



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2018

Present

Irene Watson (Chair)	Sarah Abbott (Resident)
Peter Hill (Treasurer)	Hilary Addison (Resident)
Chris Martin (Resident/Vice Chair Elect)	Janet Barratt (Resident)
Celia Young (Resident/Secretary Elect)	Gill Brookling (Resident)
Tina Hartley (Resident/Treasurer Elect)	Barbara Challoner (Resident)
George Binyon (Resident/Editor, Goldsworth News)	Robert Challoner (Resident)
Royer Slater (Resident/Editorial Team)	Jonny Cope (Resident)
Steve Willson (Resident/Webmaster)	Jan Cragg (Resident)
Christina Candey (Resident/GN Advertising)	Steve Davies (Resident)
Katie Sherlock (Resident/NGP)	Pauline Eastwood (Resident)
Ian Eastwood (WB Councillor)	Gill Edwards (Resident)
Chitra Rana (WB Councillor)	Anne Ehlers (Resident)
Ann-Marie Barker (WB Councillor)	Jenny Ehlers (Resident)
Colin Kemp (SCC Councillor)	Aenne Hayman (Resident)
Saj Hussain (SCC Councillor)	Roger Hayman (Resident)
Hannah Rees (WBC)	Sharon Kearney (Resident)
Shani Orchard (St Andrew's Church)	Valerie Marsen (Resident)
Roger Westcott (Fishing Club)	David Powell (Resident)
Peter Kirby (Radio Sailing)	Ian Rickard (Resident)
James Sanderson (Visitor)	Francis Windsor (Resident)
	Chris Wright (Resident)
	Sheila Wright (Resident)
	Gerald Sweeney

1. Opening and Welcome

The Chair of the GPCA opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everyone to the 2018 Annual General Meeting of the Goldsworth Park Community Association.

2. Apologies for Absence

Ray Morgan (Chief Executive, WBC); Gerry Smeesters (Natural Goldsworth Park); Sean Larkin (Lakeside Christian Fellowship); Emily Ferris (Head Teacher, Beaufort School); Fran Siwicka (Manager, Waitrose); Jayne Cooper (CEO, Woking & Sam Beare Hospices); Sandie Bolger (Surrey Youth Service); Marian Alden (Resident); Gordon Bowerman (Resident); Bryan Cross (Resident); Sue Johnson (Resident); Holger Marsen (Resident); Sue Mason (Resident); Liz Wilkinson (Resident); Wanda Binyon (Resident); Michael Addison (Resident).

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 7th November 2017

Agreed.

4. Matters Arising

Irene Watson said that there would be reports from herself, as Chair, and from Peter Hill, Treasurer. Both would be happy to take questions, but she requested that they be left until the end of each report or, if they were more general questions, until the end of the meeting.

Those with questions were asked to state their name and whether they were a resident of Goldsworth Park or representing an organisation.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

For reporting purposes, the GPCA's year is July to June but some of the reports may go a bit wider than this.

The Constitution of the GPCA sets out the objectives, the first of which is to promote the benefit of the residents of Goldsworth Park, which is taken to mean representing and promoting their interests and there are several ways in which we do this.

5.1 Meetings

At the last AGM it was agreed to hold public meetings on a quarterly basis with the Committee meeting between the quarterly meetings to conduct the GPCA's business. The quarterly meetings for January and April went ahead as planned with 18 or 19 people attending.

An Extraordinary General Meeting was called at the end of June to consider closing the GPCA down and this meeting was attended by over 60 people; there will be more of this later in the report.

The mailing list of interested parties who get the minutes and other information now stands at over 100.

5.2 Communications

5.2.1 Another way that the GPCA achieves its objectives is by publishing the community magazine – **Goldsworth News**, with George Binyon continuing as Editor; his experience in Fleet Street is invaluable in producing a lively and informative magazine and many positive comments have been received.

GB explained that 5000 copies of the magazine are now printed, and these are delivered by volunteers to most homes in Goldsworth Park and are available in many of the shops in the centre and in St Andrews Church, the new Hospice building, the Salvation Army, Dianthus and the Lakeview Community Centre.

In addition to news stories, the magazine is used to promote community and charitable activities such as the new virtual Neighbourhood Watch, Andy's Café at St Andrews Church, Brockhill and the Hospice, etc.

GB thanked Roger Westcott, Kate Wyles and Royer Slater for their regular contributions to Goldsworth News, and made special mention of writer and cartoonist, Malcolm Head, who died suddenly last year.

Paul Webster of the Webster Consultancy retired from sourcing the advertisements which pay for the printing of the magazine and Christina Candey has taken over this role. She has already found some new advertisers and, hopefully, the magazine will soon be back in profit.

Linda Hill continues as the Newsletter distributor. She manages to keep deliverers on board and to find more when necessary. However, more volunteers would always be welcome.

5.2.2 The GPCA has a **Web Site** www.ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk managed by Steve Willson. It is a useful way for residents to keep in touch with the GPCA and they can post questions and comments.

The traffic on the website has reduced recently and this trend could continue – the most visited pages used to be those to do with the facilities at the Hall and how to book. Social media could also be having an effect. It may be time to have a rethink about the style and content of the site. SW invited anyone interested in joining the website team to contact him.

Goldsworth News is available on the website and back numbers are available too.

5.2.3 **Social Media** – the GPCA has had both Facebook and Twitter accounts for a while, and now Cathy Salmon, who is well versed in social media, has recently set up a Goldsworth Park Facebook Group which already has 270 members.

Cllr Colin Kemp suggested that the GPCA shared information with Horsell Wire.

5.3. Community Matters

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

5.3.2 The GPCA organised the Christmas Tree in the shopping centre courtyard, for the second year, with contributions from the Church and the shops. There were Christmas songs and carols around the Tree with the Rainbows and Brownies joining in. Unfortunately, Storm Dylan blew the tree over, but it was put up again. This year, the lights will be turned on at 6.00pm on Friday, 7th December when there will be Christmas songs and carols led by the Community Choir, SingGold.

5.3.3 In the shopping centre, after the success with disabled parking, there has been no movement toward getting more Parent and Child parking. The Managing Agents had spoken of the possibility of resurfacing the car park and changing the traffic flow, but the only improvement has been that the worst pot-holes have been filled in. The GPCA's efforts, in concert with Waitrose, to get the fencing round the shrubs repaired resulted in the fences being removed.

It is good to note that the problems raised last year about parking, when the Hospice opened, have largely been resolved; thanks are due to the Hospice for asking staff and volunteers to use the Hospice car park if there are spaces and to park away from the health centre and shops if they have to park in the main car park. The car park is generally more full than it used to be but it does not appear that people are unable to find a parking space now.

5.3.4 The GPCA conducted 2 litter picks – Spring and Autumn – both were well attended by residents and it was good to see so many children taking part. Less rubbish was collected than on the first litter picks so perhaps the publicity is having an effect. Thanks are due to Hannah Rees, the Neighbourhood Officer who 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. Pauline Eastwood will be organising the litter-picks next year.

5.3.5 Natural Goldsworth Park – Gerry Smeesters, Project Manager

Unfortunately, GS was unable to attend the AGM but had provided a report.

There have been surveys of plants, butterflies, bats, insects and a start has been made on identifying the fungi. Bird activity includes buzzards and red kites, woodpeckers and owls, plus the 300 or so jackdaws that roost in the woods. Evidence of badger activity continues, and deer visit from Horsell Common. It is good to hear of the number of sightings of hedgehogs in the Park.

However, one of the 2018 highlights was the abundance of butterfly species identified on North Meadow. Some eighteen species were identified and photographed during a two-month period.

The most significant finding from the survey activity is the number of bat species using the habitat. There were some 12,000 bat fly-passes recorded during a twelve day survey period in July; seven species have been confirmed and a further four species are listed as 'possibles', including two 'rare' species. To put this into context, the UK has only 17 resident species. While probably not a breeding site, North Meadow and the lake are valuable sources of food and could be pivotal for bats in this part of Surrey.

The Lake – Roger Westcott, Angling Club

This year, the swans were not so successful as the eggs mysteriously disappeared. The kingfishers are still alive and active, but there were no signs of breeding this year. 100 species of birds have been recorded around the lake, plus 15 species of dragonfly, which is something to be proud of. The Angling Club is trying to discourage the cormorants, seabirds which have come inland, and which are detrimental to the fish stocks in the lake.

The Fishing Club is going well and the bailiffs regularly patrol the lake banks. The maintenance of the banks of the lake has been taken over by the Fishing Club. Residents/volunteers are encouraged to join the quarterly work-parties which are a joint GPAC and GPCA enterprise – dates are on Club’s website and will be published in Goldsworth News.

The Club is looking at safety issues for the safety of children, especially around the concrete jetties, which are the drainage pipes for the lake.

RW thanked GPCA for its continued help and encouragement.

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

5.4 The Hall

There had been comments from people who found it difficult to find the Hall from Wishbone Way so the GPCA commissioned a new direction sign for Wishbone Way. Thanks are due to Gary Collins, a graphic designer who is a member of the Angling Club, who helped with the design at no cost and to Cllrs Colin Kemp and Saj Hussain who financed the sign from their allocations of funds for local projects.

The Hall was doing fairly well, plenty of regular and one-off bookings, and the GPCA had invested in new furniture and equipment. Then, at the last AGM, Peter Hill, the Treasurer, gave notice of his wish to retire and Paul Davies, the other Committee Member/Trustee who looked after the Hall, relocated out of the area. All attempts to find replacements were unsuccessful and, as the GPCA is unable to continue with fewer than three Committee Members, the Committee had to begin the process of winding the GPCA up. As part of that process, discussions were started with the Woking Borough Council about the future of the Community Hall, owned by WBC and leased to the GPCA. It was agreed that the GPCA would surrender the lease and that the premises would then be leased to Dianthus Trading which would operate it as a community building and would honour all existing bookings. The GPCA surrendered the lease on 31st August and Dianthus took over on 1st September 2018.

As part of this arrangement, Dianthus Trading and the GPCA signed a Memorandum of Understanding under which Dianthus Trading will provide the GPCA with room for meetings free of charge, allow some storage space and donate £1,000 each year in recognition of the investment that the GPCA had made in the Hall since the fire.

WBC has agreed that the GPCA will have first refusal on re-leasing the Community Hall should Dianthus Trading surrender their lease.

5.5 Charitable Status

Fortunately, the threat of the demise of the GPCA brought a number of potential trustees forward, so the GPCA can continue in the form of a “residents” association – although the term “community” is preferred.

GPCA now has six volunteers to be Trustees of a new charity when it is set up and some are standing for election to the current Committee to enable the GPCA to carry on through the change.

The GPCA is now in a position to apply for registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation – a CIO –and this will be done as soon as the annual report and accounts for the past year have been submitted to the Charity Commission.

5.6 Partner Organisations

The GPCA continues to work in co-operation with other groups on the lake and recreation ground and the new neighbours, the Woking and Sam Beare Hospice, for whom the GPCA played host at the Dragon Boat Fun Day and provided refreshments.

5.6 The Chair gave a vote of thanks to everyone who had helped with the work of the GPCA during the year, particularly: -

- Paul Davies, Vice Chairman who moved away earlier this year;

- Peter Hill for his work as Treasurer and particular thanks for staying on so long after he wanted to retire, so that the GPCA could carry on;
- Pauline and Ian Eastwood, Hall and Bar Manager deserve special thanks for all their work; they have played key roles in the running of the GPCA and the Community Hall for longer than anyone else now involved.
- George Binyon, Goldsworth News Editor and regular contributors – Royer Slater and Michael Farlam, and also a special mention for Malcolm Head, who sadly passed away just recently.
- Paul Webster and now Christina Candey for sourcing advertising, Tim Burdett for design 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 running the web-site;
- Gerry Smeesters, who is leading on the Natural Goldsworth Park Project;
- Hannah Jennings from WBC for her support on many issues and particularly litter-picks;
- Gary Rimay-Muranyi for his support and generosity;
- and, in his absence, to Ray Morgan of WBC who facilitated the change of management of the Hall.

Questions were invited following the Chairperson's Report, but none were forthcoming.

6. Treasurer's Report

PH explained that the accounts are produced on a receipts and payments basis and do not take into account the value of any stock held nor amounts owing to the GPCA at year end.

Overall, the GPCA made a deficit of £5,441 in the last financial year.

Income:

Bar takings amounted to £12,644, which was £5,000 down on the previous year and income from bookings amounted to £29,438, £3,000 less than in the previous year. Included in booking incomes is an amount that is related to the use of the bar, but this has not been separated out.

Grant income of £544 relates to SCC members contribution towards the new direction sign at the end of Wishbone Way.

Income from Newsletter advertising amounted to £6,113. This amount does not include the advertising income for the June/July edition.

Expenditure:

Bar expenditure, comprising of stock costs, staffing and sundry items such as gas, amounted to £15,149. Servicing costs are the people costs to run the bar. Repairs to equipment relate to the maintenance and repair of refrigeration equipment; some of which was deemed not repairable. When compared to the income, a small deficit has been made.

Social expenditure is in respect of the GPCA's contribution towards the shopping centre Christmas tree.

Hall expenses are significantly higher than the previous year. This is partly as a result for employing a cleaner for most of the year. In addition, a new floor cleaning machine was purchased at a cost of £1,100.

Services costs, which covers utilities, is inclusive of a "catch up" invoice from EDF who had not read the electricity meter since the hall re-opened after the fire. This resulted in a charge of £3,438 in December 2017. The monthly direct debit had been £156, which was increased to £252 in January 2018.

Miscellaneous maintenance is made up of several small works contracts carried out at the hall and several equipment service contracts.

Within other expenses is the cost of Goldsworth News, including the charge for printing the June/July edition.

Miscellaneous expenses include the cost of:

- Licensee course for bar staff and others - £1,176
- New refrigerators for the bar - £2,323
- Storage cupboards - £472
- Direction sign and installation - £544

Insurance costs includes the full annual premium for the building's insurance.

Charitable donations relate to the RBL Poppy Appeal (£15), a donation to WSB Hospice from the bar at the Dragon Boat Race event (£350) and support for the GPR FC charity quiz evening (£100).

Sundry General expense includes the Independent Examiner's fee of £480 and payroll services (£77).

Balance Sheet

As can be seen from the Balance sheet, the GPCA still has a healthy cash balance. The funds in the deposit account are, of course, not earning much in the way of interest.

The Balance Sheet recognises the liability that arises from the Lake Bank Restoration Fund. The GPCA is acting as the banker for Lake Bank Restoration Fund and these donations and costs are not passing through the GPCA I&E because they are not a GPCA activity.

The asset is the Community Association section of the Goldwater Lodge building at original cost plus the cost of the extension that was made many years ago. For insurance purposes, the value insured is at the cost of replacing and is arranged via WBC.

Questions were invited following the Treasurer's Report, but none were forthcoming.

7. Election of Officers and Committee

The current Committee, comprising IW – Chair, PD – Vice Chair, PH – Treasurer and GS – Committee Member stood down.

IW said that she was prepared to stand again unless there was anyone else who would like to take the Chair; otherwise, she would stay on while GPCA achieves the new charitable status. Neither Paul Davies nor Peter Hill were standing again. There were volunteers prepared to stand for election to the key positions and, as they were not known to the majority of residents, they would give a brief introduction to themselves.

IW then handed over to GR-M to manage the elections

Election of Chairperson – Irene Watson

Proposed by Saj Hussain, seconded by Roger Westcott, carried unanimously.

Election of Vice-Chairperson – Chris Martin

Proposed by Hilary Addison, seconded by Pauline Eastwood, carried unanimously.

Election of Treasurer – Tina Hartley

Proposed by Peter Hill, seconded by Ian Eastwood, carried unanimously.

Election of Secretary – Celia Young

Proposed by Sharon Kearney, seconded by Katie Sherlock, carried unanimously.

These elections mean that the GPCA now has a Committee to manage the charity for the short time until it becomes a CIO. The current committee members will become Trustees of the new charity along with George Binyon, Gerry Smeesters and Cathy Salmon.

8. Reports from Associated and Other Local Organisations

Reports were invited from other local organisations; the Angling Club had reported under 5.3.5 above and no other reports were forthcoming.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 Peter Hill

Just before handing over to the Floor for questions, the Chair had one important item of business to conduct. Peter Hill was retiring as Treasurer after 15 years in the role. IW recognised that he had wanted to retire for the last few years and that he had stayed on to support her when she took over as Chair; and he stayed on while she tried to recruit a replacement – something she only managed to do once GPCA no longer managed the Hall.

She could not let him go without recording her sincere thanks for his invaluable contribution over the years and the thanks of everyone who supports the GPCA, and presented Peter with a token of appreciation.

9.2 Questions and observations

A suggestion from Royer Slater asked if it might be possible to arrange for Nature Walks to take place around the Lake and North Meadow. IW said that a similar suggestion had been made for people at the Forget-me-not café at Brockhill; Katie Sherlock added that it was being looked into.

Cllr Ann-Marie Barker reminded the meeting that there would be a grand planting of tulips, donated by Squires Garden Centre, along verges and open spaces on Saturday, 10 November, meeting at The Lodge at 2pm.

In response to question about the general management of the Lake area and North Meadow, Hannah Rees, Neighbourhood Officer from WBC, informed the meeting about new plantings of hornbeams and lime trees, part of the management programme for the next 2 to 3 years.

George Binyon asked whether the Council was aware of certain willow trees that had become dangerous. HR responded that she was aware of the problem and that they are due to be inspected and dealt with in the very near future. She assured him that the Council was listening and responding to reports that are sent to them.

There being no further questions, the Meeting was closed at 9.15pm, and everyone was invited to partake of refreshments and to socialise.

Goldsworth Park Community Association

Income & Expenditure Account for the period ended 30th June 2018

	2018 £	2017 £
INCOME		
Bank Interest	27.56	4.60
Bar Income:		
Takings	12,644.36	17,600.61
TOTAL Bar Income	12,644.36	17,600.61
Grant Income	544.00	0.00
Advertising Income	6,113.00	6,990.25
Hall Income:		
Bookings	29,438.85	32,502.50
TOTAL Hall Income	29,438.85	32,502.50
 TOTAL INCOME	 48,767.77	 57,097.96
EXPENDITURE		
Bar Expenses:		
Stock costs	9,881.89	10,022.52
Sundry costs	554.87	1,142.61
Repair & Maintenance Bar Equipment	1,559.66	0.00
Servicing costs	3,152.50	3,742.57
TOTAL Bar Expenses	15,148.92	14,907.70
 Social	 50.91	 48.68
Hall Expenses:		
Cleaning	4,358.30	2,302.98
Cleaning materials and equipment	2,121.35	202.50
Fire Damage repairs, cleaning etc	0.00	0.00
Maintenance	3,267.47	2,253.27
Manager Expenses	3,206.43	3,135.33
Rates & Rent	562.00	423.00
Refurbishment costs	0.00	0.00
Services Costs	9,034.25	4,751.40
Sundry	561.09	1,725.13
TOTAL Hall Expenses	23,110.89	14,793.61
Insurance	2,070.99	1,676.52
Charitable Donations	465.00	538.00
Miscellaneous Expense	4,518.72	154.53
Natural Goldsworth Park project	0.00	23.25
Newsletter Costs	7,658.75	8,209.75
Newsletter Distribution	275.00	405.00
Stationery & Post	298.06	270.23
Sundry general expenses	611.31	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	15,897.83	11,277.28
 SURPLUS of (Expenditure over Income) / Income over Expenditure	 (5,440.78)	 16,070.69

Goldsworth Park Community Association

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2018

	2018	2017
ASSETS		
Cash and Bank Accounts		
Bank	7,656.26	8,857.73
Barclays BPA	23,520.11	23,492.55
Cash	4,659.46	8,926.33
Lake Bank Restoration Fund	409.40	409.40
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	36,245.23	41,686.01
Other Assets:		
Leasehold Property	253,670.80	253,670.80
TOTAL Other Assets	253,670.80	253,670.80
TOTAL ASSETS	289,916.03	295,356.81
 REPRESENTED BY:		
 LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
 LIABILITIES	409.40	409.40
EQUITY	289,506.63	294,947.41
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	289,916.03	295,356.81