

Knoll Residents Association

Minutes of 41st AGM held at St John's URC, Lynwood Gr on Tuesday 24 November 2015, starting at 7:50pm

1) Speakers and guests

Paul Donohoe. Deputy Medical Director and Paula Townsend, Nursing Director from Kings College NHS Trust; Sgt Nick McLaughlin, PC Mano Vidamo & PCSO Colin Bissett SE LPT Team E Orpington/Petts Wood; Sharon Baldwin Orpington BID; Councillors Tony Owen. Douglas Auld and Simon Fawthrop and Reverend Jennifer Millington.

2) Opening from Chairman Paul Savage

Paul thanked all KRA members and invited guests & speakers for their attendance.

3) Welcome from Minister Jennifer Millington

Jennifer welcomed everyone to St John's URC saying how pleased she is that the Church is at the centre of the community and that it is used by various local groups.

4) Minutes of 40th AGM

Agreed¹.

5) Election of committee²

Paul recorded his thanks to retiring members Ray Vaughan and Richard Burton (Road Warden Secretaries) for their hard work and long-service to the KRA. He welcomed Jo Wyton and Simon Wood to the committee and made a plea for further new members.

6) Treasurer's Report

The accounts to 2015³ have been audited by Brian Pow. Thanks were extended to Theresa Ansett for the work she has done as auditor in the past.

7) Election of Honorary Auditor

Brain Pow has kindly agreed to continue as auditor⁴.

8) Review of year

Paul explained the result of the survey re The Knoll becoming an ASRC. Residents in the north of the area were generally in favour and residents in the south, against. Creating an ASRC in the north of The Knoll will be considered by LBB. LBB budget has already made savings of £60m but further cuts of £50m are still required.

9) Presentation from Kings College NHS Trust

Paul Donohoe and Debbie Townsend explained the collaboration between disciplines within the Trust and in the rest of the healthcare system.

CQC inspection rated PRUH at the upper end of 'requires improvement' with some areas of excellence: Orpington Hospital and improvements already made at PRUH.

Finances are still in deficit although £70m of savings have been made out of £86m and they are confident of reaching target. There has been a reduction in the number of agency nurses used, but recruitment remains a challenge.

Nick Moberley has been appointed as new Chief Executive and Jules Wendon as new Medical Director.

Priorities include: improving flow of patients from the Emergency Department through the hospital; getting patients in and out of hospital more quickly; supporting patients from hospital to home with relevant support; taking a multi-disciplinary approach leading to realistic early discharge and greater collaboration between different organisations

Questions from floor: Contingency plans are in place to deal with strike by Junior Doctors.

Orpington Hospital is now a centre for elective surgery and is key for the Trust reaching its targets. Residents were thanked for their support.

10) Presentation from Orpington BID

Sharon Baldwin spoke about events which Orpington BID has organised, especially the switching on of the Christmas lights which was very successful.

18 February - Business Show planned in partnership with Orpington College - BR6 restaurant is expanding to include outdoor dining and a bakery - College to be used as an enterprise centre with facilities for hot-desking

Odeon Cinema is due to open in February with events for construction workers, friends and families and a VIP launch before it

1 Proposed J Savage, seconded K Wilkins

2 Proposed B Wilkin, seconded R Healey

3 Agreement of accounts proposed S Taylor, seconded J Savage

4 Proposed B Wilkin, seconded R Humby

opens to the public. There will be a Bella Italia restaurant, Dean's Diner and an Ice Cream Parlour also opening in the square. Various new businesses are opening, many of them food oriented. This decision is down to landlords rather than BID. Walnuts Centre has been sold, there is some discussion about creating larger unit within it, but there are hopes that the name will remain.

Orpington BID is working with local community groups to develop a plan to run The Priory as a community asset. Trustees are being appointed.

Questions from floor: Parking hours at the multi-storey car park will be extended to cope with visitors to the Cinema and Premier Inn.

11)Local Policing presentation

Sgt Nick McLoughlin encouraged all residents to remain vigilant. Bromley is generally a low crime area, and especially Petts Wood and The Knoll. Although homes and cars in the area are attractive targets, violent crime is unlikely.

Recent reorganisation means that resources can be moved around more flexibly.

New developments: Dedicated officers for Orpington Town Centre and also Petts Wood and Knoll; Pub Watch - encouraging communication between establishments especially re troublemakers; Local Aid - commitment to supporting local events and local web page for Metropolitan Police for Petts Wood and Knoll, including contact details by email and phone.

<https://www.police.uk/metropolitan/E05000124/>

Questions from floor: Future of PCSOs - financial savings have to be managed and there is likely to be a reduction in number of PCSOs. There is an awareness that 'the Bobby on the beat' is reassuring to the public. Reassurance that the police will respond to the opening of the Cinema by adjusting hours to respond to need.

12)Highlights from general audience questions

Cllr Tony Owen responded to a question re traffic management in the High Street saying that the way it has been reconfigured is a hybrid, neither pedestrianised nor with focus on parking. He acknowledged that signage could be improved to encourage the use of Orpington Bypass.

Cllr Simon Fawthrop agreed that The Priory needs to be put to good use and is looking forward to hearing proposals from Orpington BID and associates.

With thanks to all, the Chairman brought formal proceedings to a close at 9:45pm and welcomed all to join the Committee & invited guests for refreshments.