



**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON FRIDAY 8th APRIL 2011
AT
THE RUGBY CLUB ST EDWARDS PARK**

Welcome and Introduction

The Chairman, Mike Stonard, welcomed residents to the Annual General Meeting. The main committee members in attendance were:

Dave Crew, Keith Hambleton, Andy Harding, Dave Kelsall, Andrew Purcell, Peter Stokes, Mike Stonard and Stephen Wales.

The chairman also welcomed Cllr. Mike Bowen to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Janet Wheeler (Treasurer), Chris Wheeler and Andy Cope (committee members) and Cllr Mike Worthington.

All residents who attended the meeting were given a copy of the annual report of the committee, including a statement of accounts (for the period from 1st January 2010 to 5th April 2011), social group activities, and activities and achievements of the main committee. An estimated 70 residents attended the meeting.

In a brief introduction the chairman reminded residents that the committee members were all volunteers, and that they were appointed to represent all residents.

The chairman proposed a vote of thanks to all the ladies on the Social Subcommittee who had been involved with the organisation of events, and urged more residents to come forward to join the subcommittee. Residents were reminded that an Easter Egg Hunt for children was being organised on Easter Sunday starting from Teddy's Nursery at 11am.

Constitution

The existing committee had proposed several changes to section 5 Management in the constitution. The main change was to allow existing committee members who had served two consecutive 2-year terms to resign and to offer themselves for further terms of 2 years (i.e. no limit on the number of terms that an individual can serve). This would ensure that experienced members were not lost from the committee, as could happen this year with three members. It was also proposed that no committee member should serve as an Officer in the same position for a continuous period of more than 2 years, in order to allow more members to gain experience. The final proposal was that any changes to the main committee should be displayed in the notice board for at least 30 days and announced in the next newsletter. A small number of residents asked that the newsletter should be placed on the website, as some owners of apartments who do not live on SEP do not get to see the newsletter. It was agreed this would be done.

The Chairman, on behalf of the committee, proposed the above changes to the constitution which were supported by a clear majority of the residents present.

A resident asked if the facility existed to remove a committee member e.g. for poor attendance or unsatisfactory conduct. The committee had discussed this matter, and had concluded that the current constitution contained no facility for this to happen, and that such action was unlikely without consulting the resident membership and obtaining its support.

Appointment of Committee Members

There had been two resignations (Nigel Binns and Trevor Turner) from the existing committee. A further six members had resigned as per the constitution after serving one or two terms each of 2 years and all were willing to serve for a further term. Two nominations (Alan Jones and Jill Scott) had been received by the closing date for nominations. The proposal to the AGM by the Chairman was that an election was unnecessary. The two new nominees should be appointed and the six existing committee members who had resigned and were willing to stand again should be re-appointed to fill the eight vacancies. This proposal was supported by a clear majority of residents present.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Treasurer, Janet Wheeler, for her efforts over the past year. As she had indicated her willingness to serve for a further year, the Chairman proposed that she should be re-appointed for a further year and this was supported unanimously.

Resident Group Discussions

Following the formalities of the AGM, committee members joined the various groups of residents and invited them to discuss issues of local concern. These issues were addressed, where possible, by the committee member. At the end of the session, the Chairman/Vice-Chairman gave updates/responses to the major issues raised by residents in each group.

Several residents had requested further information about the EGM and the election of Resident Directors. Committee members outlined briefly the key aspects of the process of handover from Redrow Directors to Resident Directors.

A resident had requested an update on the adoption of highways and lighting by Staffordshire County Council (SCC). The chairman replied that Redrow had appointed Chilcott Engineering to prepare the site ready for adoption by both SCC and Severn Trent Water.

A resident asked for an update on discussions with Churnet Valley Railway (CVR) regarding obstructed access on the lower woodland path to the level crossing. The chairman replied that in the short term a meeting had been requested not only with CVR but also with Moorlands & City Railway who are restoring the rail route between Leekbrook and Stoke-on-Trent. There had been no response as yet from either organisation. In the long term, the committee was requesting local residents who had used the lower woodland path over many years to complete Public Right of Way Evidence Forms which will be submitted to SCC as part of our campaign to have unobstructed access to Leekbrook restored.

Finally, the Chairman displayed the financial position at SEP which included the current deficit carried forward, and the amount of debt having to be recovered due to non-payment of Service Charges. He urged all residents to pay their Service Charge promptly as non-payment was starting to have a devastating effect on services provided on SEP.

A vote of thanks was given to the committee for its endeavours on behalf of residents, and the Chairman thanked the committee members for their support over the past year.

The Chairman thanked residents for attending the AGM and closed the meeting at 22.00.