

# **WOODCOTE GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Woodcote Green Residents' Association took place on Wednesday 3 July 2019 at 4 Woodcote Green, Wallington SM6 9NN, starting at 8.00pm.

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

#### **Present**

Jim Simms, Chair  
Abhi Bhasin  
Abid Qureshi  
Alex Clark  
Asha Srinivas  
Bery Radford  
Biniam Bekit  
Caroline Clarke  
Chris Gill  
Eileen Noble  
Harry Leatt  
Ivan Woodhouse  
Lynne Gill  
Ras Krishneratne  
Sarah Qureshi  
Sue Doyle  
Vinita Bhasin  
Patrick Radford, Secretary

Pauline Cook, Chair, Onslow Gardens Residents' Association  
Jayne McCoy, Councillor, London Borough of Sutton  
Ed Joyce, Councillor, London Borough of Sutton  
Mo Saqib, Councillor, London Borough of Sutton

### **2. MINUTES OF AGM OF 4 JULY 2018**

The minutes were accepted and signed

### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

All matters arising were dealt with under later agenda headings

### **4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- a. The committee.** Jim Simms reported that the committee for the previous year had consisted of himself (Chair and Local Committee representative), Ras Krishneratne (Vice Chair), Patrick Radford (Secretary and Safer Neighbourhood Panel representative), Biniam Bekit, Caroline Clarke (Neighbourhood Watch), Chris Gill/Lynne Gill as alternates, Ivan Woodhouse, Sue Doyle, and Vinita Bhasin (Treasurer). He stated that the committee had met five times during the year and that key issues dealt with were as follows.

- b. Safer Neighbourhood Panel.** Jim Simms explained the working of this liaison police group. Patrick Radford added that it was this panel's intervention that had led eventually to the improvement in traffic management at the school open events.
- c. Local Council Meetings.** Jim Simms explained these were meetings held in public, in which Sutton Council had delegated authority to deal with certain matters. Reports on the issues dealt with, he reported, included these.
- i. *Borough review of parking:* due in September (confirmed by Councillor Jayne McCoy), to be followed by public consultation (see item 5a)
  - ii. *Junction of Sandy Lane South and Foresters Drive:* officers were working on this.
  - iii. *Speed measuring and warning device in Sandy Lane South:* up and working.
  - iv. *Development and Planning*
    - 153 Sandy Lane South: council officers were awaiting a new planning application, following the demolition of the building
    - Telecom mast (with related equipment) to be erected on the pavement of Woodcote Road opposite the Green
    - Wallington Public Hall and Woodcote Green Garden Centre: see item 5g and 5i.
  - v. *Public Realm Money* – recently used locally for trees – ideas requested
  - vi. *Barbecues in Beddington Park* – to be removed
  - vii. *Section 222 notice on (the Green of) Woodcote Green* – to reduce the risk of occupation of or disposal of waste on the Green
- d. Sutton Tram Link.** The Chair and Councillor Jayne McCoy reported on this possible scheme. The latter said that there had been three proposals for consideration, on which there would be a public consultation, and that there was a funding gap, over which Sutton Council and Transport for London were negotiating. Additional information was that the option of a “bendy bus” had been discarded and that phase one would go south to Sutton.
- e. Grow Wild.** Jim Simms reported that Grow Wild scheme had provided packs of wild seeds, which committee members had planted (with permission) in an empty bed on the Green.
- f. Other flowers on Woodcote Green.** The Chair and Caroline Clarke reported on their follow-up to an offer by Flitton's Nursery to plant flowers, but, as there had been no commitment to care of the flowers, the committee had not agreed to this offer.
- g. Picnic on the Green.** He also reported that the association had held a successful picnic in June.
- h. Other residents' associations.** Jim Simms reported that he had met with representatives of Onslow Gardens' Residents' Association and of the residents' associations for Woodcote Avenue and Park Hill, to talk about mutual support.

## 5. OPEN DISCUSSION

- a. **Parking and waiting.** There was a discussion about parking and waiting of cars on Sandy Lane South, Woodcote Green and Woodcote Road. Individuals expressed concern over the council's failure to enforce the law on (for instance) yellow lines and road junctions.
- b. **Borough review of parking.** In reply to a question, Jayne McCoy stated that the aim of areas of "residents only" parking would not be to make money. There was a plea from a Woodcote Road resident to have "residents only" rather than yellow line there. It was confirmed by Jayne McCoy that – because of national and London policies – it was now not possible for a council to insist that new developments should provide one parking place per residence.
- c. **One-way system.** The option of a gyratory system for Woodcote Green caused a flurry of disparate views. The meeting decided to refer this idea to the committee and for the committee to assess residents' opinions, about asking council to consider a gyratory system.
- d. **Cutting grass on the Green.** Caroline Clarke reported (again) that the mowing of the grass on the Green often cut up discarded cans into dangerously sharp pieces. Councillor Ed Joyce stated that the litter collection and the grass mowing there are done by different contractors. He said he would look into this problem.
- e. **Litter.** It was agreed that the problem of litter on the Green and on pavements of roads in the Woodcote Green was serious. Several residents claimed that passing motorists often swept rubbish out of their vehicles onto the pavements and gutters. There were also claims that some of the on-pavement rubbish bins repeatedly became over-filled. Jayne McCoy and others advised residents to report over-filled bins, blocked gutters and fly-tipping via the council website. Councillors present also asked to be informed which of the on-pavement council waste bins were a problem.
- f. **Blocked gulleys (roadside gutters).** It was reported that several of the roadside gutters had not been cleared after residents had reported the problems via the council website. Councillor Ed Joyce advised residents to report such blockages again if they had not been cleared, making a note of the reference ("CAS") numbers; if that did not work, he advised reporting the matter to a councillor.
- g. **Food waste bins.** Several members present reported that foxes had repeatedly broken into food waste bins after these been left out for the weekly collections. During the resulting discussion, there were various pieces of advice, including placing these small bins on top of larger bins, and putting bricks on top of the food waste bins.
- h. **Collection of non-recyclable content waste bins.** Members living in Woodmansterne Lane reported that these (brown) bins had been repeatedly collected on Tuesdays rather than the advertised Mondays.
- i. **Wallington Public Hall site.** It was reported that the council-owned company would develop this council-owned site, replacing the existing buildings and about half of the public parking area with new apartments and some shops – starting later in 2019.
- j. **38 Telegraph Track.** It was reported that the site was now a lavender farm.

- k. **Woodcote Green Garden Centre.** Councillors reassured residents that this site was covered by Green Belt planning restrictions.

## **6. REVISION TO CONSTITUTION**

The meeting approved the proposed change to item 9 of the constitution, so that this item would now read: *An annual general meeting will elect a chairman and other committee members as it wishes. The maximum length of time that a chairman may serve continuously in that office is three years. A chairman who has served three years must wait at least one year before standing again for that office*

## **7. FINANCE**

The meeting approved the report given by the treasurer, Vinita Bhasin, including the annual table of income and expenditure. The balance reported was £79.73. The meeting approved a collection for the association at the end of meeting.

## **8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE**

There had been one nomination for the post of chairman: Ivan Woodhouse. The meeting agreed unanimously to his election.

The following committee members had agreed to stand for re-election: Biniam Bekit, Caroline Clarke, Jim Simms, Lynne and Chris Gill (as alternates), Patrick Radford, Sue Doyle, Vinita Bhasin and Vythilingam Nagulendran. The meeting agreed unanimously to their election.

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The meeting passed a vote of thanks to the retiring chairman, Jim Simms.

## **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next AGM should be on a date near to 3 July 2020.