

## **BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**

### **TOWN AMENITIES SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Minutes** of the meeting of the BCA Town Amenities Sub-Committee held on **Tuesday 14 May 2013** at 8 pm at 13 Doctors Commons Road, Berkhamsted.

**Present:** Paul Crosland (PC) in the Chair, Gordon Bluck (GB), Beryl Edwards (BE), Jenny Habib (JH) Susan Johnson (SJ), Christopher Talbot-Ponsonby (CTP), Tony Statham (TS)

**Apologies:** None

1. **Minutes** of the meeting of 16 April were agreed following correction of some typo errors.
  
2. **Matters arising**
  - 2.1 (ref. minute 2.2 of 16 April meeting) PC had written to the Town Clerk welcoming the initiative to improve the appearance of the town, and noting that the BCA will be pleased to be represented. **Note**
  - 2.2 (ref. minute 2.3 of 16 April meeting) PC had written to the Town Clerk giving BCA/ TASC support to the proposal by DBC and the Town Council to reinvigorate the Friends of Canal Fields, suggesting that the 'younger population' e.g. families should be encouraged, maybe as a post Berkhamsted Olympics 'legacy' type project. **Note**
  
3. **Planning and Environment**
  - 3.1 Community Assets Register (CAR) for Gable Hall: GB had prepared a draft submission which PC tabled at the meeting. With some minor amendments, it was agreed to propose this for Main Committee approval on 22 May. **Note**
  - 3.2 SJ represented BCA at a consultation on 8 May 2013 organised by Dacorum BC to discuss the master-planning for the local allocation sites identified in the DBC Core Strategy viz. Hanbury's site in Shootersway (Local Allocation LA4). [Developers, Town Councillors, SYBRA, BRAG also attended]. Green Belt status will be removed from this site – which covers present Hanburys and Old Orchard - but only this site. Existing boundary trees will be retained. About 60 houses planned for the site, due for development in 2021-26, once initial housing allocation from core strategy is taken up. Quality housing required in keeping with surrounding area, with off-street parking. Difficult access to site from Shootersway – BCA suggested creating 4-way junction with Shootersway/ Kings Rd/ Kingshill Way. TASC thanked SJ for attending the meeting and for putting BCA's views across to the meeting. **Note**

- 3.3 TASC recorded the pre-consultation document for 29no. Sheltered Apartments for Older People at 380-392 High Street (laundry site opposite Cross Oak Garage), from 22/4/13 <http://www.churchillretirement.co.uk/proposed-sites-berkhamstead.html>
- 3.4 Planning Applications for weeks of 17 April (remainder), 24 April, 1/ 8/ 14 May (part) were reviewed. No actions required. **Note**
- 3.4.1 (ref. minute 3.3.1 of April meeting) Applications 4/00489/13/ADV and 4/00500/13/LBC: advertisement & listed building applications for Lloyds Bank: SJ objected to the internal illumination in the Conservation Area. **Note**

#### **4. Transport (including Parking)**

- 4.1 BE reported that she had had a look at the new style of bus stop timetable panels and agreed with PC's view that the displays are too small, and confusing. PC to write to Public Transport Unit at Herts CC to complain on BCA's behalf. **PC**

#### **5. Canal**

- 5.1 (ref. minute 5.1 of April meeting) PC still to write to the Town Clerk re: Towpath repair works between Castle Street and Waitrose bridge. This matter had received attention in the Gazette (Letters, May 8) over the cost of the works. GB advised the subject had been discussed at CARP meeting and CART had reported that the 'sealed' surfacing was not affordable. PC/ SJ agreed to raise the subject at the Town Meeting on 16 May. **PC/SJ**
- 5.2 GB reported the new project from CARP which is the provision of visitor moorings through the town section of the canal.

#### **6. Footpaths/ Footways**

- 6.1 PC had e-mailed Cllr. Ian Reay about the obstruction to the footway in Charles Street between King's Road and Lincoln Court. Cllr. Reay had advised that the highways authority were aware of the problem but it was for the landowner (Lincoln Court Management Company) to take action to have the wall repaired. PC had written to the Management Company but had not yet received a response. (Post meeting note: SJ raised this matter at the Town Meeting, and received the name of a contact person at Herts Highways to refer the matter to) **Note**
- 6.2 Sparrows Herne Trust waymark painting (wall of National Tyres, High Street). SJ had obtained the name of a contractor, Tim Millard, for this work from Dacorum BC Conservation Officer. TS had made contact and will meet the contractor on site to discuss scope and detail of work, and thereafter to obtain a

price. A grant for financial assistance could be sought from the Town Council  
**TS**

- 6.3 PC noted that notification of highways resurfacing on London Road between Swing Gate Lane and Hall Park Hill was scheduled for 25 May. This was noted as being adjacent to the New Lodge site, with likelihood of damage by construction traffic and highways alterations. **Note**

**7. Trees**

- 7.1 TS to discuss the Jubilee Oak proposals with DBC trees officer, Luke Johnson. **Note**

**8. Environment Award**

- 8.1 Nothing to report. Item dropped from discussion until July 2013. **PC**

**9. AOB**

- 9.1 None **Note**

**10. Dates of next meetings**

Wednesday 12 June (8 p.m.) at Gordon's house  
Tuesday 23 July (8 p.m.) at Susan's house