

ROUSDON OWNERS AND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Meeting of the Committee on Monday 6 January 2020.

MINUTES

Present: Roy Jones (chair), John Broome, John Rose, Anne Fleming, Sylvia Stride, Freda Tate, Jill Tollafield, Jeremy Powell-Tuck, Glynis Preshaw and Judith Ellard (in attendance).

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2019 were approved.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

Minute 2(ii). Jeremy reported that Allhallows has given permission for a discreet notice to be put up at the entrance to the beach, to discourage litter. He will arrange for a notice to be put up.

Minute 2(vi). John R reported that the park railings would not be painted immediately, but might be in the future.

Minute 2(vii). John R reported that the threat to close the Colyton Fire Station has been removed for the time being. He mentioned there are companies that service home fire extinguishers.

Minute 3. John B will take over the ROAR website.

Minute 5. ROAR asked Allhallows to consider a small reduction in its programme of mowing in order to encourage wild flowers: specifically to delay until July or August the mowing of the verge of the main drive where it passes through woodland. After considering this proposal, Allhallows has decided against it. There was a discussion, with divided opinions. The committee agreed to reconsider the question in due course.

3. John R reported a perception among some villagers in Combyne and Rousdon that residents on the Rousdon Estate are aloof and unwilling to join in village activities. He suggested we should find ways of improving communications.

Others on the committee said that, if this was the perception, it was inaccurate. There are many joint activities, including the men's monthly breakfast and the ladies' monthly lunch. Many estate events are open to everyone.

However, mutual communications might be improved. For instance, some events at Peek Hall are not publicized on the estate. It was suggested that the Peek Hall committee could be a useful vehicle for communication, and that we might have a joint e-mailing list.

There was general agreement that the Rousdon Barbecue should remain an event for estate residents and their guests. Also, the estate's land should remain private and not be treated as a public park.

The Social Activities Committee was asked to give all these issues further consideration.

4. Roy reported that Openreach will provide fast fibre to The Gardens for free. It will also make fast fibre available to other houses on the estate, but residents will have to pay for it through their broadband provider. The telegraph poles on the estate will be removed.

5. Report on estate matters

Jeremy reported that the beach cleanup was a success, and will be repeated in April.

Many trees have been planted across the estate. A great deal of routine maintenance work such as resurfacing gravel driveways, clearing estate drains and dealing with fallen or

dangerous trees continues to be done daily by estate volunteers and the Colliers.

The reed beds will need replanting in due course. Allhallows is making financial provision for doing so.

Allhallows will take action over any cars that are parked inappropriately. John B reported that a car in the car park opposite The Pavilion has not moved for many months.

6. Report on finances

Sylvia reported that the balances on ROAR's accounts are:

Current Account £161.15

100 Club Account £1899.00

Bonus Saver Account £6231.28

There was a small surplus on skittles and the Christmas dinner.

The Christmas carols cost £97.95. Thanks to Brod and Geoff for the use of their stove, Per and Ulla-Brit for the use of their courtyard, Patrick for the music and Tuson for mince pies.

The tree fund contributed £848.59 for planting trees.

£163 was spent on Christmas presents.

100 Club winners, picked at the carols, were: Jan Myers, Alice Bennett and Malcolm Hubbard.

ROAR has received some generous donations.

The meeting agreed that ROAR would help finance specific improvements to Peek Hall if help was requested.

7. Report on social activities

Jill reported on recent very successful events: a visit to Lockyer Observatory, a skittles evening, Christmas Dinner and Christmas carols. A coffee morning was less successful.

Forthcoming events are:

Coffee morning, 10 February

Skittles, 7 March

Wetlands walks, April tba

Talk by Sir Denis O'Connor, 11 June. Suggestions would be welcomed for topics we would like him to discuss.

Barbecue, 27 June

Archive exhibition, 28 June

Also (not ROAR events) a performance by The Jurassix on 29 January and a piano recital by Patrick Ytting on 28 March.

8. Report on the environment

Glynis reported that about 350 trees have been planted over a period of 5 years. The upcoming Rousdoner contains an article by Mike Hughes describing this project.

Some of the ash trees on the bridleway towards West Lodge are suffering from ash dieback. Whitebeam has been planted to replace those that have been removed. We are following guidance from the Forestry Commission, which is not to fell infected trees for at least five years unless they become dangerous. There is some hope that they may manage to cope with the disease.

The estate continues to remove laurels and plant a mixture of tree species.

9. Glynis, now a member of the parish council, reported on planning matters. She agreed to let the committee know when applications are made that are important to the estate. We

discussed the new container architecture at the Village Bakery.

10. The ROAR AGM will be on 28 June. John B will settle the date of the next Committee meeting using a Doodle Poll. Future meetings will be on weekday evenings.