



# **BROADSTONE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**



## **Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on**

**Thursday 29 January 2009**

### **in Broadstone Library**

**PRESENT:** Don Harris (President), Roy Godfrey (Chair), David Anderson, Sally Banford, Cllr Les Burden, Diane Durham, Edward Floyd, Jill Floyd, Derek Hawker, Dudley Hull, Margaret Jones, Cherry Lorburg, Rosemary Mitchell, John Milhofer, Rosemary Palmer, Don Rogers, John Sayers, Pat Talbot, Bob Williams, Frank Wood, Roger Jefferies (Treasurer and Acting Secretary).

Roy Godfrey called the meeting to order at 7.32 pm and introduced Paul Harper from developers Primetower and their architect Alastair Scott who had been invited to talk about their proposed planning application for the plot on the corner of Moor and Golf links Roads comprising the old Fairlight Hotel and two dwellings which they proposed to demolish and build a 64 bed Care Home consisting of 3 linked buildings and parking for 20 cars. They explained their proposals and took questions following which Roy thanked them for their presentation and said that our planning officers Pat Talbot and Diane Durham would examine the application when submitted and report back to the Executive Committee.

- 1) **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Mike Brooke, Graham Mason and Dan Martin, Chris Brownhall, David Williams and PC Joe Cooper.
- 2) **MINUTES** of the meeting held on 20 November 2008 were accepted as a true record of the meeting, and signed by the Chairman.
- 3) **ACTIONS and MATTERS ARISING:**

Numbers in brackets refer to the item in the previous minutes.

(9) Traffic Strategy for Broadstone. Roy said that work was continuing and he hoped to be in a position to report back soon.

(13b) Travellers' Site at Merley. It appears that this application may have been withdrawn but the objectors would watch the situation closely.

(13c) Plaque to Commemorate Russell Wallace. Ongoing but we have indicated that BRA will support.

- 4) **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Roy Godfrey said that he was continuing to send items of interest received from different sources to Officers and invited them to bring up any items on which they would like further information.

He had received a notice concerning a meeting to discuss the enlargement of the Conservation Area in Broadstone which would be held at the Methodist Church on 20 and 21 February. He would attend and invited others to do so also as it was obviously of interest to all concerned.

The Treasurer reported that he had received a letter from John bright of Broadstone Scout Group advising that as a result of our donation of £300 last April and other support received, the archery section had been set up and equipped and members were invited to visit to see the kit in operation.

## 5) CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Roy said that he had attended a meeting of the Broadstone, Merley and Bearwood Area Committee on the 7th of January. Items of interest to Broadstone included traffic enforcement which was being pursued and the request for closure of the Footpath between Cotton Close and Widworthy Drive where it appeared that misbehaviour by pupils of Corfe Hills School was causing annoyance to neighbours. Roy said he felt that the Police were taking the easy way out and other ways of solving the problem should be sought. Don Rogers pointed out that the school had no authority over the children once they had left the school premises.

Roy had also attended a meeting of the Broadstone Chamber of Trade and Commerce on 13 January. He offered the Association's support during these difficult trading conditions and in particular some space in the Spring Newsletter to do a feature on trading in Broadstone, and the possibility of some space on our notice boards. This was accepted.

Roy said he had attended a meeting earlier that day with Sir Michael Pitt regarding the 'Review of Development Control'. He gave an 'off the record' report on the discussions during which he suggested that certain matters were seriously wrong with planning application procedures and that more 'checks and balances' and a change of personnel were needed. Cllr Les Burden asked it to be recorded that he strongly disagreed with some of the statements made by Roy.

During 'Any Other Business', both Derek Hawker and Pat Talbot gave instances where the application for the development of the old Broadstone Hotel site seemed to receive support from senior members of the Poole Council Planning Committee based on inadequate information and research giving rise to the suspicion that the developers had undue sway and that the result was a foregone conclusion.

Roy said that he together with other invited Residents' Association Chairmen would be attending an informal meeting with Cllr Leverett on Saturday 31 January.

## 6) REPORTS BY OFFICERS:

### Planning

PAT reported that there had been 39 applications during the period 10 November to 18 January. Items of interest were:

2 Barry Gardens	Bungalow at rear. Gone to Appeal – still NOT DETERMINED
7 Lytham Road	Replace existing bungalow and erect 4 bed dwelling in rear garden of 2 Sydney Gardens. Access from Lytham Road. APPROVED
19 High Park Road	Demolish existing and erect 2 X 5 bed houses. Still PENDING

Pat drew attention to the likely industrial development in the Hamworthy Engineering and Sopers Lane areas and warned that we must keep a watchful eye on planning applications.

### Treasurer

Roger said that there had been little movement since his last meeting in November.

**Subscriptions Income:** A further £46.00 has been received bringing the total to date to £6,116.50 compared with £6,112 to this point last year.

**Advertising Income:** A final amount to £280.00 has been collected bringing the total amount

received to £2,942.50 compared with £2,695 last year. We had to write off as uncollectible £35 due from Africa Allure as they seem to have returned to South Africa!

**Interest:** A further £84.82 has been received bringing the total received to date to £309.68 compared with £338 to this point last year despite an increased balance. We shall now see a sharp drop off in our interest income as we are now only getting 1% on our deposit!

**Total receipts** for the year to date amount to £9,376.68.

**Expenditure** since the last meeting has been only £15 for the hire of the library for that night's meeting and £26.88 to the Chairman for stationery expenses.

**Total expenditure** for the year to date has amounted to £5,591.50 which meant that income exceeded expenditure so far this year by £3,785.18. However we shall now have the printing of the Winter Magazine to pay for which is expected to be £2,629 which will reduce our surplus to date to around £1,250. In addition there will undoubtedly be other expenses before the end of the financial year including donations whereas income from now on will be minimal.

Our **bank and cash balances** have been increased to £15,370.85 of which £14,469.74 is on deposit earning interest.

#### Editor & Advertising Officer

Roy Godfrey reported that the Winter Magazine had now been published and that he was now preparing for the Spring Newsletter, his first. The publishing date for this will be 23 April, and the deadline date for copy is 3 April.

At a recent Chamber of Trade and Commerce meeting he offered some space to try to support trade for Broadstone. Not direct advertising but a feature on the benefits of shopping in Broadstone.

Any suggestions for any other articles or features for the Newsletter would be very welcome.

Traditionally we only carry one advert in the Newsletter, Seyward Window Co., they pay extra for sole advertising rights and this has already been arranged.

The Summer Magazine is some way off, but we could lose some advertising due to the difficult trading situation. We would hope to pick up some new advertising from the new traders in Broadstone. John Milhofer had kindly offered to help with this.

#### Chief Warden

John Sayers reported that apart from a couple of the usual stragglers all of last year's subscriptions had been banked.

Much to his surprise his article in the Summer magazine did produce 2 new volunteers as wardens. However the bad news was that one of them decided to resign even before she started so not a fantastic result. He could only encourage existing wardens when they collect the money this year to keep an eye out for likely people.

2 wardens will have reached their 25 years service mark this year

Mrs Sue Bennett 35 Ashwood Drive

Mrs S King 4 Upton Way

We should arrange to present certificates to them at the AGM.

#### Chamber of Trade

Bob Williams reported that as always after the Christmas arrangements, a debrief had taken place and views were expressed as to what was good and what not so good. Overall the Christmas parade went off well and it was always satisfying to see so many of the local organisations taking part. He said that the question of the Christmas lights was being addressed.

The street collection was a great success with £500 going to the Broadstone Branch of the Royal British Legion and £500 going to the Broadstone branch of the RNLI.

As with any group of businesses the chamber is very aware of the difficult trading conditions and we will do all we can to support all its members through this difficult time. Bob reported on changes in businesses taking place in Broadstone.

The Chamber appreciates the support from the Residents' Association and from the local magazines in helping to raise the profile of Broadstone. As with all organisations it is only with the help of more active members that we can achieve our goals and we continue to punch below our weight until that happens.

Our membership is very healthy at the moment and from within that membership we are looking to recruit a welfare officer and publicity officer.

### Education

Don Rogers reported that in the winter of 2004 he had written an article for the BRA magazine on "The Future of Schools in Broadstone". The consultation which had taken place then was on the rationalising of the ages of transfer within the borough. The preferred solution then and now was that there should be a two tier primary/secondary structure with a single transfer at age 11. He gave an update in his report at the AGM in 2006.

This has never been a simple solution for Broadstone and, while changes may occur elsewhere in the borough, any changes in Broadstone have been put to the end of the programme. At the present time, it is planned for schools in Poole to change the age of transfer in 2013 **with the exception of schools in Broadstone where changes in the age of transfer depends on funding which has not yet been identified.** Other schools are receiving funds to adapt and improve their buildings now.

Teachers who are applying for posts in schools in Broadstone want to be assured that their future is secure. Changes are inevitable, but he asked to what extent will candidates for teaching posts be able to teach the same age range of pupils in the same school with the same colleagues in a few years time?

Don concluded by saying that his was a very worrying situation for the residents of Broadstone and rumours were bound to develop when our schools cannot plan ahead. The Association must keep a careful watching brief on this situation.

Roy reminded the meeting that this would be Don's last report as he was leaving Broadstone and thanked him for his work and support since joining the Committee. This was endorsed by the members present. Don suggested that we should be able to find a replacement Education Officer from amongst the pool of School Governors by contacting the schools.

### Broadstone Neighbourhood Watch

#### **Safer Neighbourhood Policing.**

In his absence, David Williams submitted a report saying that the action taken on the three priorities identified for Broadstone at the public meeting last November had been as follows:- Anti-social behaviour – high visibility patrolling in known hot spots was continuing. Jo and Karen had been intelligence gathering and calling on victims of crimes. Youth activities were being explored including the youth van attending hot spot areas and the setting up of football focus teams in conjunction with youth centres. A regular school surgery had been set up at Corfe Hills School.

Speeding – enforcement had continued to take place utilising Special Constables. Further actions were planned using Traffic Officers. School talks were also planned on Road Safety awareness.

Inconsiderate Parking – the team had targeted known hot spots. Advisory tickets had been issued and leaflets distributed. There were increased patrols around schools. Dorset Fire and Rescue had been tasked to visit problem roads – Water Tower Road, The Toast Rack, the Broadway, York Road, Springdale Road, Tudor Road, Wallace Road, Grange Road, and Laurel Drive, and to check on access.

They reported back that they had sufficient clearance for their vehicles.

David advised that if members had any queries or required further information, the next public meeting would be held at 1.00 pm on Wednesday 25. March at the Lantern Lounge, Merley, or they could see an officer of Broadstone Neighbourhood Watch or one of the SNT officers at the Surgery in the Library on the last Saturday of the month between 10.00am and

12.00noon.

## 7) OFFICER VACANCIES:

Roy reported that we had advertised on the notice boards and in the magazine without success so far and asked that everyone give thought to suitable people to fill the vacancies as the lack of these officers was causing problems and a lot of extra work for himself and the Treasurer.

## 8) NOTICE BOARDS

The treasurer advised that he had now received a second quotation following the first from Just William which was reported at the last meeting and which was for aluminium boards with lockable glass windows the cost of which would be £1,350. The new quotation was from Custom Carpentry and was for 2 wooden boards constructed to the same size as the existing boards and with toughened glass hinged windows with clasps costing £1,564. Discussion ensued as to which type of board was preferable and whether windows were required and if so should they be hinged or sliding and lockable or left unlocked.

It was decided to proceed with one board initially to replace the one at Somerfield and that it should not have windows but left open with a protecting lip across the top. **ARJ**

## 9) WAR MEMORIAL

Roy Godfrey said that there were several matters of concern, the first of which that it could be maintained in better condition than it was and the second was the question of the view and surrounding trees and shrubbery. Jill Floyd said that she had been unable to progress matters as she would have liked but would now be seeking to take matters forward. **JF**

## 10) GRANT REQUESTS - Report of Grants Sub-Committee:

PAT reported that 3 requests had been received and considered by the grants sub-committee:

1. Request from Edward Floyd on behalf of the Wimborne branch of the Citizens Advice Bureau which was about to lose funding from the Camelot Fund and which benefited many residents of Broadstone. Recommended £250.00
2. Request from Helena Diffey of Broadstone Ranger Guides who had been selected to represent Girlguiding in South West England at an International Scout & Guide Jamboree in Canada in August 2009. Recommended £250.00
3. Request from Julia's House for assistance to support care in the community which would enable children to take part in activities which would not otherwise be available. Recommended £250.00

These were approved.

## 11) ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

### a) Website for the Association

It was agreed that the Association should develop its own website but with links to other related organisations such as the Chamber of Trade and Neighbourhood Watch. David Anderson said he would be pleased to assist and that it was essential to keep it up to date and relevant. Ro Mitchell said she would work with David on this project and Roy asked all members to pass on relevant information to be put on the site. **DA/RM**

### b) Road signs

Roy referred to an article in *The Echo* reporting that an individual who voluntarily cleaned road signs in Bournemouth was told not to do so by the Council who said it was their job to

clean them. Steve Dean, Principal Engineer at Poole Council said that the Council cleaned the signs as and when required – there being no planned maintenance programme. On enquiry it appeared that the Council would respond to requests from members of the public to clean or repair signs so Roy asked that members submit details of any signs they knew of which required attention and that a list would then be submitted to the Council on behalf of the Association,

There being no further business at the meeting, the chairman thanked the members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.48pm.

.....Chairman

.....Date

**Dates of next meetings: Thursday 12 March 2009** then Thursday 23 April 2009  
AGM: Thursday 21 May 2009