

BANSTEAD VILLAGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the 48th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
held on Wednesday, 10th May 1995 at 8 p.m.
at the Banstead Church Institute

1. The Chairman, Peter McLaren, welcomed all those present. Guests included Mr Townsend, Chairman, and Mrs Merrington and Mr Evans of Woodmansterne Residents' Association; M/s Sara Oblein of Nynex and Mr Rondo of the Banstead Herald. County Councillor Mrs Fraser, Councillors Bryant and Cowle and Sinnerton, Mrs Ledwich of Federation, all of whom had previous meetings, joined the meeting later.
2. Apologies had been received from Mr Hinton and Mr Robinson of Nork Residents' Association; Mr Gordon, Mr Griffiths and Dr Rudd, the Vice-Chairman, whose place will be taken by Mr Penfold.
3. The Chairman then introduced Inspector John Diaper, Community Inspector at Epsom Police Station, and P.C. Arnold, who spoke on combatting crime in Banstead Village. They then dealt with a number of questions from the floor.
4. The Minutes of the 47th Annual General Meeting held on 11th May 1994 were then read by the Hon. Secretary. These were agreed as a correct record and signed (Mr Bowes/Miss Axton).
5.
 - a) The Hon. Treasurer then presented his report and audited accounts, previously circulated. The financial situation was sound, and there was no justification for raising membership subscriptions. No questions were raised. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed, seconded (Mr Ford/Mr Bowes) and agreed unanimously.
 - b) The Hon. Treasurer reported that in 1974 there were plans to develop a supermarket on Reigate Hill. A considerable fund was raised to fight the plan but in the event the monies were not spent, and after returning where possible to the donors, BVRA received a share of the remainder: £402. The Executive Committee now presented the motion that "This AGM authorises the spending of money held in the "Fund for preservation of Banstead amenities" on the "High Street Initiative" and seeks approval that the money be spent at the discretion of the Executive Committee". The motion was proposed by Mr Dadswell, seconded by Mrs R. Brown, and agreed unanimously.

6. Election of Officers and Executive Committee 1995/6

a) Hon. Secretary

The Hon. Secretary, Mary Sudell, having expressed the wish to retire, the Chairman asked for volunteers. Joanna El-Batal of Colcokes Road expressed her willingness to undertake this work, and there being no further names put forward, she was elected unanimously (Mr McLaren/Mr Plimmer)

b) Hon. Treasurer

Chris Penfold took the Chair and reported that the outgoing Hon. Treasurer, Peter McLaren, was willing to stand for another year. There being no other nominations, he was proposed, seconded and duly elected (Mrs Conacher/Mr Ford).

c) Executive Committee

The Chairman reported that 14 members of the outgoing committee offered themselves for re-election. They were Mesdames Marjorie Axton, Sylvia Cartwright, Shirley Conacher, Margaret Hawley, Marian Hayns, Hilary Powell, Mary Sudell, and Messrs Richard Bowes, Tony Ford, Roy Gordon, Colin Griffiths, Chris Penfold, Jack Plimmer and David Rudd. The re-election en bloc of these members was duly proposed, seconded and agreed (Mrs Brown/Mr Bowen).

With the resignation of Pam Jeffries, Geoff Stevens and John Wilkinson, this left four vacancies. Two members have come forward - Mrs Gaynor Talbot of Court Road and Dr Surindar Mathur of Sandersfield Road. There being no further volunteers these two members were proposed, seconded and elected (Mr McLaren/Mrs Conacher). The Chairman welcomed them.

7. Appointment of Honorary Auditor 1995

The Chairman said that Mr Dadswell, FCA, had indicated his willingness to continue in this capacity. He was proposed, seconded and appointed unanimously (Mr Bowes/Mrs Brown). A vote of thanks to Mr Dadswell for his continued support was carried.

8. Chairman's Report on the Association's Activities 1994/95

The Chairman presented his Annual Report which was duly accepted.

A major topic raised was the High Street Initiative - Formulation of rolling programme of improvements. Mr Ford's leadership of BVRA's contribution to the Borough's Steering Group was noted. The proceeds of Banstead's Village Week were to be devoted to this project.

Other issues were :

- . The "invasion" of Nynex - this passed off with fewer problems unsolved, due to the intervention of Mr Penfold and Dr Rudd.
- . The relocation of the Post Office - not resolved yet.
- . Future of Banstead Council House. Banstead will become isolated when all Borough Council activity is centralised in Leigate. Challenge for B/R/A to identify a viable proposal for retaining a local presence.
- . Waste disposal in Surrey - Dr Rudd is pressing Surrey County Council to realise the future implications of increasing dumping from outside the Surrey boundary.
- . BVRA campaigned that proposed charges for copies of Council agenda were beyond the means of Residents' Associations, thus losing a vital link in communication between major groups and Council decisions.

The Chairman thanked Committee members for their commitment to additional study groups as well as regular meetings and members who take a representational role on local bodies. He gratefully acknowledged the advice and assistance given by Cllrs Bryant and Cowle, who have attended our meetings. We have also to thank the Road Stewards for their vital task in raising membership to 1762 members.

9. Presentation by Chris Penfold, on behalf of David Rudd, on the aftermath of the review of Local Government in Surrey.

The Chairman said that Mr Michael Jennings, Assistant Chief Executive of Surrey County Council, would be attending the next meeting of the Executive Committee to discuss the County's partnership intentions following the outcome of the Local Government Review.

10. The County and Borough Councillors then joined the Chairman on the platform for discussion of local issues. The Chairman referred to the retirement of Cllr Mrs Dunsmore, who had served for so many years on the Urban District and then Borough Councils, and regularly attended BVRA meetings.

Among issues raised were:

- . Boards appearing on pavement in front of parade at Oddbins in the High Street. Cllr Bryant said they were on private land, but shopkeepers would be approached.
 - . In the High Street, the Nynex tubes between verge and pavement should be filled in, as caps disappear, which left dangerous holes.
 - . The state of the old Co-op shops was a disgrace, but high rents and fixed Government rates meant new lets were rare.
 - . Problem of residential parking off the High Street.
 - . Council House - matter of finding a use which is financially viable.
 - . Helpshop - aim to bring services together for Borough and County.
 - . Waitrose planning application to extend check-out area for food sales only.
 - . Reminder of Village Week, Saturday, July 8th.
11. The meeting closed at 10.25 p.m.

