

Keston Village Residents' Association – Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 1st June 2016 8:00pm Keston Village Hall

Present

David Clapham	Chairperson	Cllr Steven Carr
Hillary Ryder	Vice Chairperson	Cllr Alexa Michael
Kim Ormond	Secretary	Cllr Ruth Bennett
Les Oosthuizen	Treasurer	
John Algar	Committee	
Vivien Haskey	Committee	
Alison Oosthuizen	Committee	
Gaynor Christie	Committee	
Peter Zieminski	Committee	
Jim Woolcott	Committee	
Michelle Blythe	Committee	

Apologies

Mike Ormond	Committee
Terry Boley	Committee
Rev. Carol Morrison	Co-opted committee
Wanda Woolcott	Co-opted committee

1. Chairman's opening remarks: David Clapham welcomed those present including our local councillors and our two guest speakers, Larry Herbert Chairman of Friends of Keston Common and Mike Overall Chairman of Keston Residents Road Safety Group.
2. The Chairman's report :
 - BIGGIN HILL
 - The KVRA Committee asked me to represent them on a committee formed by residents to object to the request by Biggin Hill Airport for additional operating hours. Subsequently Flightpath Watch was formed and I had the job of Chairing the group from inception. The objectives of the group are; *With the aim to protect and improve the environment, amenity and quality of life of residents under the flightpath or close to Biggin Hill Airport (BHA) to research any available information and communicate findings to the public and specifically to Bromley Council as our representative.*
 - Despite professional and serious opposition from the majority of Bromley residents, our Council led by one of our own Ward Councillors, Stephen Carr voted to agree Biggin Hill Airport's application for a significant increase, some

24% in their operating hours into the unsocial early morning and late evening hours and contrary to what we were led to believe noise levels are bound to increase. The Council had mounted a Borough wide consultation, involving areas to the north such as Penge and Crystal Palace who had little interest in whether or not Biggin Hill operating hours are extended. Flightpath Watch demonstrated to the Council conclusively that this consultation was seriously flawed to the extent that at the Council vote, in a packed Great Hall on the 25th November 2015 the Leader suggested to Executive Councillors that they did not use the consultation in their decision making. As we now know the vote by the Executive was to allow the extra hours.

- Very soon afterwards, the decision was 'called-in' by a 'Scrutiny Committee', who met on 5th January 2016. Those who attended this so called Scrutiny Committee will know it was a farce and brought to an abrupt halt when a Councillor Judi Ellis from Cray Valley West Ward called for a vote, which effectively ceased any scrutiny of the process.
 - Thankfully Flightpath Watch are continuing the fight. At their recent AGM we were informed that a Judicial Review has commenced and we will watch this process with interest. Flightpath Watch still encourage your membership of the organization and donations are needed to support the legal process.
 - As far as KVRA is concerned, I personally would like to thank all those many residents who gave of their time and money in support – thank you! I am only sorry that two of our Ward Councillors decided to vote in support of BHAL and against residents' wishes.
- **ROUNDBABOUT at JUNCTION of HEATHFIELD ROAD and WESTERHAM ROAD**
 - The proposed new roundabout at the junction of Heathfield Road and the Westerham Road requires the use of common land which meant the council had to apply to DEFRA for permission. The Inspector appointed to assess this case decided that the common land can be used and the roundabout will go ahead. This work is linked to the wider infrastructure scheme between Bromley and Biggin Hill. The Council are seeking to persuade Transport for London to improve the junction at the Keston Mark, regarded by many as a much more vital problem.
 - **SPEED of TRAFFIC on HEATHFIELD ROAD**
 - KVRA has long campaigned to LBB for something to be done to limit the speed of traffic on Heathfield Road. I am sure you will hear more about that from Mike Overall later, but I am pleased to say that following last week's KVRA meeting, Cllr Carr has asked his Officers to look into a traffic calming scheme.
 - **SUPERFAST BROADBAND**

- Also GOOD NEWS that Superfast Broadband is now available in Keston Village. On your behalf, I would like to thank all those involved in securing this service at long last; particularly thanks to John Algar and Peter Zieminski.
- AL-EMAAN CENTRE
 - The planning application for extension to what was the Methodist Church at the Keston Mark now known as the Al-Emaan Centre has been turned down by the Inspector. Again Mike Overall may mention this later.
- CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
 - Everyone was very pleased with the Christmas Lights we had last Christmas; our thanks to Hilary Ryder and Cllr Alexa Michael for their unstinting efforts to make this happen. As you know from last year's AGM, we have to pay for the storage and for the contractors to erect and remove them each year. We thought it best to ask you for donations, direct to KVRA so we have the funds to settle the contractor's bill. Please hand donations to Les or leave with Ravi at the Post Office in an envelope marked Christmas Lights.
- POPPIES ON LAMP POSTS
 - Another positive action from KVRA...we have decided to mount large Poppies on the lamp-posts in the month up to Poppy Day. Each Poppy can be sponsored at a small cost of £3. Please either Hilary Ryder or sponsor on-line or again a cheque in an envelope left at the Post Office.
- ROAD SIGNS
 - Peter Zieminski has undertaken a review of all the signs in the village and is working with LBB in an effort to bring them up to date and remove the unnecessary ones.
- FACEBOOK
 - Our thanks to Michelle Blythe who has helped the KVRA communication network greatly by setting up a KVRA Facebook page which currently had 75 members.
- NEWSLETTER
 - Hilary Ryder has taken over the KVRA Newsletter, which now reaches approximately 250 residents; thank you Hilary. If you have e-mail and do not receive the Newsletter, please pass your email address to Hilary Ryder.
- KESTON VILLAGE SIGN
 - I asked last year for a volunteer to maintain the large Oak supporting post Keston Village Sign and I repeat that request once again this year.

- BRIAN DOLAN

As many residents will know Brian Dolan passed away on the 23rd January 2014. Brian was a much respected gentleman and public spirited resident of the village. A group of residents asked KVRA to mark his contribution to the village so a collection was organized and after much discussion with Bromley it was finally agreed to plant a tree outside Brian's cottage in Lakes Road. The tree was planted and Viv arranged a very nice brass plaque to record Brian's contribution as a good friend and neighbour. Brian's son Paul has asked me to thank you all for your generous donations, which amounted to £185.

Forthcoming events for your diary;

- COUNTRYSIDE DAY

- Sunday 26th June. Volunteers were asked for.

- WHISTLE for the SOMME

- The Battle of the Somme began on the 1st July and ended on the 18th November 1916. It was one of the largest battles of the Great War and on the first day alone the British Army suffered 57,479 casualties. To commemorate the centenary of the first day of the battle an Act of Remembrance led by the Reverend Carol Morrison of Keston Parish Church will take place at the Keston War Memorial, Heathfield Road at 7.15am and will end at 7.30 am which was the time the first whistles blew to mark the start of the offensive.
- Peter Zieminsky and Ted Williams are writing a book about Keston and residents in the First World War and would welcome any local input.

3. Minutes of AGM held 19th June 2015 were circulated

Proposed by Viv Haskey

Seconded by Larry Herbert

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Adoption of Chairman's Report

Proposed by John McQueen

Seconded by Peter Zieminski

6. Treasurer's Report (see separate report)
Proposed by John Algar
Seconded by Chris Ring

7. Election of Committee
David expressed thanks for service on the committee and said they were all prepared to stand again and proposed they were elected en masse.
Proposed by Nigel Wallington
Seconded by Rosie Turner

8. Guest Speakers: 1) Larry Herbert, Chairman of LBB Friends Forum and Chairman of the Friends of Keston Common. He said LBB had 160 parks and open spaces. 42 Friends Groups were active in half of them. Major work (excluding trees) was undertaken by a contractor TLG. FoKC met weekly on Friday mornings for general maintenance duties. Larger pieces of work were carried out by TLG and assisted by FoKG. They applied for grants from Natural England and had so far used the money to improve the playground, help restore pond 4 (lower fishponds) and erect History boards in 4 car parks.
2) Mike Overall, Chairman Keston Residents Road Safety Group. They collaborated with the 3 local Residents Associations. Their main concerns were traffic congestion at the Keston Mark and speed through Keston Village. They were also very active with Community Roadwatch in collaboration with the Met Police and TFL.

9. Any other business:
 - 1) Lesley Lowes said that FlightPath Watch was still very active and encouraged more local support.
 - 2) James Wallington said that there was an application for a change of use at 29 Fox Lane to accommodate a children's/young adults centre. Cllr Alexa Michael said she would call it in.

There were 60 people present including 3 councillors and 2 speakers.

KESTON VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION - TREASURER'S REPORT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT - 1 June 2016

Opening Balance		£	124.28 Cr
Add:			
	INCOME		
	Proceeds from AGM	171.00	
	Proceeds from Countryside Day	60.00	
	Donations - Other	90.00	
	Donations - Christmas Lights	25.00	
	Donations - Poppy Appeal	12.00	
	Bank Interest	3.44	
			<u>361.44</u>
Less:			
	EXPENDITURE		
	Subscriptions - Website Domain	-8.38	
	Subscriptions - Awardspace (Database for website)	-36.00	
	Village Hall - AGM	-23.00	
	LBBRF subscriptions 2016	-15.00	
	Printing Costs - AGM leaflets	-110.00	
	Refreshments for the AGM	-81.91	
	Contribution to Sign	-60.00	
			<u>-334.29</u>
	TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE - 25 MAY		
	2016		151.43 Cr