

MINUTES OF THE 49TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE BANSTEAD VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8TH MAY 1996

1. The Chairman Mr Peter McLaren welcomed all those present. Guests included Cllr G Sinnerton, Cllr B Bryant, Mrs Merrington of Woodmansterne Residents Association, Mrs Ledwich of Federation, Mr Geoffrey Robinson of Nork Residents Association, Cllr Mrs Bowes and Mr Scott Farley of The Independent Newspaper. County Councillor Mrs Fraser had a previous meeting in Reigate but joined the meeting later.

2. Apologies had been received from Cllr B Cowle, Mrs Sylvia Cartwright, Mr R Bowes and Mr C Griffiths.

3. The Chairman then addressed the meeting and outlined the format and objectives for the evening. More emphasis would be given over to "member" participation so individuals would have a chance to talk about issues that concern them. This would be achieved by both discussion with Councillors and having the opportunity to raise any issues of concern or general interest.

4. 1995 AGM Minutes

Mr McLaren explained about the issuing of Summary Minutes from last years AGM. These were agreed as a correct record and signed. Passed unanimously (Geoff Stevens/Mr Ford).

5. Councillors

Mr McLaren then introduced each Councillor, identifying their areas of responsibility:-

- a) Cllr B Bryant sits on Finance (Chairman), Housing and Contract Services, Housing Management Sub-Committee, Banstead Village Steering Group (Chairman) for work on the High Street Initiative.

Housing

Cllr Bryant outlined the changes which have taken place over the years. Previously he was very much involved in the building of new council housing. This role has now diminished, all council housing (low rent social housing) is now built by Associations. As a result the discussions tend to be about:-

- i) what opportunities for the Council to support housing Associations in the building of low cost houses for rent and capital grants
- ii) management of existing council houses (6,000 dwellings). Over the years

these have been diminished by purchase of houses by tenants under the "right to buy" scheme.

Cllr Bryant then went on to speak about the Sutton Lane Depot, looking at Housing Associations to develop the site. This would be primarily for elderly people currently living in 3 bedroom houses. Other areas of activity include Research, development of sites, tenant assisted purchase schemes and special housing cases.

Finance

On this committee he gets involved in discretionary relief to business rates. Many other committee decisions come through the Finance Committee for financial approval. One of the main things discussed is the Budget from whence flows the local tax.

Contract Services Committee

To oversee the activities of Contract Services Organisation (an organisation within the Council that provides services to other parts of the Council) e.g. refuse collection, maintenance of council properties, recycling service (due for re-tendering in 1997) More and more services have been put out to competitive tender.

The Meeting was then opened to questions from the floor relating to Cllr Bryant's areas of responsibility.

Mr M Johnson of Salisbury Road commented on Sutton Lane Depot. Apropos the buildings in Lambert Road, the building line on the North side was near the road to the detriment of a number of dwellings. Cllr Bryant responded that approval was determined by the Planning Dept.

- b) Cllr G Sinnerton sits on Planning and Development, Recreation, Personnel and Highways Sub-Committee.

Recreation

Lady Neville Pavilion. Tenders were opened some weeks ago and will remain so. Architects have been briefed and there are 2 or 3 alternative plans. It is very much a community facility although the Bowls Club is the major User. The importance of a temporary porta cabin is being addressed. Works may or may not require planning permission depending on which plan is approved.

Planning and Development

The sub-committee no longer exists, with the increased workload being met by

more Planning Committee Meetings.
At this point questions were invited from the floor.

☞ Mrs McLaren raised the issue of Christmas Farm in Woodmansterne Lane and wanted to know why he had been allowed to a) keep his dormer window and b) why the old building has not been demolished? Cllr Sinnerton responded by saying that he had spoken to the Compliance Officer who said it was simply not expedient (cost effective) on both counts.

☞ Kenneth Road - currently the matter is frozen. Planning has requested to look at the Plans and the builder has not complied. The only remedy is some sort of enforcement action. Cllr Sinnerton was unable to respond further.

Mr McLaren gave thanks to the appointment of a Compliance Officer in Planning.

☞ Dr Mathur raised the issue of the Pavilion again making the point that conflicting information is coming through from the Council. Cllr Sinnerton said there have been inter-departmental misunderstanding but these have now been rectified and the position is as previously explained. Mr McLaren asked Cllr Sinnerton if the Association could be consulted when plans are available.

☞ Mr Smith of South Drive raised the question of Security of Lady Neville Pavilion. Cllr Sinnerton responded that the architects have been briefed to take this into account when drawing up their plans.

The Chairman congratulated County Councillor Mrs Fraser on being appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Surrey. She then addressed the meeting and informed them on which committee's she sits.

County - Education, Planning, Fire and Consumer Protection, Security. Borough - Health. Cllr Fraser then continued to give the meeting a quick resume of local issues.

Education - Schools covered include St Ann's, Banstead, Warren Mead, Merland Rise and Woodmansterne. The redevelopment at St Ann's was mentioned and the new Nursery at Merland Rise. No particular admission problems this year. 3 of local schools have new Heads starting in the next academic year - Warren Mead, Banstead Junior and St Ann's.

Youth & Adult Education - Banstead Youth Centre offers a range of activities. Some concerns over the gathering of young people, elderly feel a little threatened. A Youth Forum has been set up in conjunction with the Council and the Youth Centre. There is some concern that there is no dedicated Adult Education Centre, some accommodation of a permanent nature is being sought. Parent/Child literacy scheme has been set-up with very surprising results. Major reorganisation of Banstead Library is being considered to try to arrest the

underlying decline in its use. Attention being focused on ways to improve its use to include a new computer system, more publicity. A public meeting is taking place in October and views are invited.

Fire & Consumer Protection - Local Fire Station for Banstead and Epsom. No major problems associated with Banstead at present. Traffic calming measures giving some cause for concern regarding delay in attendance time.

Trading Standards - Very varied work carried out at a cost of £2.40 per head.

Social Services operate from the Horseshoe, one of 24 locality teams do extremely well with tight resources. We have a fast growing ageing population. Community Care Plan to be launched on 1st June 1996. Members of public welcome to attend at the Community Hall between 10-12:00.

Planning & Highways - (9 County Councillors and 9 Borough Councillors). Works expecting to be done at the traffic lights on the A217 at Kingswood/Dorking roundabout. Traffic Management measures in the High Street and Works on the roundabout at Park Road. Surface drawing in Court Road, anti-skid in Winkworth Road. Roundabout works in Holly Lane and Court Road.

The meeting was then opened to questions from the floor relating to C Cllr Mrs Fraser's areas of responsibility.

- ☞ Mr Ford of de Burgh Park raised a question regarding the use of the land outside the Library. What schemes are being considered? Cllr Fraser was unable to give any definitive answer to this.
- ☞ Mr Geoff Stevens asked a question regarding the possible new layout of the internal part of the library. He is a member of a Society who uses the Library (and as such contributes to its running costs) and had a concern about their future use of it with a new layout. C Cllr Fraser thanked Mr Stevens for his question however until a specific scheme is adopted is too early to know how the internal layout will be effected.
- ☞ Dr Rudd of Colcokes Road asked a question regarding Agency/Partnership arrangements between the Borough and County. Have County abandoned Agency? C Cllr Fraser responded that they are looking at 7 Agents and 5 Partnerships, neither is totally satisfactory but there are advantages in both. An initial report has been taken to Committee but has to go back to Highways for final decision.
- ☞ Question from Dr Mathur of Sanderstead Road regarding the Help Shop and Library accommodation. C Cllr Fraser said the Help Shop had to move as it was only a temporary location. Officers come in from both Borough and County. There was a suggestion that a bit could be tagged on to the end of the Library, but Borough has given

an undertaking that there will be a substantial presence within Banstead.

Cllr Bryant interjected and spoke of the Questionnaire which went out to various Associations and Societies, various ideas have been floated.

6. Presentation of Accounts

Dr Rudd asked the Treasurer to present the Annual Accounts. Before proposing their adoption Mr McLaren acknowledged the generosity of residents - £342 to the High Street Initiative Fund. Total in our accounts £1060. BVRA will supervise work and expenditure. Donations included in our current assets to attract a higher rate of interest in our bank account. Proposed/adopted Dr Rudd/Mr Penfold and agreed unanimously. Dr Rudd made an appeal for road stewards to collect subs and distribute newsheets.

7. Election of Officers and Executive Committee

a) Honorary Secretary

Mr McLaren expressed his thanks to Mrs El-Batal and Miss Sudell. Mrs El-Batal was willing to stand for another year. There being no other nominations, Mrs El-Batal was proposed, seconded and duly elected. (Mr McLaren/Mrs McLaren).

b) Honorary Treasurer

Dr Rudd expressed his thanks to Mr McLaren for his hard work. Mr McLaren was willing to stand for another year. There being no other nominations, Mr McLaren was proposed, seconded and duly elected (Dr Rudd/Miss Sudell).

c) Executive Committee

The following outgoing members offered themselves for re-election:-

Mrs S Conacher, Mrs M Hayns, Mrs H Powell, Miss M Sudell, Mrs S Cartwright, Messrs Bowes, T Ford, R Gordon, C Griffiths, S Mathur, C Penfold, J Plimmer, D Rudd. The re-election en-block of these members was proposed, seconded and duly agreed (Mrs McLaren/Mrs Bowes).

With resignations this left 4 vacancies. The following 4 members have come forward:-

Mr Dennis Woolmer of Wilmot Way
Mrs Ann Whittle of Commonfield Road
Mrs Audrey Stamp of Sutton Lane
Mr Malcolm Smith of South Drive

These were duly elected. The next monthly meeting of the BVRA will be on

Tuesday 28 May 1996 at 7:30 pm.

8. Appointment of Honorary Auditor

The Chairman said that Mr Dadswell FCA, had indicated his willingness to continue in this capacity. He was proposed, seconded and duly elected (Miss Sudell/Dr Mathur).

9. Newsheets

The full coverage of activities are provided in our regular Newsheet and therefore we will dispense with Chairmans detailed review. Mr McLaren thanked the outgoing Committee for its conscientiousness work.

10. Open Forum

Dr Rudd read from the letters received from Members regarding various issues including:-

- ☞ the withdrawal of the No 80 bus
- ☞ discounts for early payment of council tax
- ☞ Winkworth Road curb
- ☞ works in Sutton Lane

All of these points were answered by the relevant Councillor. Questions from the floor followed. These included:-

- ☞ the appalling condition to the High Street pavement
- ☞ breaking up of the new tarmac at junction of Winkworth Road and Commonfield Road
- ☞ new houses at Beechfield
- ☞ St Ann's School new building
- ☞ former allotment at back of Wellesley Close
- ☞ refuge at the Eastern end of the High Street,
- ☞ kerbstones at the top of Buff Avenue and the High Street
- ☞ driving onto the pavement outside of Dillons
- ☞ use of old Waitrose basement as a Bowling Alley

All of these questions were answered by a Councillor(s) with some input by BVRA members.

11. Mr McLaren thanked the Councillors for their valuable help and closed the meeting with a reminder of the Banstead Village Fair on 6th July.



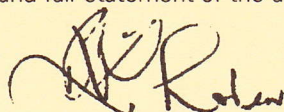
BANSTEAD VILLAGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 1996

	1995/96 £	1994/95 £
INCOME		
Subscriptions Received	1837.00	1802.50
Donations to High Street Initiative Fund	342.89	- . -
Interest from Bank (net)	57.30	26.46
Interest from T.S.B. (net)	32.36	12.27
Barn Dance (net profit)	- . -	314.90
	<u>2269.55</u>	<u>2156.13</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Production of NewsSheets	535.86	457.50
Subscriptions Paid	4.00	4.00
Printing & Stationery	539.93	394.17
Postage & Telephone	27.76	9.23
Hire of Rooms	242.28	140.00
Annual General Meeting Expenses	372.00	299.00
Sundry Expenses	160.80	1.00
Excess of Income over Expenditure	386.92	851.23
	<u>2269.55</u>	<u>2156.13</u>

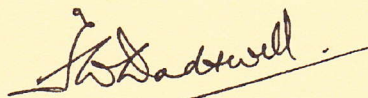
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST JANUARY 1996

	31.1.96 £	31.1.95 £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at Bank - Treasurer's Account	2759.57	2419.01
On Deposit with T.S.B.	1044.63	1012.27
Sundry Debtor	14.00	- . -
	<u>3818.20</u>	<u>3431.28</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES	- . -	- . -
Excess of Assets over Liabilities Represented by :-	3818.20	3431.28
General Fund -		
Credit Balance Brought Forward	3029.00	2177.77
Add - Surplus Income For Year	386.92	851.23
	<u>3415.92</u>	<u>3029.00</u>
Fund for Preservation of Banstead Amenities -		
Credit Balance Brought Forward	402.28	402.28
	<u>3818.20</u>	<u>3431.28</u>

I have audited the above balance sheet dated 31st January 1996 and attached Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended on that date and they are in accordance with the Books and Vouchers submitted to me and in my opinion reflect a true and fair statement of the affairs of the Association.



P. McLaren MBE
Hon. Treasurer
61 Commonfield Road
Banstead. 6th February 1996



F.W. Dadswell FCA
Hon. Auditor
5 Greenhayes Gardens
Banstead. 20th February 1996