



Badgers Mount Residents' Association

THE 58th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TOOK PLACE ON THURSDAY 9th JUNE 2022

IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, HIGHLAND ROAD AT 8pm

MINUTES

Outgoing Committee: Chairman – Zena Belton; Secretary – Arthur Evans; Vice Chairman – Sarah Marshall; Treasurer – Gordon Plumb. Committee Members –Dulcie Marshall; Nick Stewart; Rob Thompson; Srinu Kasturi; Vic Cunnell.

Present: 15 members of the Association.

1. Apologies for Absence. Maureen Evans; Alex, Lisa Lewis; Mike Corbett; Robert Thompson; David, Carol Masters; Tina, Tony Bennett; Karen Patrick Lagarde; Dulcie Marshall; Alison Hill; Noel Wills; Sejuti Roy.

2. Minutes of 57th Annual General Meeting held 8 October 2021 at Memorial Hall. Currently not available.

3. Matters arising from the minutes and not covered elsewhere.

FM CONWAY, around 90 fence posts need replacing and a high volume of trees need work. On Saturday a fallen tree brought telephone lines down. This was not one marked for needing attention. A better relationship is to be sought. (AE) to arrange to be contacted, to facilitate road closures etc.

Harold Govier's Seat. Plans are in hand to have a base provided and then arrange a suitable installation date and remembrance service. (AE) is liaising with Harold's nephew. Road surface of OBP is a major concern, in particular the surface noise. It is in the 5 year plan for work.

4. Presentation of the Chairperson's Report:-

This year was Badgers Mount's coming out party.

We have come out of lockdown - but not only that, we have come out of our houses and met our neighbours some for the first time.

We have welcomed new families that I hope they will stay and join the community events.

We have planned and taken part in some spectacular social events - regulars like the wine and beer tasting and quizzes but this year with additions such as the bring and buy toy sales, and cake to support Ukraine which truly showed our generosity.



Badgers Mount Residents' Association

It has been an amazing few months with walks, clean-ups, and Halloween celebrations. We have come out of lockdown with more technology - we have launched the BMRA shop, more about the merchandise available later but who knows what will be popular on sale in the future. Through this site we can connect and sell tickets to events and book in to activities that we will be planning in the future and what better place to pay your BMRA subscription, it really is very simple.

This year the BMPC website had a redesign (not quite our remit but worthy of a mention) along with the new parish magazine now in technicolour.

We have also made a difference to our physical community with the new planters and work planned to improve the footpath from Milton Ave to Highlands Road, using both the council and some local volunteers. Which brings me to the support we are also giving to a younger resident with their Duke of Edinburgh award – we may not be able to offer activities for the younger generation yet, but we will try to be supportive to anyone who has an idea that we might be able to help with – just ask.

I can hardly do the Platinum Jubilee weekend justice at this meeting. I am truly grateful to the working party of Helen, Stacey, Emma and Judith who planned with me (with much wine) and then ran the whole weekend in my absence, I really did miss a fabulous weekend.

The WhatsApp group is gradually building with 86 members and whilst it continues to be the mainly about lost parcels and tortoises, bin day, internet outage and ice cream van sightings! We are using it more and more to plan and advertise events and take on suggestions and generally connect with one another. From this group ideas for future events will evolve. Fortunately we have not needed ICE (in case of emergency) WhatsApp as much, I won't tempt fate but I do believe we are very lucky where we live mainly because we look out for each other.

[Local Social Media links](#)

A thank you to Arthur as BMRA secretary with his emails keeps us entertained and informed and to Gordon for keep the books balanced and the cash flowing, more from him later.

The committee have met regularly and continue to protect and preserve what the community values Keeping us safe, making Badgers Mount a place people will want to live in and be part of. Listening to the residents and making sure we are reflecting everyone's views is always going to be difficult. We all know 20% will make 80% of the noise so do make sure your voice is heard.

There will always be contentious issues and we discuss them fairly. There will always be the regular items that we do our best to keep at the top of the agenda for example the speed of the traffic on our streets. I also know the renaming of the Orpington by pass is ready for a review.



Badgers Mount Residents' Association

We maintain strong with the links to the parish council with Gordon on both, we write regularly to Kent County Council and connect with highways team as much as possible.

I guess the hardest agenda item is planning, we need to understand the needs of individuals as well as the impact on their neighbours, which we do try to keep in mind at all times - I can assure you there is healthy debate within our team and all aspects are considered fairly.

I wish to thank all the members of the committee - Vic Cunnell , Sarah Marshall, Dulcie Marshall, Nick Stewart, Rob Thompson, and Srinu Kasturi, Arthur Evans and Gordon Plumb.

So, Looking to the future.

I regularly heard spoken and even have said myself "I remember when" or "we used to". This is now going to be phased out - we have made our own mark, our own memories.

It is exciting times for Badgers Mount we have long standing residents offering their experience and vast knowledge, we celebrated those who have been part of the Badgers Mount Community for 70 years at the Parish Council meeting.

So, couple that experience with great enthusiasm and new ideas from new residents and I promise while I'm on this committee you will never hear "but we always do it this way" when asked "can we....?" I will do my utmost ensure this is not met negatively and will ask the committee " why not?"

This is going to be the year after Badgers Mount came out to play and playing is something we can do so back to the social events – I believe Arthur threw down the gauntlet for the next celebration to be better (is that possible with Bingo caller DJ Emma and Stacey) and bigger. However, I do hope he is not waiting on the royal family to discuss when we will have our next celebration!

Coming up we have teddy bear picnic pencilled in for 16th July - I will need a parent of a smaller person who likes teddy bears and picnics to help me with all that I don't know.

Hopefully your sunflowers are growing tall and avoided the hailstones and slugs, and you are starting to think about a fabulous Scarecrow design – a few with a speed gun on Old London Road and Orpington By Pass might be a suggestion!

Plans are well underway for the Christmas Fair, with some new ideas for perhaps a curry night or Diwali lights celebrations.

So here we are at the beginning of our next year – we have come out, we have got the party started now let's move into new and exciting times, your committee are here, we are listening and we can do – we have proved that.

I believe as did Margaret J. Wheatley "There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."



Badgers Mount Residents' Association

As you will see from the minutes we elected the new committee but there are always a few spaces if you would like to join us remember as Helen Keller famously said "Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much".

*I hope to see many of you as you are out and about in the Badgers Mount community.
Zena.*

- a) Report on Planning matters (Gordon Plumb). Not much to report as such. A few extensions. Broke Hill wait and see. Skip site now has brick pillars, KCC dealing. Woody's and Aston House have been dealt with by KCC. PROW's Highland Road to Milton Avenue and OLR to Halstead steps are in hand. Sevenoaks Plan rejected. Call for more sites. No requirement for adjacent areas.
- b) Report on Entertainment matters (Zena Belton). Covered in Chairperson report.
- c) Report on Neighbourhood Watch (Arthur Evans). With people now knowing who their next-door neighbours are and talking to other residents, the need for a separate NHW has decreased. Many are on Facebook, Twitter, My Nextdoor Halstead, WhatsApp Social and SOS, along as my email list. Residents are no longer afraid to ask questions and frequently do. I will contact the NHW team and discuss our future.

5. Presentation of Accounts, Treasurer's Report and appointment of Auditor. Accounts were approved and John Grint reappointed as auditor.

6. Appointment of the Committee. Thanks to the outgoing Committee. All are willing to stand for re-election except We need as many committee members as possible; many hands make light work. Please consider joining our team or let the Secretary know if you can help. Two people have volunteered to assist with various tasks at times.

(1) Chairperson (2) Vice- Chair (3) Secretary (4) Treasurer and 4 members were re-elected.

7. Any other business. Thanks and recognition from the BMRA for the hard work that Sejuti Roy has put in. This had brought Badgers Mount well and truly forward. Thanks to BMPC for the installation of our wonderful flower boxes. Also, their financial contribution to the community for QPJ celebration expenses. We'd like to all thank Vic Cunnell for the work he has contributed on the committee in the last year. Pedestrian Badger Walks 28th June 10:30 at the Hall, Photo Competition closing date 26th June, Sunflowers, keep watering them, judging 14th September; PROW OBP through to Wheatsheaf Hill, working party required to deal. Please send names to secretary.

Meeting closed at 21:15