



Hackbridge & Beddington Corner
Neighbourhood Development Group
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ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

28 March 2021
7pm via Zoom

Present:-

Lysanne Horrox, Adrian Warner, Suzanne Swann, Ann Baker, Peter Alfrey, John Smith
Andrea Eckhardt-Smith, Amanda Rossi, Dave Tchil, Anna Smith, Mark Armstrong, Julia Armstrong

Apologies:-

Norman Jones, Sheldon Vestey, Grace Platt

Yearly Report

Lysanne had circulated the report previously. There were no questions relating to its content

Finance

1. Lysanne explained that the current balance in the account was £26,149.12. This consisted of the remaining £2,954 from the OLF Greening Hackbridge funds, and the Plant up Hackbridge grant from the Beddington Community Fund. This was all ringfenced for Plant up Hackbridge. We have no unrestricted funds. We will need to find funds to pay for our website hosting, which was £100 last year.
2. Having moved our bank account to HSBC last year, we discovered that we are now being charged £5 per month (a total of £20 has been paid for this). As agreed at our last meeting, we have moved our account to MetroBank.
3. After discussion it was agreed we should retain our dormant Co-op account in case MetroBank started to charge.

Formal Election of Roles

1. Chair – Lysanne proposed by Adrian, seconded by Peter
2. Vice Chair – John, proposed by Lysanne, seconded by Julia
3. Secretary – Grace, proposed by Julia, seconded by Lysanne
4. Treasurer – Julia, proposed by Lysanne, seconded by Peter.

In response to a question, Lysanne explained that the NDG needs at least 21 members to remain a constituted group. This can include Associate as well as Full members. We currently have 33 members.

At least four members are required to make any decisions. If there were to be any contentious issues, all members would be entitled to vote. If the NDG were to submit, for example, a response to a planning application, there was nothing to stop individual members also submitting comments.

The NDG needs to be re-constituted in September this year. The process could take about 16 weeks, and, as in the past, is somewhat constrained by Purdah (the period running up to an election when there are restrictions on political activities which could be seen to promote one party or another).

Boundary

Lysanne explained to newer members that we could apply to change our boundary, as part of the re-constitution process. The new Hackbridge Ward generally followed the boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan, except for the Wandle Road area (excluded), and a small area north of Goat Road (included). It was previously agreed that Wandle Road area would be kept in our boundary, and that the area north of Goat Road would be included.

Motorbikes

Dave Tchil summarised the problems with motorbikes and mopeds on the land north of Bedzed. It was noticeable that the problem had been worse in the warmer weather. He explained how two years ago he had asked the community whether they wanted restrictions on motorbikes, and over 100 people had said Yes. The Council had all but agreed to put in a barrier and even came to measure up the area. Because no action was forthcoming Dave regularly asked for updates at the Local Committee and Environment & Sustainable Transport Committee.

The latest update confirmed the site will be completely restricted for motorbikes and people due to health and safety concerns of the culvert and the fact the field is not a public right of way.

Talk of de-designation of MOL was a concern, although LBS contact tried to reassure this was not something planned for the review of their Local Plan.

Residents and business have a long history of trying to get improvements for wildlife and people for this land and the NDG will be responding to this latest action,

Plant up Hackbridge (PUH)

Lysanne reported that an order of bulbs 'in the green' for the London Road green verge by BedZED were due to arrive this week and would need to be planted asap. We would have liked schools to have been involved but the timings fell at the beginning of the Easter holidays. Instead we would try and make it a community/family activity. It was agreed that we would seek to get posters into local shops, and on the community noticeboard near the Tile Shop.

Lysanne reported that the PUH liaison person at idverde had left without warning, but she has now been given another contact. The biggest issue is the soil quality in the rain garden beds, which smelled of sewage when digging out old shrubs, and bad drainage, likely due to compacting from vehicles. Sutton Council and idverde have declined to pay for soil sampling and we are trying to find a suitable workaround.

Implementing the Neighbourhood Plan

It was agreed that a face to face workshop should be arranged to discuss local issues and projects in our neighbourhood plan that could be implemented to improve Hackbridge. This would be a great opportunity to get more residents involved who may want to champion an individual project.

ACTION: Workshop to be arranged for May 2022