyone.

Derek thanked Fenella for her enthusiasm for NEHRA and her encouragement for membership.

WEBSITE REPORT

Derek read out the website report. First of all Derek thanked Tom for his thorough work on the website despite being unwell. The website is operated by NEHRA to provide information about upcoming, current and historical local events. It also has details that are useful to members and local residents. It is intended to serve as a record of the diverse projects, functions and activities carried out by NEHRA over the years.

Suggestions for improvement, new ideas for the site or constructive feedback are all welcome. If you would like to advertise a local event or make suggestions then contact the website at admin@nehra.org.uk

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Derek thanked Karen for her work on the committee as she is retiring from the committee. Dave Paul left earlier in the year so this left two places on the committee. Nehra had received applications from Peter Marshall and Derek Matthews. As there were no other applicants they were both voted onto the committee. Election of Members Proposed by Colin Hunt. Seconded by Lesley Shayler.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Derek commented on three local planning applications: Northney Farm Tea Rooms; Meadow Farm Nursery and Pastoral.

Northney Farm Tea Rooms. Derek said there had been a lot said and he was not going to reiterate any of the discourse.

Susan Ditman spoke passionately about this planning issue and the importance of living next door. She reiterated the problem of noise and the severe stress and aggravation it has caused herself and her husband.

Peter Hill said that a letter that was being circulated was inaccurate and had defamation of character. He asked, 'How many members does it take to object before NEHRA acts ?' He commented that the sound outside the barn would be equivalent to a lawn-mower. He also commented that the planning for Spinnaker Grange included the planting of trees on North Common but the residents mow this area and managed to prevent the planting of trees.

Derek answered his question saying that NEHRA were aware of the objections but the basis for NEHRA's comments rested in NEHRA's Constitution namely, 'To oppose any proposals and activities which are, or likely to be, detrimental to the well-being of the residents, rural aspect, natural beauty and flora and fauna of the designated area'.

Chris commented that they had made representation to the council about the mowing but no action had occurred.

Andy Sizer commented that he lives next door to Meadowsweet and is affected by noise. He said the barn is not sound proofed.

David Smith commented that it is not just flora and fauna but animals as well. He noted that four hedgehogs had been killed on the road. He said he moved to Northney because it was a quiet village. He requested again dog waste bins for North Common.

Jill Dawe commented that each application has to be looked at on an individual basis.

Leah Turner, Councillor for Hayling East said that she had spoken with the officer in charge of this application. She said the officer would still receive comments even though the date had passed. This application will be going to the Planning Committee.

Meadow Farm Nursery. Derek said the application is a Pre App Enquiry. An old store is being converted into a dwelling. There are questions about how many dwellings there are on site and the agricultural use of the store. Derek said NEHRA are still looking at this.

Pastoral. Derek said the application is for an extension to the building and there is a building in the garden. Derek said NEHRA are still considering this application.

20 mph speed limit in Northney

There was lots of support in the hall for a 20mph speed limit.

Wilf Forrow said he regularly walks and cycles through the village. Hampshire County Council had a blanket policy against it but why don't we push for it as residents. The policy is changing and would allow a 20mph zone if the residents supported it. Wilf had a sheet with him for the residents to show their support by signing.

Kim Cooper said she lived in the South of the village and speed up where she lives because of the straight portion of road. She thought people who flout 30mph will flout 20mph. She was in favour of an illuminated sign showing your speed.

Darren ? said that he lived at the North end of the village. He said that cars speed up after coming round the bend at Northney Farm. He did not think that signs would make any difference.

Bill Smith commented that Northney is a backwater and there is never any evidence of speed control. He said it would make a difference if there was a modicum of enforcement.

Angharad Pike said that placement of signs had been investigated by the police and there was no suitable site in Northney.

Mike Dawe said he was in Favour of a 20mph speed limit and we should look at the village of Selborne to see what they have managed with chicanes.

Leah Turner, Councillor for Hayling East, said that there had been lots of representations to the council on this subject and invited members to send further comments.

Rosie Raines, Concillor for Hayling East and Mayor of Havant, said that the residents of Northney would be receiving a newsletter from Lance Quantrill and the 20 mph speed limit was covered in this letter.

Robert Woodward said that the residents should request a policeman on a bike with a mobile speed camera.

Hemlock Water Drop Wort

Mark gave a short health warning about this poisonous plant. It is thriving because of the damp conditions and there are obvious clumps of it around in Northney. It should be cut down before it seeds. Mark mentioned the nasty practice of killing off criminals and old people in Sardinia using the Hemlock. It causes death by asphyxia through constriction of muscles. The people die with a death grin or sardonic grin. Mark had a couple of photographs of the Hemlock and residents came up to look at them afterwards.

Derek ended the meeting wondering what the green leaves his wife, Jane, was putting in his tea.

Addendum

After the meeting had finished Mark Coates, Councillor for Hayling East, said he had access for the provision of dog waste bins. He asked how many did we want and where would they be sited ?

He also said that First Responders and Emergency vehicles had difficulty finding houses in Northney. His request was for the house names to be displayed more prominently.