Britannia Square Residents’ Association

COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27 September 2022

at 8.00 pm at 4 Stephenson Terrace (Carol Inman)

1. Attendance

Present: Ian Terry (Chair)

John Ball

Ella Blankstone

Ann Cowper

Robin Dallaway

Carol Inman (Secretary)

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting & Matters Arising

2.1 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 April 2022 were agreed.

2.2 Matters arising were dealt with under the relevant agenda items.

1. Review of recent events

3.1 Street Clean

This had been held on Sunday 29 May, jointly with York Place Residents’ Association. There had been a good turn-out and tea was served in the URC Hall afterwards. Most parked vehicles had been removed by 3 pm on Sunday, with the exception of one on the east side of the Square, but this was moved before the Council’s team arrived the following day.

3.2 Platinum Jubilee Party

This was held on Sunday 5 June in the gardens of RGS Springfield and had been a great success. A good number of residents and their families had been in attendance, most dressed in the chosen theme of ”red, white and blue”. A report, with pictures, had been posted on the BSRA website.

1. Gulls

It was agreed that the cumulative effect of the last three years’ campaigns to disrupt gulls and deter them from nesting in the Square had been successful.

Hawking had been carried out in the Square during the Spring but no invoice had yet been received from Worcestershire Regulatory Services for the agreed £540. Ian confirmed that this would be reflected in the year end accounts together with the reserve being carried forward.

It was noted that Gordon Dugan had left his post as Gull Control Officer but it was not known if a replacement had yet been appointed. John agreed to make enquiries about this and to establish whether a gull control programme was being planned for 2023.

**Action: John Ball**

1. Planning Application – Moor Street (22/00760/FUL)

Gill Yates (6BS) had notified the Committee and a number of her neighbours about the Planning Application submitted by Ardor Properties to build two houses on land at Moor Street, behind 4 - 6 The Moors. Gill had expressed concern that each house would have three bedrooms but no off-road car parking space. Given that Moor Street lies within the Britannia Square Residents’ Parking Scheme, it was agreed that, although BSRA had not been formally consulted by Worcester City Council on this application, the Committee would lodge an objection on the grounds that if these houses were constructed, based on the current plans, additional pressure would be put on residents’ parking spaces.

**Action: Carol Inman**

1. Energy issues

It was agreed that we should try to source an AGM speaker who could give advice on improving energy efficiency in Listed and Victorian properties. Ann offered to contact the Greenhills (formerly of 22BS) as they may know someone in the architectural profession in Worcester who may be suitable. If this approach failed then Carol would contact NORA. Also Ella would enquire whether Fisher German could assist.

**Action: Ann Cowper, Carol Inman & Ella Blankstone**

1. Future events

**7.1. AGM**

As a prelude to the discussion, Ian advised the Committee, that, for health reasons, he would be standing down as Treasurer and Membership Secretary at the AGM. This would leave two elected members (John and Carol) and three co-opted members (Ann, Ella and Robin). As a result, the flyer advertising the AGM would need to contain an appeal for new Committee members to keep the Association functioning. Ian hoped to be able to print these as usual but it was noted that an alternative arrangement may be needed. Ella would follow up on this with Nic Aston as she thought that he may have a suitable printer.

**Action: Ella Blankstone**

It was agreed that John Ball would chair the AGM and that the subject for the Guest Speaker should be energy efficiency. Reports would be prepared as last year, John would run a cash bar, assisted by Stephen Inman, and Ann would purchase suitable nibbles. Carol would invite local councillors and other guests as usual.

**Action: John Ball, Carol Inman & Ann Cowper**

**7.2 Christmas Carols Party**

Detailed planning was deferred to the next Committee meeting but prior to then the availability of potential venues would be established. Ian would speak to Nicky about the URC Hall and contact the pianist, Lucas Ball.

**Action: Ian Terry**

*Post meeting note*: Ian confirmed that the event could be held at the URC Hall on Sunday 11 December and that Lucas has agreed to accompany the Carols. He had also asked Angela to perform a verse or two as usual.

1. Committee Reports

**8.1 Planning**

Carol advised that only one application was pending, the amended application submitted by 36aBS.

**8.2 Highways & Lighting**

It was noted that a number of streetlights in the Square were currently either not functioning at all or working intermittently. Carol encouraged Committee members to report these on the County Council website.

**8.3 Neighbourhood Watch**

The recent incident in Stephenson Terrace was discussed where an intruder had been picked up by a security camera at the property. The same person had been apprehended later that day attempting a break-in at a property in Lansdowne Terrace and was now in police custody.

**8.4 Wine Club**

It was noted that a successful Summer Party had been held in the Prossers’ garden gazebos in August.

John Prosser had acted as MC in John Ball’s absence.

**8.5 Membership**

Membership currently totalled 55 (52 Life, 3 Annual).

**8.6 Finance**

Prior to the meeting, Ian had circulated to the Committee the accounts covering the year to 30 September 2022.

The Association’s bank balance stood at £1,931.69, which included funds ring-fenced for the gull programme.

An invoice for the next year’s website sponsorship had been sent to Fisher German.

**8.7 Newsletter**

It was agreed to compile a newsletter for circulation prior to the AGM. Copy would need to be sent to Robin by COB on Friday 7 October to cover recruitment of Committee members, AGM, Carols party, gulls, planning & Neighbourhood Watch. Carol agreed to prompt Committee members to send their copy to Robin.

**Action: Carol Inman**

**8.8. Website & photographic archives project**

Robin reported that work was ongoing to improve website navigation with assistance from John Cresswell.

In addition, Robin intended to add a banner promoting the House History for Eastbourne Lodge (now 54BS).

1. Any other business

None.

1. Dates of future events & meetings

**2022**

Fri 11 November - AGM, URC, Albany Terrace

Tue 15 November - Committee meeting (Venue TBC)

Sun 11 December - Christmas Carols party, URC, Albany Terrace