**WOODCOTE GREEN RESIDENTS’ ASSOCIATION**

[**www.wgra.info**](http://www.wgra.info)

**COMMITTEE MEETING**

**22 November 2022**

A meeting of the committee of Woodcote Green Residents’ Association (WGRA) was held at 10 Woodcote Green, Wallington SM6 9NN, starting at 8.00 pm.

1. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Jim Simms (chair) welcomed those present: Vinita Bhasin, Vythilingam Nagulendran, Caroline Clarke and Patrick Radford (secretary). Apologies were received from Owen Pengelly and Sue Doyle.

1. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 13 SEPTEMBER**: agreed and signed
2. **MATTERS ARISING**: none
3. **TRAFFIC/ PARKING ISSUES**
   1. **Sandy Lane South**

The meeting agreed that, at school opening and closing times, traffic on Sandy Lane South adjacent to the Green continued routinely to be severely congested: those present reported that they had repeatedly observed opposing queues of traffic in the one available lane - and cars on the Green itself. It was reported that there had been a collision between a moving and a stationary car that very day.

Jim Simms reported that he had exchanged messages with Steve Thompson (the parking programme manager) without any agreement of when the promised meeting on site would be. Jim Simms said that he had now written to the replacement manager, Kevin Williams, but had had not received any response.

The meeting agreed that, in the absence of a better proposal from the traffic department, it was in favour of yellow lines on this section of Sandy Lane South (action JS).

1. **BUTTERFLY BANK + MEETING ON THE GREEN**

It was noted that a large mound topped with a sticky chalk mass, had appeared without notification, in October and that the association had learned that this this mound was to become a bank to encourage butterflies – part of a borough-wide parks programme. It was reported that the ballot of local residents, with information from the council parks department and from WGRA, had shown that most local residents wished to see the material removed and the Green restored to its former state. Jim Simms reported that he had organised a meeting on the Green, scheduled for Saturday 26 November, on the Green; he had invited councillors and the constituency MP.

Caroline Clarke tabled a document, author’s identity unknown, which appeared to show that the Green was a village green protected by law.

Patrick Radford agreed to remind members about the meeting (action PR)

1. **PLANNING ISSUES**
2. **Nursing home, 4A Woodmansterne Lane ref DM2022/01386**

* The meeting noted that this application was similar to the one rejected the previous year for the same site, in particular in that it was for a nursing home with 70 beds and with a similar layout. It was agreed to campaign against the granting of planning permission, in accordance with the motion passed at the AGM (13b: Mandate for future planning applications).
* The chair tabled a draft letter of objection from the association and the meeting agreed that it should be submitted (action JS).
* It was agreed that individual committee members should make their own objections (action all committee members).
* It was agreed to ask all members of WGRA to make objections and to provide them with advice (action JS and PR).

1. **167 Sandy Lane South**

Vinita Bhasin spoke about the adverse effects that building the proposed house would have, for reasons that included the overlooking of number 165. Jim Simms advised that objections would be unlikely to succeed. It was agreed not to seek a mandate for a campaign from the association but to encourage individual committee to object (action committee members).

1. **127 Woodcote School**: nil to report
2. **153 Sandy Lane South**

Jim Simms reported that there was still no activity, although – long before - the building there had been demolished and planning permission had been granted.

1. **High School Condition B**

It was agreed that the association would not lodge a formal objection to the waiving of the condition that greatly restricted the right of the school to let out its sports hall to outside users. Jim Simms reported that he had written to ask that there should be some restriction on timing of events and off-site parking.

1. **25 Croydon Lane**

Jim Simms reported that Reigate and Banstead Council had given planning permission for the building of 10 “luxury” houses on the site of The Oaks Farm, even though this is in the Green Belt.

1. **7 Ascot Mews (off Buckingham Way)**

Jim Simms reported on correspondence with Alan Todd, a WGRA member, about this proposed development, which was to replace a garage with a house extension. The committee agreed that the association should not campaign against this proposal as grounds for objection were weak. Jim Simms had given some advice to Alan Todd, which the meeting supported.

1. **WEBSITE**

Owen Pengelly had written to say that he had put the butterfly bank issue on the website.

1. **FINANCE**

Vinita Bhasin reported that the current balance was £96.20, following expenditure on printing of about £40.

1. **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Caroline Clarke reported that NW activity was integrated with that of the association.

1. **SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL**

Patrick Radford reported that the panel continued to meet four times a year and that neighbourhood representatives continue to bring concerns over speeding, catalytic convertor theft, burglary, and incursions onto Roundshaw Open Space by motor cyclists and travellers. He said that the priority of the Metropolitan Police continued to be prevention of violence to women and girls.

1. **LOCAL COUNCIL MEETING**

Nil to report relevant to the WGRA area

1. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Jim Simms reported that he had become a volunteer on the Community Monitoring Group, which looked at random samples of police camcorder recordings.

1. **NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 21 March 2023 at 8.00pm, at 165 Sandy Lane South

PR 21.03.2022