

FLACKWELL HEATH RESIDENTS'S ASSOCIATION
the 18th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on

TUESDAY MARCH 22nd 2022 at FLACKWELL HEATH GOLF CLUB

PRESENT:

The following members of the Executive Committee were present:

Lenny White (Chair); Pam Mannering (Events); John Mannering (Treasurer); Larisa Townsend (Communications); Sammy Aldridge (Membership); Simon Bristow (Lights & Decorations); Graham Smith (Social Media); Chris Marriott (Events); Barbara Hunt (Secretary).

Also present was one Bucks & CWPC Councillor, three other members of CWPC, one representative of FHCA, the Rev. James Dwyer and eight other FH residents.

1. Welcome & Introduction:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked FH Golf Club for its hospitality. He said how much we appreciated seeing everyone in person and not on Zoom like last year. He also offered thanks to the many other people who helped throughout the year, including the two councils and various associations within the village as well as many individuals.

He listed some of the many events held during the past year and said that a second defibrillator was being purchased for the village, to be sited at Green Dragon Lane Sports Ground. This news was warmly received.

2. Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Liz Johncock, Alison and Nigel Peach, Bill & Bridget Jennings, Brian & Sandy Mount and Anne and Don Cameron.

3. Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting:

These had been circulated in advance of the meeting and no queries were raised. They were accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Proposed: Larisa Townsend

Seconded: Cllr. D Johncock

4. Matters Arising:

The planter at Heath End Road/ Spring Lane has been rebuilt and now looks very pleasing.

The memorial bench, in memory of Carolyn Leonard, has been installed within the play area of the recreation ground. It consists of a 6 seater picnic bench, a useful additional facility.

FHRA has a new website, www.fhra.co.uk, which is frequently updated.

There will be no fete and Picnic this year as all efforts will be put into making the celebration for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, a very special village occasion. The main event will be a Music festival held on Saturday June 4th.

The Chairman made a plea to the floor that as we are in need of storage areas, if anyone had any thoughts on how this might be achieved it would be appreciated.

There were no questions from the floor.

5. Officer and Group Reports:

i. Treasurer:

Compared to 2020, 2021 was a very successful year. Total funds carried forward have increased by £1787 to a total of £15997, due to an increase in activity during the year.

Bank Balances:

Barclay's Community Account	£8351
CCLA Deposit Account	£7846
Total:	£16197

Income had been received from grants, donations, membership fees, monthly market, Easter Trail and the Fete and picnic.

Expenditure:

Monies were spent on banner and artwork, planters and gardens, Christmas lights, F&P and insurances.

Discussions need to be held with regard to the CCLA and whether this account should be switched to a better option.

Conclusion:

2021 was a very successful year, the EC has done a great job in bringing back events following a very difficult 2020.

2022 will give FHRA the opportunity to develop other activities that will help enhance value to the residents of Flackwell Heath.

There were no questions from the floor.

The Treasurer was thanked for all his dedicated work throughout the year.

ii. Membership:

Present membership is 248. When the current officer assumed the role, an old list showed many more members and each entry was followed up. Many of those listed were deceased, moved away etc. There has been a determined push to increase membership and forms are available via the website and at all FHRA events. Subscriptions are mainly paid by Standing Order, 143 to date, a great help to the Treasurer. Forms are returned to the Membership Secretary's own address, rather than to a local shop, as it speeds up the processing of the new membership.

We are keen to expand membership and would welcome ideas as to how this might be done.

Q. A resident asked what the time scale of membership is?

A. It does not follow a calendar year, as memberships are happening at any time during the year.

Q. Are members reminded when their period of membership is about to run out?

A. They will be reminded of renewal date beforehand.

Thanks were expressed to the Secretary for all her hard work.

iii. Litter Pick and CSW:

The Litter Pick, held a week prior to the meeting, had not been as well supported as previous ones. The weather was one factor as fewer residents attended the Jubilee Gardens site or the Green dragon Sports Ground site. The events are well advertised, equipment is provided and the rubbish is collected by the Council from Jubilee Gardens and by Simply Waste from the sports field.

There does appear to be less litter in the village, very pleasing.

Two Duke of Edinburgh participants are involved and the relevant paperwork is being managed by our representative.

Monthly litter picks are undertaken by a small group of volunteers who meet at an appointed time and set off together.

A link with Bucks Council has been established so that we can cooperate within their schedules.

Links have been made with the local representative of the D of E scheme.

Community Speed Watch:

FHRA gave a grant to cover the cost of High Viz jackets for CSW volunteers as they monitor the Sentinel equipment. A contribution is being made towards the required signage at each entrance to the village. This grant money was donated to CWPC to arrange the latter on our behalf.

Q. Comment: CWPC looks after the MVAS equipment which was recently sited on Treadaway Road. The vast majority of cars were driven within the speed limit. This information was welcomed.

Q. Have local Secondary Schools been approached with a view to assisting in D of E scheme?

A. This is being looked into as there are requirements to be met such as insurance and restrictions in working with children.

Thanks were offered to Simon Bristow for all his hard work in developing these initiatives.

iv. Events:

Many events had been organised throughout the year. The new Monthly Market has proved to be extremely popular and successful. Appreciation was expressed to the managers of the Three Horseshoes pub who allow the forecourt to be used.

After the success of the Scarecrow Trail last year, another was tried, linked with the history of houses and people within Flackwell Heath. This proved to be less popular.

The Fete and Picnic had been a huge success, held in beautiful weather.

The annual quiz, held in conjunction with FHCA, was also a great success.

The Christmas Market plans were thrown into disarray due to extreme winds and very cold weather. Instead of Common Road being closed, last minute plans were put into place to move many of the activities indoors. The FH Scouts were very supportive throughout.

The Rev. James Dwyer, new to the parish, dealt with the change of plans, an unexpected initiation for him. Thanks were offered to him for his support.

All efforts this year will focus on plans for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Information is on the website and tickets, reduced price if bought in advance, will soon be available. Other village groups are involved in the planning. Publicity is needed in order to sell the required number of tickets to make a success of the occasion. Help will be needed on the day of the main event, the Heath Fest Music

Concert. Having a captive audience, this point was emphasised as if we had many volunteers, each person would only need to be available for an hour or two.

Q/Comment. Cllr. Johncock, on behalf of his wife Cllr. Liz Johncock, thanked everyone for all the hard work which had gone into making the new initiatives so successful. He congratulated everyone for making the swift changes in order that the Christmas Market could go ahead.

v. Christmas Lights:

It was explained that Eldridge's continue to support FHRA with regard to the tree lights, this is much appreciated. The LED lights are to be PAT tested, the power will now come from street lamps not from FH Community Centre as in the past.

Barrels and lights were purchased in order to allow a variety of options for lighting arrangements, they will have multiple uses.

Q. How long should the new lights last?

A. A period of 7 to 10 years would be expected.

Q. The Christmas tree on Jubilee Gardens was decapitated a few years ago, and continues to look disappointing.

A. There is some evidence of new growth and lighting the top would give the impression of greater height.

vi. Communication:

The need to increase membership numbers was emphasised as was the need to raise awareness at all events. The offer of grants to local organisations within the village was mentioned, the application forms are available on the website. We have an Instagram account and a Face Book page.

We were represented on Marlow FM, local radio which offered good publicity and we have a regular article in The Grapevine.

Q/Comment. Cllr. Johncock explained about the cooperation between FHRA and CWPC and the value in working together.

Comment. Younger people, who are now living out of the village but look at our FB page, have said what a very good site it is. They keep their parents, still living in the village, updated about our news.

CWPC: The Playground Working Group has been re-established with regard to the recreation ground. The possibility of installing a small play area in Green Dragon Sports Ground was mentioned, offering a play area for smaller children during football matches. A joint working group has been established with Bourne End and Wooburn to consider the possibility of a identifying a site suitable for a skate board area.

6. Election of Officers:

The present Executive Committee was introduced to the attendees by the Chairman. He asked if the residents were happy to re-elect the Committee en bloc. As this was agreed unanimously, the Executive Committee remains in post.

7. AOB:

Cllr. Alec Barron referred to his statement at the last AGM with regard to the installation of a bench at the junction with Northern Woods and Straight Bit. This has been actioned the bench is much enjoyed by residents.

He also informed the audience that a new planning application has been made to develop the area in Old Kiln Road, the site of the old car park behind Budgens.

He will send the planning reference number to Pam Mannering for circulation on the website. There are several issues to be considered with the application, which were fully discussed. Bucks Council offered no objection.

Chris Thomas, Community Centre, informed the meeting that a request had been made by a communications company to install an 18m mast in the car park at the centre. A picture of the proposed mast was made available. This was not well received and other possible sites within the village were suggested as alternatives.

The AGM of FHCA is to be held on 27/04/2022.

There being no further items, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.