



Alton Eastbrooke & Wooteys Residents Association Meeting Thursday 5th May 2016

1. Presentation from Alton Men's Shed

Ian Scott briefed the meeting about this worthy cause which first started in Australia in the 1990's and the Government of Australia first appointed a CEO in 2007. It has been operating in the UK for some years and there are now over 400 such organisations including the Alton one. Alton has over 40 members including one lady and, despite the title, they do welcome ladies! Currently they have no permanent premises but do have use of All Saints Parish Hall where they are hoping to build a single garage in the car park.

Tools are mainly donated from various sources (including the army!) and are currently being stored at member's premises.

Their search for larger premises has led them to the Maltings of which 20% is currently not being utilised. They have cleared out 3 rooms but much redecoration, installation of services and fitting out is required. They have offers of match funding of £6.5k for the Garage from District & County Councils plus £7.5k from IGAS plc for the Maltings work. In explaining their vision Ian mentioned that it used to be the case that 15% of males committed suicide within the 18 months of retiring. This is now much reduced due in no small part to groups like Men's Shed. Given that there are some 800 retirees in Alton the need for large permanent premises is self evident. Their aim is to carry out work to help anybody disabled or in any way less fortunate than ourselves. As an example of their work Ian mentioned the Rehab Charity Shop which had been flooded. Once this had finally dried out a team of six from Alton Men's Shed re-decorated it in two weeks.

2. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. Re Item 5 Bob Curtis reported against John Geoghegan's action to put Bob in touch with Radian to resolve issues regarding reporting of flooding. Matter resolved as EHDC and Radian receive minutes.

3. Matters Arising

A review of item 6 Other Local Issues" of the previous minutes was undertaken.

4. Reports

i. Update from Flooding Sub Committee

The questions of clarification under Matters Arising in the Agenda were addressed by Councillor's Hicks and Phillips.

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Bob Curtis gave a briefing on drainage concerns and passed WSP figures around. He also showed photographs of the flooding of 26th August 2015 in Geales Crescent and Shipley Close plus mentioned that flooding had been noted in Spencer Close. Ian Scott mentioned that some drains in Lansdowne Road had not been cleaned in over 3 years, citing difficulties caused by parked vehicles leading to engineers being unaware that certain drains even existed until he pointed them out!

John Geoghegan had set up a meeting, attended by John Field, with an engineer from Persimmon Homes and another from Martin Grant Homes and they had presented their map of the Cadnams site which gave drainage / attenuation details. More detail regarding this meeting is provided later in Peter Field's Planning Sub Committee report on the Cadnam development.

There was considerable debate and concern expressed that a retired drainage expert, Roger Burton, appeared to be doing most of the work with respect to ensuring that the Cadnam reserved matters regarding drainage (in particular condition 4) were being attended to. Peter Hicks, whilst noting the lack of expertise available to Alton Town Council, advised that they have raised objections regarding drainage and foul sewerage and that permission to proceed would not be given until this reserved matter was satisfactorily addressed. Bob Curtis expressed his thanks to Peter Hicks & Alton Town Council for their comments regarding drainage concerns.

The debate continued about the lack of maintenance to the current infrastructure, the possible future impact of the Cadnam's development, apparent lack of communication between the Environmental Agency and EHDC and the apparent "fobbing off" Bob Curtis was getting from agencies (e.g. HCC) when raising these issues. It was agreed that Bob Curtis and Councillor Dean Phillips would set up a meeting to discuss these issues so that Bob could present the wealth of information he has collated in the last 6 months or so.

ii. Update from Planning Sub-Committee

Peter Field, of the Planning sub-committee gave an update on recent activities:

The previously noted meeting with Engineers involved with the Cadnams development was reported as being "very positive". The developers are recommending that contractors' traffic does not use Anstey Lane. Concerns were expressed regarding contractors parking and whether this would be contained within the site. Councillor Dean Phillips undertook to highlight to Councillor Orme the concerns over contractor parking. This will obviously be monitored! Concern was also expressed regarding the alternative route along Gilbert White Way.

It was reported that, assuming reserved matters could be addressed by the end of June, then work would commence at Cadnams in July, in stages. The developers have agreed to meet with representatives of our group on a 6 weekly basis.

iii. Anstey Lane Road Safety Sub Committee

George was not present and it was noted that the report regarding traffic issues on Anstey Lane had still not been produced even though she has collated a lot of very useful information and photographic evidence. This needs to be hastened.

Action Ray Briscall / John Field to assist George with production of the report.

5. Any Other Business

i. Molson Coors Brewery Site (Consultation)

There is still an opportunity to look at the proposals and comment on them on the EHDC Planning website www.easthants.gov.uk/planning-policy/consultation until the 30th May.

Viewing can also be undertaken at Alton Assembly Rooms Saturday 7th May 10am–4pm and Tuesday 24th May 5-8pm

ii. Updates from Councillor Dean Philips

As indicated at a previous meeting it was noted that the Traffic Management agreement had been signed, making EHDC responsible for lineage and signage and enforcement. Dean expressed a wish to share information regarding this with our group. Ray Briscall agreed that it would be beneficial and proposed that a special meeting be arranged with our Residents Association to discuss the possible implications and impact of this. This was seconded by Graham Tettrington.

Action Ray Briscall / John Field to arrange the Residents Association meeting with Councillors Orme & Phillips. NB this could either replace one of our future meetings or be an additional one.

iii. Anstey Park

There was insufficient time to address this and in any case Councillor Gardener was not present. So the action regarding this is carried forward as an action point for Councillor Hicks who agreed to update us.

Action Councillor Hicks to provide an update regarding Anstey Park.

6. Summary of Actions

Action Ray Briscall / John Field to assist George with production of Anstey Lane Traffic Issues report.

Draft to be presented at the next RA meeting (2nd June).

Action Ray Briscall / John Field to arrange the special Traffic Management meeting with Councillors Orme & Phillips.

Meeting date to be reported back at the next RA meeting (2nd June)

Action Councillor Hicks to provide an update regarding Anstey Park.

Update to be provide at the next RA meeting (2nd June)

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7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd June 2016, 7pm to 8:30pm at the Alton Buckle Community Building.

Post Meeting Note

Peter Field provided the following information for Councillors Hicks & Phillips regarding Cadnams flooding concerns by e mail 06/05/16

Dear Peter and Dean

Just for confirmation, these are the updated consultee's comments (objection) from EHDC's Roger Burton logged against the application yesterday, just before our AEWRA meeting.

He reiterates that the applicants still have much to do to prove their expected runoff figures.

He also refers to the need for some clarification with regard to the situation with Thames Water and foul drainage. I am sure you will want to raise this with them at your forthcoming meeting!

https://planningpublicaccess.easthants.gov.uk/online-applications/files/68E898C9DE76785BBC80523324E94C2A/pdf/55428_002-CONSULTEE_COMMENT_SUBMITTED_ONLINE-624802.pdf

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