

## SELSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

**Minutes for Annual General Meeting (AGM)** – 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017, 8pm at St John's Church Hall, Upper Selsdon Road

Before the meeting began the attending residents were welcomed and asked to sign the register at the door. A total of 38 were recorded. Copies of the 2017 agenda and Report, as well 2016 AGM minutes and 2016/2017 SRA and Gazette Accounts were available.

**1. Apologies for absence:**

Ernie Sweeney (Committee member), Cllr. Dudley Mead (Committee member), Chris Hyde and Chris Struthers.

**2. Police report**

Sheila Childs was pleased to welcome Police Sgt. Paul Harrison and PC Emma Morris to the meeting. Sgt Harrison said that he has been in this new post for the past 3 weeks. Whilst he has been in Croydon for the past 10 years his new role is to supervise and co-ordinate 4 wards; Waddon, Croham, Sanderstead as well as our own Selsdon and Ballards. This means that resources and experience can be shared. It has been promised that every ward will have 2 police officers by the end of the year. Our current PC Emma Morris is well known to many. She said that she was pleased that Selsdon police ward has been kept with Sanderstead as they have similar experiences and work well as a team. As we may know Selsdon has low crime statistics (less than half that of the borough in general and half of the London average). The Police focus on agreed ward priorities or 'promises' which are to tackle burglary, anti-social behaviour on the highstreet and speeding.

They have been issuing 'smartwater' kits which leave forensically identifiable marks on property as a deterrent to burglars. Signage will be put up as a warning. Thefts from motor vehicles has greatly improved although the Kersey Drive area became a problem though this was opportunistic as the vehicles were left unlocked.

The police have a new website ([police.uk/metropolitan](http://police.uk/metropolitan)) which has a summary of all police activity in Selsdon and crime figures. News stories will be placed on 'Twitter' and public meetings (Ward panels) are held quarterly with dates on the website, the location is usually at the Selsdon Centre by Sainsbury's. The police are happy to do home visits to give advice or street briefings on request if neighbours want to discuss local issues. Yvonne Huber said that her 'Friends of Farley Road' group did this and they found it very useful.

A resident queried the traffic problems on Old Farleigh road each morning. Sheila said that this was discussed often at the Ward Panel meeting. Emma said that she would look into it.

The Police were thanked for their time and the work that they do and they left the meeting to return to their duties.

**3. 2016 AGM Minutes** – These were approved by attendees by a show of hands. Proposed by Sheila Childs.

**4. Matters arising from the 2016 minutes** – There were none.

**5. Annual report for 2016** (printed in the February Gazette). The report was approved by attendees. Proposed by Sheila Childs.

**6. Hon. Treasurer's report and adoption of 2016/2017 Accounts.**

Iris was pleased to note the increase in donations from traders this year. She also thanked the Councillors for their donation to the Christmas lights fund. This year has seen an increase in costs due to lights cost has gone up slightly, special 90<sup>th</sup> celebration events (Tea party, picnic etc.). The hanging baskets were an addition costs but were also partly funded by 4 traders. A donation from the SRA was given to the 1<sup>st</sup> Selsdon scout

group for repairs to their hut. The Chairman thanked Iris Jones for her work as Treasurer. Thanks also given to Angela Jones who reviews the Accounts. Approval of the Accounts was proposed by Ian Leggatt (Committee). Approved by a show of hands.

## **7. The Selsdon Gazette**

Thanks were given to the former Editor Saira Brown who has after one year in post emigrated to Canada. We are grateful to Heather Govier who stepped in at short notice to cover the role. Heather said that she has covered for the past 3 months and wanted to thank Saira for leaving everything very well organised. There has been a volunteer to take on the Editor role permanently and Heather said that she will be happy to help as required or work as a reserve. In the meantime Heather asked people to come forward with letters and photos for inclusion. Heather was a former teacher at Selsdon Primary and had placed an old school photo on the March cover and wondered if any former pupils might come forward with memories.

Carlo Rappa has been Gazette Advertising Manager for the past year and thanks were given to him. Due to the internet advertising in paper publications is generally reducing and Carlo has been working very hard to get new advertisers and fortunately are current advertisers are loyal. This means that the Gazette is still self-financing.

A resident mentioned that the Gazette is a very high standard publication and that other Residents Associations do not produce anything so frequent or interesting. A large team of volunteers work to make the Gazette happen. A round of applause was given to thank all of them for their hard work.

Sheila said that we need a new Gazette Treasurer and are hoping for a volunteer with suitable skills to come forward. Adverts will be placed in the Gazette. Dick Adamson has covered the role for many years and wishes to step down. Pam Holden said that she wanted to record a vote of thanks for all that he has done for Selsdon residents.

## **8. Christmas Lights and Floral displays**

Linda Morris said that last years special floral display was well received. She is hoping to arrange another this year. It is hoped that the 4 traders who sponsored troughs will do so again and that the 'The Village Club' and 'The Sir Julian Huxley' will again organise their own display.

The Christmas lights switch on, more particularly Father Christmas's arrival for 2016, was effected by road closure problems however this year the sleigh will return as usual but come down the highstreet amidst the traffic. We are very grateful to The Village Club for continuing to host the event and thanks to the helpers who blow up and distribute 400 balloons. This year the Rotary club have offered to help steward. There has been a slight increase in costs and special thanks were given the Councillors for their financial help to the fund. This year the switch on will take place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November. Thanks were given to Linda Morris for organising this.

In July 2016 there was an open, informal, bring your own picnic organised by the SRA held in July in the Selsdon Woods. This will be organised again for 9<sup>th</sup> July and it is hoped that many more people will come along.

Linda was given a round of applause for her work.

## **9. Annual Subscription for 2017/2018**

The accounts of the SRA are healthy therefore it is proposed to maintain the subscription level at £3. Proposed by Sheila Childs. This was approved by a show of hands.

## **10. Election of Officers for 2017/18**

Linda stepped forward to thank Sheila Childs for her 3 years as Chairman. As Sheila is happy to continue in this role and there were no other candidates Linda Morris (Vice-Chairman) formally proposed her re-election and this was approved by a show of hands.

Sheila said that Committee members Anne Milstead and Peter Young have stood down from the Committee meaning that now the Committee had two vacancies. All other Committee members Cllr. Dudley Mead, Cllr. Sara Bashford, Ernie Sweeney, Su Yates, Peter Underwood, John Waddington, Ian Leggatt and Yvonne Huber have agreed to continue to stand. No-one else volunteered to stand.

Sheila said that her officers Linda Morris (Hon. Vice-Chairman), Iris Jones (Hon. Treasurer) and Janet Sharp (Hon. Secretary) were happy to continue in their roles. Sheila proposed that the Committee and Officers be elected as a block of 11. Their re-election was proposed by Jean Myles approved by a show of hands.

If anyone would like to consider joining the Committee or can help the Selsdon Residents' Association in any other voluntary capacity in future they can contact Sheila Childs for more information.

11. **Adoption of the Hon. Accounts reviewer** – Angela Jones is willing to continue in this role. Proposed by Su Yates and Seconded by Yvonne Huber and approved by a show of hands.

**12. Any other business**

- a) Ray Rowsell wanted to ask about the Selsdon Garage site. Sara Bashford outline planning permission had been granted but they were awaiting more detailed plans and building regulation applications before they know whether it is going ahead in the near future. This is the same position as last year which is very frustrating and as soon as they know more that will report in the Gazette. Another resident asked whether there are other similar sites or properties that are not being developed. Sara said the once notified the Empty Properties Officer will contact the owner but as the Council don't have any money to compulsory purchase there is no ultimate sanction to force change.
- b) Linda Sinclair wanted more information about the Selsdon boundaries. Sara said that there are two boundary changes happening. The nationwide parliamentary boundaries for national elections and the Boundary Commission website is the best place for updates on this. The other is the Croydon Ward boundary review. This is being organised by local government to ensure an even number of residents per Councillor. There will not be a reduction of Councillors but boundaries will change based on predictions of resident numbers based on future development plans. It is likely that the split will place one side of Selsdon with Addington Village and Monkshill and the other with Forestdale and Kersey Drive. Any split relates only to Councillors duties and will not change what we know as Selsdon. The existing Residents' Associations are not planning to change their boundaries, all services will stay the same. Decisions will be made by mid-July.
- c) A resident asked about the Croydon College redevelopment. Sara said that that the Fairfield Halls are currently being renovated. The new Croydon College will be placed where Fairfield's car-park was and the old College will be turned into flats to help fund the redevelopment. In line with most urban homes the new flats will not have any allocated parking. There will only be a small Fairfield car-park left and the idea is that all theatre users will use public transport. Sara said if you have any concerns you can contact MP Chris Philp.
- d) Sheila thanked the manager of Wetherspoons for donating some wine for refreshments at the end of the meeting.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm. She thanked all who had attended the meeting and invited them to stay for a quick drink and a chat.