

SELSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes for Annual General Meeting (AGM) – 13th March 2018, 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 47 attendees were recorded. Copies of the 2018 agenda and Annual report, as well 2017 AGM minutes and 2017/2018 SRA and Gazette Accounts were available at the meeting. With regard to the Special resolution there were also copies of the current and proposed Rules of the Association as well as a breakdown of the proposed changes.

1. Apologies for absence

Linda Morris (Vice Chairman)

2. MP report

Sheila Childs was pleased to welcome MP Chris Philp to the meeting. Chris said that he has been MP for Croydon South since 2015. During that time he has led a campaign in Parliament to update the Croydon railway and hold Southern Railway to account for the delays.

He has also campaigned against the 'Purley skyscraper' plans and the Government have since 'Called In' the planning application approved by the Council. An independent Planning Inspector will now decide whether the skyscraper should be cancelled.

He lobbied for a new A&E department at Croydon University Hospital (Mayday) and gained funding. The new A&E will give the hospital more space to provide better care. He also campaigned against the restriction of opening hours of Purley Minor Injury Unit / GP Hub. From 1st April 2017 the Unit has been open 8am to 8pm every day of the year, ready to treat everything short of a fracture.

Chris was asked by a resident about the former Selsdon Garage site which has remained empty for many years. Chris didn't have specific information on this but agreed that empty buildings do need to be developed particularly in preference to development of greenfield sites.

He encouraged residents to contact him with any queries or meet him in person on one of his surgery days. He can also offer tours of the Houses of Parliament on request. All requests from residents must include their electoral address in correspondence. Email is chris.philp.mp@parliament.uk

Chris was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 8.35pm.

3. Police report.

The Police were not able to attend the meeting due to their shifts clashing. Sheila was able to report that crime in Selsdon remains low. Residents are encouraged to take care to protect their properties and vehicles. The Police are happy to provide guidance on this. The SRA attend regular Police meetings and general areas of concern to Selsdon are discussed and 'The Gazette' will report on any issues or pass on advice as appropriate.

4. **2017 AGM Minutes** – These were approved by attendees by a show of hands. Proposed by Sheila Childs.

5. **Matters arising from the 2017 minutes** – There were none.

6. **Annual report for 2017** (printed in the February Gazette).

The report was approved by attendees. Proposed by Sheila Childs.

7. **Treasurer's report and adoption of 2017/2018 Accounts.**

Iris thanked the Councillors for their large one off donation to the Christmas lights fund this year from the Community fund. High-street flower baskets were again funded by the SRA with support from 4 traders. 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.

8. The Selsdon Gazette

Thanks were given to Heather Govier who has taken the role of Editor on a long term basis. She welcomes contributions from residents with articles (format advice can be given), letters and photos for inclusion. Some articles and photos from The Gazette are now available online. Heather recommended residents to view.

Carlo Rappa's efforts as Gazette Advertising Manager in what is an increasingly competitive advertising market have helped the Gazette to remain self-financing.

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 Choi Kim has stepped forward to take the role of Gazette Treasurer and Dick Adamson will hand over this year. A round of applause was given in thanks.

9. Christmas Lights and Floral displays

The high street was decorated with flowers again for two seasons - summer and winter. This was funded from the SRA accounts and additional troughs were sponsored by 4 traders.

Thanks must be given to the Councillors Community fund one off grant for the Christmas lights which helped to fund this great event. The Christmas lights switch on went well with the return of Father Christmas's sleigh (even without the road closure). 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 (donated by Selsdon & District Funeral) and to the Rotary club who helped steward. Thanks also to the Baptist Church and to 'The Sir Julian Huxley' for supporting and providing fun and refreshments. This year the switch on will take place on Friday 23rd November 2018. Thanks and applause were given to Linda Morris for organising this.

There was a query from a resident over the delay in the Christmas lights being taken down after Christmas. It was explained that the lights across the borough are set up and down in different areas on a schedule by the contractors SKANSKA and we must wait our turn. One benefit that Selsdon has over Croydon districts is that our lampposts have individual timers so at least the festive lights can be deactivated. Additionally for 2018 it is planned that the 'village green' space of the triangle land by the Community centre will also be decorated (on a low tech basis) by the Committee.

In July 2017 there was an open, informal, bring your own picnic organised by the SRA in the Selsdon Woods. This will be organised again for 1st July 2018 and it is hoped that many more people will come along.

10. Special resolution

It was proposed by a Special resolution to make changes to the Rules of Association. This notice was printed with a summary of details, in the January 2018 gazette, and on the website and detailed paper copies of the current, proposed and a summary of the changes of the Rules are available at this meeting. This change is to facilitate any future application to gain charity status for the SRA by incorporating HMRC requirements into the wording. The opportunity was also taken to re-order and update some of the paragraphs. The SRA stated that these changes are not intended to, or are believed to, negatively effect the original intention, character or principles of the current Rules.

The 2018 amended Rules of Association were therefore proposed by Sheila Childs. This was approved by a show of hands.

11. Annual Subscription for 2018/2019

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.

12. Election of Officers for 2018/19

Sheila is happy to continue as the Chairman, there being no other candidates. Janet Sharp (Secretary) formally proposed her re-election and this was approved by a show of hands.

Sheila said that a full Committee comprises 14 residents. The Committee now had two vacancies. All current Committee members Cllr. Dudley Mead, Sara Bashford, Ernie Sweeney, Su Yates, Peter Underwood, John Waddington, Ian Leggatt and Yvonne Huber have agreed to continue to stand. Sheila said that her officers Linda Morris (Vice-Chairman), Iris Jones (Treasurer) and Janet Sharp (Secretary) were also happy to continue in their roles. No-one else at this time has volunteered to stand. Sheila proposed that the Committee and Officers be elected as a block of 11. Their re-election was 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.

13. 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.

14. Any other business

- a) Thanks were given to Dudley Mead and to Sara Bashford for their many years of work as Selsdon Councillors and their involvement with the SRA. In November 2017 Sara stepped down as Councillor, due to a taking new job, and Dudley will finish as Councillor in May 2018 after 38 years of service when Selsdon's electoral boundaries will change and we will then have 4 Councillors. We are glad that Sara and Dudley will remain on the Committee as residents.
- b) Sheila said that it is the intention of the SRA to continue to look after Selsdon as one area despite the planned boundary changes and we do not intend to expand or contract membership. Details of the SRA's policy has been placed on the website. This also contains more information with a breakdown of roads in the membership and a boundary map. It is believed that the Police may change their policing teams to match the boundary changes (splitting north and south) so the SRA will take a keen interest to ensure that they 'join the dots'.
- c) Proposals for the development of Selsdon Garage site are with the Council planning department and they have had no objections from neighbours. The plans are being delayed by the Council's insistence of the inclusion of affordable housing which the developers are resisting.
- d) A resident said that he would like some trees to be planted/replaced in his road and felt that there has been a general reduction of trees in Selsdon. Others at the meeting said that they had seen new trees being planted. It was suggested that he make a request direct to the Council.
- e) A resident enquired about street cleaning. It was queried whether this had been happening regularly. The Committee has found that when queries are reported the Council have an obligation to investigate and take action so it is suggested that residents do report problems as they occur.
- f) Sheila thanked the manager of Wetherspoons for donating some wine for refreshments at the end of this community 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.