



AGM MINUTES

14th March 2013 7.30pm at Harlow Community Centre

1 Welcome Jim welcomed all present (21 people). Jim went on to explain his current position on the Committee, in that he is still a Committee Member but has stepped aside for now. This is because of recent allegations made against him by his political opponents. He does not want any of the charities he is involved with being affected.

2 Apologies Jenny Kimpton, Cath Varley, Peter Blaney, Kath Mason, Lucy Hind, Kim Middleton, Jayne Blaney, Les Parkes, Barbara Stone, Betty Bentley, Kim Middleton, Peter Brown, Phil Linger, Paul Casey, Margaret Smith, Helen Hutchinson, Grace Smith, Terry Byrne, Pat Dunnill, Tessa Funnell.

3 Matters Arising from Minutes of Last Meeting (15th March 2012) None

4 Treasurer's Report (see attached Appendix 1) Accounts Proposed: Roy Smith
Seconded: Geoff Scurrah

5 Secretary's Report (see attached Appendix 2) 2 questions were raised; what is happening with the rhododendron waste – HBC have said that they will make an effort to clear it when they get the holly waste cleared that the CPV have been removing. Also raised was the issue on trees going missing after they have been planted and it was asked if this is happening elsewhere. We do not know if it is or not but will try and find out.

6 Irongate An update for Members in that we are having a meeting next week regarding this to try & get things moving. If we are happy with the current plans and do not want to make any changes then the plans can go forward to the Cabinet Member for approval. We asked if any Members had any areas of expertise or would like to get involved in the project then please contact us. It was asked if the NEDL building will come onto Irongate but it will not. It was also raised about whether we will be leaving it an open space and the plan is to put things on the space but primarily it will be open. It seems people like it an open space. The plans for the project will go on the website.

Minutes cont ...



Vice-Chairman Neil Hind, Tower House, Nursery Lane, Harrogate HG2 0AZ 07966 213675
Secretary Michelle Whitfield-Speed, 7 College Road, Harrogate HG2 0AQ 07946 641475
Treasurer Iain Ward-Campbell, 12 Rossett Green Lane, Harrogate HG2 9LJ 01423 870492

Charity Registration Number 1097890

7 RHS update The period for comment on the lease has now been extended and ends on the 15th March 2013. A decision will be made on the 22nd May and will now be by the full cabinet in public. The car park did get planning permission even though it was a split vote and went through on the Chairman's vote. Jim said he did try to push for the planning to be looked at as 2 separate matters and look at the south side once a decision had been made on the housing.

CD – as the LDF is no longer looking at H25 then why don't we have a meeting with the landowner, RHS, HBC to see if we can get the south side car park extended.

JL – the planners do not understand the problem -the traffic now goes into the car park on the south leaving Crag Lane free. Now all the traffic is going to go all the way down Crag Lane instead. The planners said they needed to approve it as the financial situation of the RHS depended on it which is not a planning matter.

JC – want to go back and investigate the split planning and see why the lease was not brought up at the planning stage if it is so vital to the whole matter.

RS – facts have to be remembered that Harlow Carr is a top Yorkshire attraction and parking on Crag Lane is the only solution. The South car park is not an option as the landowners are not prepared to allow the field to be used. A democratic process was made to allow the North car park. Improvements made to the path will benefit walkers. The path has been in place many years, it is not new it is an improvement. We want to protect ditches and the lease offers protection. We have had exaggeration and misleading information in the paper. Should look at Cardale and the whole issue of the housing etc on Harlow Hill.

MS – the traffic on Crag Lane is the biggest problem. RHS have had 320,000 visitors over the last year they should be content with that.

VD – when is Crag Lane dangerous?

MS – cars going past all the time now & they want to add another 500 cars a day to that.

DMcK – Members recognise RHS involvement to the local economy. Concerns are for public safety. The road is a public road and maintained by highways. He will be taking the matter to the area committee meeting and will be talking about road safety. Highways would not want to proceed if there are safety issues. They cannot overrule the planning permission but it would be difficult to go ahead.

JL – the coach park is down that end of the road as well and they have permission to put 11 coaches in there.

MW-S – don't forget the lorries parking on the road to unload and then going down to the coach park area to turn around.

DMcK – a solution needs to be found to go ahead with this.

Jim – we don't have a solution at this stage. The section 106 still has not been dealt with and the South field is not now housing.

CD – maybe Clarks would look at it again now they are not getting housing on there.

DMcK – not recognised as housing now as the Clarks have withdrawn it.

JL – section 106, is that the £35k for the cycle path?

JC – yes it is.

JL – that will make it even more dangerous by adding & encouraging cyclists to all the cars

RS – there is a decent bike route now via Otley Road. Many of these types of gardens are approached via narrow roads. Concerns are with bike parking.

CD – there is a footpath in the other car park for people to use but they don't.

GS – heard lots about cars, coaches, lorries – the lorries are there before the gardens open and before the road gets busy and has never seen any more than 5 coaches in the coach park. There is a space for coaches to load & unload. Don't see how it will increase danger.

JC – has everybody written in that is going to?

JL – are they even considering safety? No comments have come from the Highways Officer.

PW – Highways cannot answer safety issue as they were not at the planning meeting. Safety was not discussed.

Minutes cont ...

CD – they wanted planning permission then the lease was an afterthought.

RS – the lease is not a planning issue.

JC – if they were being open & transparent as they are claiming to be then it should have been mentioned.

DMcK – the lease was being discussed long before planning was granted. An email went round saying it should be discussed and it was not.

NH – what outcome do the PCG want? In an ideal world – no car park, no lease, road widened etc

JC – we need to co-exist with RHS and once this is all over we need to live with the consequences. We need to know RHS's future plans. There was no mention of housing when the plans first went in. If they say they don't need it for a few years then there is time to work on a solution.

NH – think the RHS would be keen to have a meeting.

JL – we do not need to be enthralled with them & it is about time they were grateful for what Harrogate has done for them.

GS – why be worried about someone's success & the trade they bring to Harrogate.

CD – a meeting is a good idea. We can't do anything at the moment & are just going round in circles.

I W-C – will they acquire south car park or lease?

MW-S- lease

CD – comes down to what the Clarks will do.

(man) – it is important that the PCG decide what they want or this will divide the Group.

NH – we need to get the best out of it that we can.

VD – rather have a car park than houses on the H25 site.

RS – we have always made our point on developments that affect the Pinewoods.

JC – Committee need to arrange a meeting as discussed and we shall get that done.

Matter left at that point.

8 Nominations This matter was started with a tribute to a past Committee Member –John Pearce, who sadly died in December. He was a long standing and valuable Member of the Committee.

Christine Ward-Campbell	Proposed: Carole Dumville	Seconded: Jackie Little
Iain Ward-Campbell	Proposed: Geoff Scurrah	Seconded: Roy Smith
Michelle Whitfield-Speed	Proposed: Margaret Sutcliffe	Seconded: Carole Dumville
Jim Clark	Proposed: Geoff Scurrah	Seconded: Roy Smith
Geoff Scurrah	Proposed: Carole Dumville	Seconded: Roy Smith
Roy Smith	Proposed: Geoff Scurrah	Seconded: Fran Scurrah
Neil Hind	Proposed: Michelle Whitfield-Speed	Seconded: Christine Ward-Campbell

7 Any Other Business CD – holly is taking over in some areas can this be shredded rather than left. Advised that HBC are planning on doing this. MS made a vote of thanks to MBWS for being a good communicator and for carrying out the role of Secretary very well.

8 Date of Next Meeting 13th March 2014

Signed: Vice Chairman Date:

END