

**Kingswood Residents Association  
Minutes of Annual General Meeting  
Village Hall - 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2006**

The outgoing KRA President, Mr. Roy Willcox, opened the meeting

The Vice President and acting Chairman, Mr. Gary Whitney, offered apologies for absence from Mr Crispin Blunt, M.P., Councillors Joan Spiers, Stan Gates and Gaenor Circus, Mr Peter Hawkins, Mr Guy Kingsbury and Mr. Frank Foxen.

**1. Approval of AGM 2005 Minutes**

These were summarised by the acting Chairman, and unanimously approved by the meeting.

**2. Chairman's Report**

The acting Chairman's report had been published and circulated to all households in "Kingswood Matters" and was duly noted and received. There were no matters arising.

**3. Outgoing President.**

Mr. Roy Willcox then addressed the meeting and commented that in his 40 years as a member of the KRA, he had noted many changes in the nature of planning matters. He thanked residents and councillors for their support over this period, and formally relinquished his Presidency and proposed Mr. Gary Whitney who was elected as Vice President last year now take over this office, which was approved by the meeting.

The Chairman thanked Roy for his long service to the Community and presented him with a small token gift on behalf of the residents.

**4. Honorary Treasurer's Report**

This report was circulated to members at the meeting. Funds of the Association stood at **£12,294**, inclusive of subscriptions in advance of £5,338. These advance subscriptions were renewed in 2005 for four years of which 75% related to the following 3 years. In addition there were funds held of £6,342 representing money raised by residents for special appeals.

The two main items of expenditure were grants towards opposed developments at Long Orchards and High Beeches/Broxholm, totalling £778. The credit of £176 for professional fees relates to a previous accrual for legal assistance not ultimately required.

It was noted that the Long Orchard development planning application was allowed on appeal. Donors to the fighting fund agreed that the unspent balance of their contributions to the appeal be retained and go forward into the creation of a fund for opposing future flatted development.

It was further noted that 61% of residents are currently members of the KRA (@ December 2005). There is a target of securing another 100 members, to raise the participation to over 70%.

The proposal to accept the accounts was moved by Mr. John Akerman and seconded by Mr E. Carol.

The proposal to reappoint Derek Wall as Honorary Auditor of the accounts was moved by Mr. John Phipps and seconded by Mr. Alan Eustace.

## **5. Election of Chairman, Officers and Committee**

The existing committee members and officers as set out in the Agenda paper were unanimously re-elected for 2006.

Mr. Gary Whitney appealed for a member to put him or herself forward to take over the role of Chairman. Until that time, he would remain as acting Chairman.

Two new officers were welcomed to the committee:

- Mrs Annie Campbell was proposed as Secretary by Peter Allen and seconded by John Phipps.
- Mrs Lynne Sinclair was proposed as Membership Secretary by John Phipps and seconded by John Lang.

Two new road representatives were welcomed to the Committee:

- Mrs. Adrienne Light, representing "The Warren" was proposed by Mr. John Phipps and seconded by Mr. Derek Hudson.
- Mr. David Breadon, representing "Allcocks Lane" was proposed by Mr. John Phipps and seconded by Mr. John Lang.

The acting Chairman reminded the meeting that a road representative is still required for Eyhurst Close.

## **6. Policing and Neighbourhood Watch**

The acting Chairman welcomed P.C. Alan Horner, who addressed the meeting on policing issues affecting Kingswood.

P.C. Horner reported that Kingswood is relatively quiet, in crime terms, in relation to the surrounding areas. It is, however, prone to burglary due to the size and nature of the houses. Residents were reminded to be mindful of the

number of builders and general tradesmen coming into the area and vigilant with specific regard to their own and neighbour's properties. Any residents wishing to set up a new Neighbourhood Watch scheme should contact Banstead Police Station.

Issues relating to parking and speeding on some roads in Kingswood were raised. However, enforcement is difficult due to the private nature of many local roads and the main remedy lies with the civil courts not with the police or local authority.

Specific parking issues on Waterhouse Lane and Woodland Way were raised, with a number of possible alternative solutions under discussion. There was support for more yellow lines, where appropriate, but a sizeable number of residents were opposed to this as being out of step with village life.

The meeting did not support the provision of any additional parking facilities at Legal and General as an alternative solution as it would generate substantial additional traffic to the site.

## **7. Amendments to the Village Plan**

Following a request from Mrs. Julie Pitkethly last year, the acting Chairman presented an addition to the Village Plan in respect of preservation of indigenous wildlife and their habitats in the context of new developments.

An additional addendum to the Village Plan was also put forward to meet the residents concerns that further developments close to or on Green Belt land should be subject to enforcement of PPG-2 (Planning Policy for the Green Belt)

The Chairman read out the proposed amendments to the meeting which were approved for adding to the Village Plan

### **PRESERVATION OF THE WILDLIFE HABITAT**

Notwithstanding the urban classification of the area in the local plan Kingswood is characterised by open spaces, trees, hedges and a semi-rural aspect. Kingswood is also surrounded by green belt land included protected heath land that is the habitat to much local wild life.

Recognising the need to protect the natural environment any built development of the village should take into account the impact on the indigenous wildlife in the area and in particular seek to preserve the trees, hedges and the local environment generally necessary to protect and conserve the existing habitat of such wild birds and other animals common to the area.

## **Section 2. THE GREEN BELT**

Full consideration is to be given to Planning Policy Guidance Green Belts (PPG2) issued by the DETR March 1999 when considering all developments close to the Village boundaries along the Green Belt and any development within the Green Belt itself.

### **8. Open Discussion and Questions**

- The acting Chairman advised the meeting that it was possible to secure funding from developers for local amenities/infrastructure (known as Section 106). This has not been particularly evident to date, but the acting Chairman proposed that where developments are approved by the Council, the council should consider S106 funding from developers to meet infrastructure and other improvements to the village. The meeting unanimously approved this.
- The acting Chairman referred to the Special Meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup>, referring to the expected sale of Green Belt land currently owned by Legal and General, and the proposed closure and sale of the BBC site. The notes of this special meeting will be made available to all those interested and published on the KRA website.
- The meeting was advised that the KRA has recently joined “The Private Roads Association”, to seek clarity on some of the issues affecting residents.
- The acting Chairman encouraged members to visit the KRA website ([www.kingswoodmatters.co.uk](http://www.kingswoodmatters.co.uk)). Mr. Peter Skelton affirmed, in response to a question from a resident, that the Police Neighbourhood Watch reports are already posted on this website.
- In response from a further question posed as to the efficacy of having two local councillors who no longer resided in the borough, Councillor Michael Gosling advised that unless the individuals concerned resigned, nothing could be done until they came up for re-election.
- Mr. Roy Willcox asked when Waterhouse Lane would be resurfaced. Councillor Gosling responded that due to financial concerns, no timescale could be given at present. A lively discussion followed, with many residents expressing their concern on the state of the road. The acting Chairman expressed the view that in terms of the Highway Authorities statutory duty and issues of health and safety the excuse of lack of funding for essential road repairs was unacceptable.

### **9. AOB**

There being no further business, the acting Chairman thanked the audience and officials for attending, and closed the meeting at 10:25p.m.

