



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2017

Present

Irene Watson (Chair)	Jan Head (GP Dementia Alliance)
Paul Davies (Vice Chair)	Andy Morgan (GPRFC)
Peter Hill (Treasurer)	Paul Thurston (GP Allotment Society)
Gerald Smeesters (Project Manager NGP)	Roy Anders (GP Angling Club)
George Binyon (Editor, Goldsworth News)	Roger Westcott (GP Angling Club)
Steve Willson (Webmaster)	Alan Johnson (GP Angling Club)
David Powell (Notetaker)	Hilary Addison (Resident)
Pauline Eastwood (Hall Manager)	Michael Addison (Resident)
Eastwood (WB Councillor & Bar Manager)	Barbara Challoner (Resident)
Chitra Rana (WB Councillor)	Robert Challoner (Resident)
Geoff McManus (WBC)	Clive Drake (Resident)
Hannah Jennings (WBC)	Peter Eggleton (Resident)
Rev Kate Wyles (St Andrews Church)	James Mackay (Resident)
Shani Orchard (St Andrews Church)	Ian Rickard (Resident)
Kerry Bennett (WSB Hospices)	Guido Scalise (Resident)
Liz Cussons (WSB Hospices)	Katie Sherlock (Resident)
Wendy Denton (WSB Hospices)	Susan Suleski (Resident)
Fran Siwicka (Waitrose)	Hassan Ahmed (Visitor)

1. WELCOME & OPENING

The Chair of the GPCA opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed those present to the 2017 Annual General Meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Jonathan Lord MP, Colin Kemp (SC Councillor), Saj Hussain (SC Councillor), Ann-Marie Barker (WB Councillor), Ray Morgan (CEO WBC), Neil Woodward (WBC), Arran Henderson (WBC), Linda Hill (Newsletter Distributor), Royer Slater (Editorial Team), Karen Holdsworth Canon (Surrey Community Action), Jayne Cooper (WSB Hospices), Nicola Wilmshurst (Sythwood School), Sean Larkin (Lakeside Christian Fellowship), Sandie Bolger (Surrey Youth Work Service), Andrew Halstead (GP Allotment Society), Gary Rimay-Muranyi (Dianthus Trading), Simon Jeffs (Radio Sailing Woking), Peggy Collins (Resident), Sue Johnson (Resident), Holger Marsen (Resident), Susan Mason (Resident), Sally Pigeon (Resident), Jackie Waltham (Resident), Margaret Waters (Resident), Liz Wilkinson (Resident).

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 17th November 2016

Agreed.

4. Matters Arising

None.

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

The GPCA reports annually to the Charity Commission on how it is meeting the objectives set out in its Constitution. The Chair's AGM Report does follow this pattern. The first objective is to promote the benefit of the residents of Goldsworth Park which is construed as representing and promoting their interests and there are several ways in which we do this.

5.1 Meetings

Public meetings are held on a quarterly basis and the Trustees meet between the quarterly meeting to conduct the GPCA's business. The public meetings are generally quite well attended with between 15 and 20 people at each.

The mailing list of interested parties who get the minutes now stands at 85.

5.2 Communications

The GPCA publishes a community magazine – **Goldsworth News** - every other month. 5000 copies of the magazine are printed and delivered by volunteers to most homes in Goldsworth Park and are available in many of the shops in the centre and in Strollers, Lakers, St Andrews and the Salvation Army Churches, WSB Hospices, Dianthus Trading and the new Lakeview Community Centre.

The new Editor – George Binyon – has experience in Fleet Street which is invaluable in producing a lively and informative magazine. Many of the editorial team have moved on so anyone keen to write for the magazine should contact the editor.

The advertising continues to be sourced by Paul Webster of the Webster Consultancy and the magazine is printed by Knaphill Print.

Linda Hill continues as the Newsletter distributor managing to keep deliverers on board and to find more when necessary. However, more volunteers are always needed.

In addition to news stories, the magazine promotes community services such as Careline, the Council's Homelink Handyperson and Home Improvement Services, Goldsworth Care, Neighbourhood Watch, etc.

The **Web Site** www.ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk, managed by Steve Willson, is a useful way for residents to keep in touch with the GPCA. The traffic on the website is significantly higher this year than last. The most popular pages are the Hall, its facilities and prices. Goldsworth News is now available on the website and a lot of people look there. Back numbers are available too.

There are both Facebook and Twitter accounts managed by the Editor but a social media editor would be welcome.

5.3 Community Matters

The GPCA was represented at the Remembrance Day Service outside the Health Centre and a wreath laid at the memorial, as usual.

For the first time, the GPCA organised a Christmas Tree in the shopping centre courtyard with contributions from the Church and all the shops. This will be repeated this year and there will be Christmas songs and carols around the Tree at 5.30 – 6.30pm on Friday, 8th December.

In the shopping centre, the managing agents finally responded to the GPCA's request for more disabled parking bays near the Health Centre and, some would say, went a bit overboard. However, the statutory recommendations about the provision of disabled parking are now met. The need for more Parent and Child parking will be addressed next.

In response to a suggestion from the GPCA, the managing agent has put up "No Smoking" signs around the play equipment in the courtyard.

The GPCA took part in discussions about Woking's Dementia Action Alliance. This is an initiative to help shops and other organisations to identify changes they can make to become more dementia-friendly. Goldsworth Park is thought to be a good place to start as there is a close-knit, supportive community. The first meeting was well attended by representatives from Waitrose, Boots, the Post Office, Strollers, St. Andrews and the GPCA and the Action Alliance continues.

The GPCA organised 2 litter picks – Spring and Autumn – both were well attended by residents who collected a lot of litter. HJ, the Council's Neighbourhood Officer provided bin sacks, litter pickers, hi-viz waistcoats and arranged for all the bags to be collected – in addition to doing her share of picking.

This time last year, the Council was considering putting two more football pitches on the one undeveloped part of the Park known as North Meadow. This was not popular with residents and visitors to the area; there was a petition and protracted discussions with the Council and the GPCA is pleased to say that public opinion prevailed, and the football pitch plan was dropped – at least for the next 10 years. The result is the Natural Goldsworth Park project, the long term aims of which are to create a wildflower meadow in the land to the north west of the lake, make the woodland more accessible and create a wetland area to complement the lake that RW has worked so hard to make beautiful. The Project Manager, GS, will give you a brief outline of where the project is now.

As always, we continue to try to support residents with problems such as the management of common areas, and planning issues.

5.4 The Hall

Another of the ways the GPCA promotes the benefit of residents is managing this Community Hall. It has been back in occupation for 2½ years now and bookings are going quite well. There are now 10 or 11 regular bookings each week and 4 regular monthly bookings. In the coming year, there are already a dozen or so bookings for private functions, many with bars although, recently, many bookings are made a short notice.

We have invested in some new furniture in the Snug, new equipment in the bar and improved storage facilities for GPCA property.

The long-time cleaners, Roy and Win Anders, have retired and the GPCA would like to wish them a long and happy retirement. A new cleaner, Jo Tate, is now keeping the Hall spick and span.

5.5 Charitable Status and Lease

Some of you may be aware that the GPCA Trustees would like to change the status of the GPCA into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation – CIO. The Charity Commission is encouraging charities to update their constitutions and status, and the GPCA is getting advice from Surrey Community Action. It appears that, in order to make this change, the GPCA needs to have a lease for its part of this building from the Council.

Those of you who have come to AGM's over the years will remember my predecessor telling you, every year, about the problems with agreeing the lease for the building. Because of long-term problems with the drains, the GPCA would not take responsibility for maintenance and so the lease was never signed. With the fire and rebuilding, the drains were sorted and now discussions about the lease must be restarted now. The drains are no longer a problem but there are still problems with the building which the GPCA believes must be resolved before the it will be able to sign a lease.

5.5 Partner Organisations

The GPCA continues to work in co-operation with other groups on the lake and recreation ground – Radio Sailing Woking – Sea Cadets – Woking Hockey Club – Goldsworth Park Rangers Football Club – Dianthus Trading – Goldsworth Park Angling Club; and in the community – Goldsworth Care – Strollers – Lakers and our new neighbours the Woking and Sam Beare Hospice, for whom it played host at the Dragon Boat Fun Day and provided refreshments.

Representative from these groups will be invited to tell us a little about what they are doing, time permitting, before the end of the meeting.

5.6 Acknowledgements

The Chair took the opportunity to thank everyone who has helped with the work of the GPCA during the year, particularly: -

- Paul Davies, Vice Chairman for his work and support with the hall and all the technicalities;
- Peter Hill for his sterling work as Treasurer;
- Gerry Smeesters who is leading on the Natural Goldsworth Park Project;
- George Binyon, Goldsworth News Editor and the editorial team of Michael Farlam, Malcolm Head, Royer Slater and Rob Spice and Robin Smith, our proof reader, most of whom have now had to give up;
- Paul Webster for sourcing advertising and Knaphill Print for producing Goldsworth News;
- Linda Hill and the Goldsworth News deliverers, who go out in all weathers to keep residents in touch;
- Steve Willson for developing and running the new web-site;
- Ian and Pauline Eastwood for their continued work on the hall and the bar;
- Roy Anders, our caretaker, and his wife, now retired, and Jo Tate who now clean the hall;
- David Powell who has been taking the Minutes;
- Hannah Jennings, WBC Neighbourhood Officer who helps in many ways.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer explained that the accounts are produced on a receipts and payments basis which do not take into account the value of any stock held or amounts owing at the year end. This has been the first full year since the fire and there was a surplus of £16,070 for the year.

Income from bookings of the Community Hall amounted to £32,250 with a further £17,600 from bar takings. Hall income includes a separate charge for using the bar.

Goldsworth News should break even apart from the cost of distribution. Production costs were £8,200; advertising income, not including June/July income, was £6,990.

Insurance includes the premium paid to WBC for the buildings insurance; contents, employers and public liability, and Trustee's liability insurance taken out by the GPCA.

Maintenance includes the new furniture to which the Chair referred, and the main charitable donation was to WSB Hospices.

The balance sheet shows a healthy cash position.

7. Natural Goldsworth Park

GS explained that the Project had commenced in May 2017, once the position had been clarified by the Council in April. Contact had been made with Surrey Wildlife Trust and Horsell Common Preservation Society. A "Friends" organisation is now active, and Facebook and Twitter accounts have been set up. A Botany survey was conducted in August and will be repeated in the spring, and ecological surveys of insects and other wildlife are planned.

The Project's Patron, Martin Slocock, a renowned botanist whose family had owned the land, sadly passed away but his widow, Shirley Slocock, a well-known botanical artist has agreed to be patron to maintain the family's interest in the area.

Moving forward, efforts will be made to involve schools and recruit more "friends". With advice from SWT and HCPS, and the results of the surveys, plans can be prepared, WBC consulted, and a start made on the ground.

RW spoke of the lake and the abundance of wildlife, highlighting the swans which had bred again this year and kingfishers which have bred for the first time. Unfortunately, cormorants are also thriving, depleting the fish stocks, and effective deterrents are being sought. The rat problem seems to be under better control with regular visits from WBC's contractor.

The Angling Club is well established with around 160 season ticket members and 1000 day-tickets sold. The new Fisheries Officer was introduced. Some restocking is taking place with fish of a size that will be unattractive to the cormorants.

8. Election of Officers and Committee

Before the Committee stood down, the Chair explained that she was prepared to continue, if elected, while the lease and charitable status were resolved. PH had been Treasurer for many years and would be retiring at the end of the financial year; a new Treasurer would be appointed to work along-side him to ensure a smooth handover. PD would continue as Vice Chair and GS would continue as NGP project manager. DP was retiring from note taking. The Chair said that she had not received any nominations in advance of the meeting but was seeking a new Treasurer and Secretary.

GM took the chair and asked for nominations for the post of Chair; IW was proposed, seconded and elected unanimously. The rest of the Committee were proposed, seconded and elected unanimously en-bloc.

9 Reports from Associated and Other Local Organisations

AM (GPRFC) thanked the GPCA for their support with fundraising for the Shooting Star Chase Children's Hospice. The tournament in June had been a great success with about 2,000 children taking part. The 2018 tournament would be on 9th and 10th June.

KB (WSBH) thanked the GPCA and people of Goldsworth Park for the welcome the Hospice had received and described some of the work they undertake, about 70% of which is in patients' homes.

JH (GPDA) described the work of the Dementia Alliance which is aimed at enabling sufferers to remain in their own homes. There are around 6,000 sufferers in Surrey and Goldsworth Park, which has a significant elderly population and an identifiable centre, is a pioneer community.

KW (St Andrews Church) said that a leaflet detailing the services at St Andrews and the Salvation Army Church would be distributed to residents; unfortunately, the time of the Songs and Carols around the Tree in the centre was said to be 6.30pm not 5.30pm which was chosen to permit the Rainbows and Brownies to join in. She introduced SO who would be undertaking community projects.

10. Questions / Any Other Business

The Chair invited questions from the floor.

- 10.1 BC, a resident of Willowmead Close opposite Sythwood School, said that the double yellow lines and parking restrictions were having little effect at drop-off and pick-up times; what could be done about it. GM (WBC) said that school parking patrols were out and about monitoring the situation but that all the schools seemed to have the same problem.
- 10.2 BC also raised the problem of trying to find a parking space in the shopping centre car park since the Hospice opened. Rev KW added that a number of clients at the Hearing Aid Clinic had not been able to park as usual and some visitors to the Church were parking in the slip road reserved for official vehicles. FS (Waitrose) said that she was monitoring the number of "Hospice" cars and there had been up to 50 at times. IW said that the original report to the Planning Committee in 2014 analysed the Hospice's parking needs and came to the conclusion that the on-site parking met the appropriate standards. It said that the main car park "could accommodate any potential short-term visitor overspill parking". She doubted that the Committee would have granted planning permission had it known that the Hospice would be occupying up to 20% of the main car park. IE said that Hospice vehicles were not subject to the 3 hours stay rule due to a condition in the original Planning documents from the 1980s. KB (WSBH) said that they had been made aware of the issue and did not want to inconvenience other users of the car park; Hospice management wanted to work with the community to find an acceptable solution. IW suggested alternatives including the car park at the other end of the lake. KW said that there would be a meeting with the managing agents and Waitrose on Thursday and hoped that there would be a positive outcome. FS echoed this and stressed that an amicable solution was desired by all concerned.

- 10.3 SW said that, although the new disabled parking bays were necessary, there were too many and they were not ideally situated. JM said that more parent and child parking bays were needed as was monitoring the use of these spaces. IW said that it was possible that the car park would be resurfaced next year and that this might provide the opportunity to discuss with the managing agents the layout which many people think is no longer appropriate. PE thought that the raised walk-way, which was seldom used, could be removed to give more space. IW said that Waitrose was planning to renew the trolley parking and the shop façade.
- 10.4 CD commented on the parking in Wishbone Way when football practice and matches were in progress. The road is WBC property, and perhaps more could be done to prevent people parking on the pavements which could prove a hazard if an emergency vehicle needed to get through. IW commended GPRFC on their management of traffic and parking during their 2-day tournament.
- 10.5 SW asked if the Sea Cadets platform would ever be finished; IE said that the work was in hand and it should be complete soon.
- 10.6 HJ (WBC) reported that SERCO was undertaking tree work on Goldsworth Park and that work to repair the worst parts of the lake path would be undertaken soon. She also mentioned a community information sharing initiative called Surrey Prepared and would provide more information in due course.
- 10.7 PE reported that, thanks to the Neighbourhood Officer for Knaphill, there was now a litter bin in Creston Avenue.
- 10.8 PE informed the meeting that the Chair, Irene Watson, and the former Chairman, Ian Rickard would jointly be given the Eric Theobald Memorial Award for Services to the Community at the Council Meeting on 7th December 2017. The news was welcomed by the meeting which thought that the Award was well deserved.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.55 pm.

Goldsworth Park Community Association

Income & Expenditure Account for the period ended 30th June 2017

	2017 £	2016 £
INCOME		
Bank Interest	4.60	5.94
Bar Income:		
Takings	17,600.61	9,796.48
TOTAL Bar Income	17,600.61	9,796.48
Grant Income	0.00	5,401.74
Advertising Income	6,990.25	7,216.25
Hall Income:		
Bookings	32,502.50	22,134.00
TOTAL Hall Income	32,502.50	22,134.00
TOTAL INCOME	57,097.96	44,554.41
EXPENDITURE		
Bar Expenses:		
Stock costs	10,022.52	7,174.64
Sundry	1,142.61	607.28
Servicing costs	3,742.57	2,422.50
TOTAL Bar Expenses	14,907.70	10,204.42
Social	48.68	0.00
Hall Expenses:		
Cleaning	2,302.98	2,146.12
Cleaning materials and equipment	202.50	273.66
Fire Damage repairs, cleaning etc	0.00	0.00
Maintenance	2,253.27	2,485.44
Manager	3,135.33	3,299.98
Rates & Rent	423.00	423.00
Refurbishment costs	0.00	(1,500.80)
Services Costs	4,751.40	4,364.32
Sundry	1,725.13	499.01
TOTAL Hall Expenses	14,793.61	11,990.73
Insurance	1,676.52	2,097.15
Charitable Donations	538.00	115.00
Miscellaneous Expense	154.53	306.01
Natural Goldsworth Park project	23.25	0.00
Newsletter Costs	8,209.75	8,800.00
Newsletter Distribution	405.00	278.00
Stationery & Post	270.23	136.36
Sundry general expenses	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	11,277.28	11,732.52
SURPLUS of (Expenditure over Income) / Income over Expenditure	16,070.69	10,626.74

Goldsworth Park Community Association

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2017

	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Cash and Bank Accounts		
Bank	8,857.73	3,255.31
Barclays BPA	23,492.55	18,487.95
Cash	8,926.33	3,462.66
Lake Bank Restoration Fund	409.40	409.40
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	41,686.01	25,615.32
Other Assets:		
Leasehold Property	253,670.80	253,670.80
TOTAL Other Assets	253,670.80	253,670.80
TOTAL ASSETS	295,356.81	279,286.12
REPRESENTED BY:		
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
LIABILITIES	409.40	409.40
EQUITY	294,947.41	278,876.72
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	295,356.81	279,286.12