

**Croft Avenue Residents' Association**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**11th April 2024 at 7:30pm. R42 Ashcombe School**

Please note: subscriptions are now due for the current year 2024. If you have not already done so please send £80 with your name and house number as a reference to  
Croft Avenue Road Association  
NatWest Bank  
60-07-02  
39500454

**Present:**

Diane Delaney No.1; Tim Philpot No. 9; Simon Murray (Treasurer) No.10; Bruce Ottaway and Margaret Barford No.11; Bryan and Margaret Dennis No. 12; Tristan Packham No. 16; Gwen Robson No.17; Gill and Steve Valentine No. 20; Colin No. 22; Heather and Mark Epps No.24; David Pettman No.25; Jim Jones No. 26; Jerry (Chair) and Sue Maxwell-Timmins No.27; Jack Jackson (Vice-Chair) No. 28; Helen Kendrick No.29.

**Apologies:**

Ken Wright No.7; Elizabeth Philpot No. 9; Claire and Edward Kent No.21; Lynne Wills (Secretary) No. 22; Lisa and Henry Herouvin No.23; Pam Pettman No.25. Ken and Sheila Wright No. 7.

**Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 30th March 2023**

Minutes proposed by Steve Valentine and seconded by David Pettman. Passed unanimously.

**Matters Arising**

It was noted that we have changed the accounting period to the calendar year for the accounts for 2023 and future accounting periods.

In 2023 the trees were pruned. The discussion about inflation will be picked up later in the meeting.

**Election of Officials**

Board members to remain unchanged. This was approved (David Pettman proposed and Steve Valentine seconded).

Review of the accounts to be carried out by the inspection committee. Committee members to remain unchanged. This was approved (Sue Maxwell-Timmins proposed and Diane Delaney seconded).

Residents were encouraged to express an interest in joining the committee, so that future roles can be filled when necessary.

### **Tree Pruning**

Last year it was suggested that we prune only every three years (last done October 2023; next time will be in 2026). This will allow the trees to look better for longer. This was reconfirmed (Heather proposed and Sue seconded).

David asked what would happen if the tree growth interfered with the broadband cables? It was suggested we keep an eye on it and do extra pruning if the need arises.

Tim suggested we do French style pruning (leaving more of the branches on the tree) using Hungarian gardeners. Jerry said we would take a look at that option.

### **Gullies**

We have a main drain which runs down the middle of the road and gullies flow into this main drain. The gullies haven't been cleared for a while and this work is probably due. We have had some quotes for the work: the best quote was for £1,118.

Gwen asked if this included the spur? Jerry confirmed that the spur is included.

Clearing the gullies was proposed by Bryan and seconded by Gwen. The work will be done this year.

### **Chair's Report**

Jerry asked the council about having a 20mph speed limit in Mowbray Gardens in front of the Ashcombe gates. This was turned down, but the council have since adopted a plan to roll out 20mph speed limits for most roads in Dorking.

Inflation will affect our old estimates for the cost of future road maintenance work. We have had some new quotes for re-doing the road and the best estimate is now £19,000 (last time, 4 year ago, the cost was £14,000).

With the current level of CARA resident contributions (£80) we would not have enough money for the road re-surfacing work. We think we will need to raise the contributions to £100. For 2024 we will keep the payment at £80 and raise it to £100 in 2025. We will recheck our calculations before the next AGM and adjust as necessary.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Simon presented the accounts. The broadband project has been completed and there are still £600 to be returned to some of the contributors.

We had a surplus of £1,100 for 2023 despite paying for the pollarding work. We have cleared all the historical debt and only one household still owes subs for 2023.

The acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Mark and seconded by David.

## **A.O.B**

Parking permits: it is particularly important that parking permits are displayed at the Mowbray Gardens end of the road. This is not always happening consistently currently. So far, we haven't had much of a problem with rogue parking, but this could change when some new developments near the station are completed. Jim would like some extra parking permits.

Tim apologized for the singing coming from his roof(!) The singer (and the rest of the builders) are expected to have finished in about two months.

Bryan presented the CARA Book of the Road website which can be found here:

<https://dellcottage.fbx.one/carabotr/> Contact Bryan if you would like to add or alter anything on the website [a.bryan.dennis@btinternet.com](mailto:a.bryan.dennis@btinternet.com) Bryan thanked Colin for his technical support.

Many thanks to Bryan for all his hard work on setting this up for the residents.

**MEETING ENDED**