SHOREHAM BEACH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The following is a summary of the minutes of the SBRA committee meeting held via Zoom on Thursday, October 1st, 2020.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MINUTES: Proposed by Bob Toon & Seconded by Liza McKinney.

MATTERS ARISING: David Johnson – as Vice Chair of CPRE Sussex - had circulated members about the Government's consultation to change the current planning system, seen by many as contentious. A discussion flowed and issues such as why developers buy up then bank land to, it seems, control the market regardless of any need or demand to build. Members raised issues like room sizes; turning unused shops into homes; current standards that do not meet climate change requirements making new-builds obsolescent before they are sold; local councils' attitude to the changes and the proposed Mayfield development, West of Burgess Hill etc. Another purpose of David's paper was to offer information for those who would wish to appeal to their MPs.

BEACH NEWS & WEBSITE: Joss, as Editor, advised the deadline date for copy and advertisers. The Summer edition's income stream was nearly covered by advertising revenue and Joss thanks Joyce for her sterling efforts to sell advertising for the forthcoming Winter issue. The website continues to be updated.

SOCIAL REPORT: Although local Beach events are still subject to Covid regulations, Joyce raised the issue of how the Association will manage its AGM should the regulations remain during early part of 2021.
Noting that today's meeting was being "Zoomed" to members, a virtual AGM was discussed. Joyce suggested she raises the issue in the Winter Beach News. The date chosen is now February 27th, 2021. A decision will be made nearer the time about the "venue", pending updates to Government regulations

FINANCIAL REPORT: Julia updated the committee.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS –

i**] PLANNING APPLICATIONS**: Maureen had circulated a comprehensive current planning list.

ii] BEACH GREEN TOILET BLOCK: No specific news. Joss will raise issues around the Beach's public toilets in her report.

iii] SBNF UPDATE: At the meeting SBRA were still awaiting a date for a joint meeting with the Forum. Both committees have agreed to an independent chair and Cllr. Kevin Boram - WSCC Councillor - has agreed and offered dates. Members discussed the idea of the Forum managing a Zoomed AGM noting governance issues raised. The Forum will return to the ADC's Joint Strategic Committee later in the year.

CLLR JOSS LOADER REPORTS: Referring to item 7ii above, Joss opened with having to deal with a number of complaints about all the toilet blocks on the Beach. Cllr Steve Chipp and Joss have supported a scrutiny request to ADC about public toilets and the provision of litter bins along the coast.

The bins and buoys indicating the "swimming" zone are now being removed for the Winter. She advised that ADC's new "SWIM ONLY" signage was not on display this Summer, one of the busiest years for beach-users! Joss continues to pressurise the Council to display updated signage for the sake of personal safety.

Joss confirmed the Shoreham Fort's WWI memorial Trench initiative is now completed.

The Environment Agency[EA] have been working in to move shingle from the Fort end to the Silver Sands beach as part of the conservation project to protect the wild but rare Childing Pink flower there. Work continues.

In the theme of shifting shingle, the Port Authority is preparing to begin its annual transfer of shingle from the Fort over to Southwick beach by the lorry-load. The work will take three weeks. Joss has again requested that the work should not start before 7.30am [weekdays only] and has appealed for lorries to not queue in convoy whilst either entering or leaving the Fort. Shoreham Port has agreed.

Beach Green: Joss raised the question of the "tendering" process for mobile ice cream concessions at the ADC September's Joint Scrutiny meeting; concessions do seem to have been offered at an "overly reasonable" rate and, understandably, our local beach shops offering similar foodstuffs who are subject to seriously high rates and taxes feel somewhat aggrieved. It was agreed next season's arrangements will be reviewed.
At the same meeting, Joss questioned the loss of parking bays along the High Street, initiated to provide social distancing. Again, these parking schemes are being reviewed but the coned-off bays will stay, at least in the short term..

AirBnB: Joss jointly with Kevin Boram, WSCC's Shoreham representative, have both asked why ADC can't follow the lead of other planning authorities who have limited the number of annual lets before planning consent for a change of use is required. Our Councillors await the response of James Appleton in ADC Planning Dept.

Joss reported damage to the height barrier at Beach Green's car park after it was seriously damaged by a van. Repair work was completed swiftly.

Flood Defence compensation: Still, some residents await to be recompensed for work/damage on their land, sufficient that Joss has escalated one such complaint to the EA's area director and Tim Loughton MP. Such delays are unacceptable.

Travelling arrangements to Sir Robert Woodard Academy.
As an academy councillor [governor], Joss has been approached by a number of residents about their major concerns with the so-called "Safe Route to School" that runs along the A27! Kevin Boram is also involved in his role as West Sussex Councillor.

Taxi Trade:
Taxi's locally and country-wide are experiencing various issues as a result of the pandemic. She was advised by the United Union's rep, who contacted her for assistance in her position as Group Leader of the Independence Alliance on the Council. He appealed for her to assist in resolving long-standing issues with ADC's Licensing Department. Joss successfully arranged a meeting for w/c October 5th for Licensing Committee's Chair and Vice-Chair to meet with this particular union representative to move the matters forward.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Pat Hand updated the meeting on Sussex Wharf.

The Next Meeting will be on Thursday, November 5th, 2020 at 7.30pm