Shoreham Beach Residents' Association - Minutes of meeting

The following is a summary of the draft minutes of the SBRA committee meeting, held on January 4th at the Harbour Club.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2023 MINUTES
Proposed by: Julia Watts. Seconded by: Keith Fayers-Morissey. Approved.

Matters arising - The committee discussed grant funding for the coming year. It was agreed that we will continue to consider all grant applications on their merits, in line with the strategy agreed last year.

The committee also discussed wider funding issues, including the need to keep a "fighting fund" for legal challenges. It was agreed that we have insufficient funds, and we would need to crowd-fund, if suitable issues requiring legal support emerged.

It was also agreed that costs for social events, such as the Sand Dance, should be covered by donations and/or sponsorship, wherever possible.

Beach News & Website - The deadline for the next issue will be February 7th, with delivery to John B by March 10th. This will give us three weeks to complete deliveries before Easter.

Social Report - Julia updated the committee about the cancellation of the carol singing event, due to poor weather. The issue of the sand dance was covered under matters arising.

Financial Report - Val advised, via email, the current bank account balance. SBRA made a £500 donation to the Shoreham and Adur Foodbank in December. There is also outstanding revenue from the last issue of Beach News.

She will issue a full report at the next month's meeting.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Shoreham Beach Neighbourhood Forum [SBNF]: Moira Hayes, at ADC, sent an update to Joss and Julia, advising them what may be included from the draft NP in the updated Local Plan. Julia sits on the Local Plan review committee.

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

Cllr. Julia Watts:

FoSB took part in the Christmas tree festival at St Mary's before Christmas entering a tree entirely decorated by things we found on the beach. The winners were Shoreham Beach Primary School with their fabulous entry of crocheted nativity figures.

FoSB ran a successful beach cleaning event on 25 November with over 50 attendees. Our beach cleaning event on 28 December was cancelled due to poor weather. We are thinking of rearranging in early February.

Our AGM is on Monday 4 March at the Harbour Club at 7 pm. We have a guest speaker from the Sussex Dolphin project.

Light Up Shoreham. Dressed as an elf, I accompanied the president of the Rotary Club to give donations to our local schools including the Beach School. The Rotary Club collect at Light Up Shoreham and this year they distributed £900 amongst the primary schools.

Shingle transfers. The EA are moving shingle in lorries across the crest of the beach for four weeks from 8 January. We have received a useful statement detailing their plans from the EA this year which we have shared on social media. Joss questioned the need with the EA to move the rocks to Shoreham Fort, prior to transporting them to Lancing. The EA said that moving them along the A259 would cause traffic issues.

Julia lodged an objection to the proposed extension to the Galleria restaurant on behalf of the SBRA. Although this is not on the beach, if it goes ahead, it will change the view across the footbridge and isn't in keeping with the townscape.

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

Cllr. Joss Loader:

Noise reports – Joss has received multiple reports about a "whistling sound" since we last met. After discussions with the planning enforcement team, it appears that the noise is likely to be emanating from the new-build flats at Free Wharf, opposite Emerald Quay.

The developers have agreed to escalate completion of the balconies, as it's

believed the scaffolding poles are the source of the noise. Joss received complaints from along the riverfront on the Beach and residents in the town. Work will hopefully be completed by the end of the week.

There may also be an issue with a boat, currently in dry dock at Sussex Yacht Club - resulting in a higher pitched noise. I've made Environmental Health aware.

Traffic calming – Joss has received further complaints about speeding vehicles in OFR, Beach Green and Riverside to Kevin Boram. Josh reiterated his frustration with the lack of action by WSCC.

Southern Water - SW have declined an invitation to attend this month's Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee, having previously agreed to attend. As a result, Joss has written to their CEO, as Chair of JOSC, along with her Worthing counterpart. They are also writing to the regulator expressing our disappointment at their unwillingness to present themselves for public scrutiny. Joss also spoke at Full Council about their dismal performance.

Riverbank erosion – Joss has been in touch with both the EA and Tim Loughton about the failure to reopen the path behind the Sailing Club, at Soldiers' Point. The EA claims it's not their responsibility. Joss is also in touch with SPA.

Shoreham Fort – The committee congratulated The Friends of Shoreham Fort on receiving the prestigious King's Award for Voluntary Service in the Birthday Honours list. This is the equivalent of an MBE and is very well deserved.

Berth Zero – Joss has written to SPA supporting this latest environmental initiative, which is part of their drive to achieve "net zero" status.

Bike Racks - Julia and Joss compiled a list of suitable locations for new cycle racks, working in partnership with Shoreham By Cycle. We have put this forward to ADC for consideration in their latest funding round.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: The committee discussed plans for the SBRA AGM on March 2nd. Both Tim Loughton and Kevin Boram have confirmed attendance. Posters will be circulated.

MEETING CLOSED AT 8.30pm. NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 1st,2024 at 7pm.