

# **MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**held on WEDNESDAY, 18th October 2023 in The Lodge**

## **Trustees and Postholders**

George Binyon – Chair and Trustee  
Chris Taylor – Secretary & Editor Goldsworth News  
Tina Hartley – Treasurer  
Celia Young – Trustee  
Dueyna Chinere – Trustee  
Steve Davies – Trustee  
Christina Candey – Advertising Manager

## **Corporate Members**

Anne-Marie Barker – WBC  
Stephen Oades – WBC  
Martin Sullivan – WBC  
Saj Hussain – SCC  
Patrick Coad – St Andrew’s Church  
Sylvia Lambart – GP Guides  
Roger Westcott – GPAC

## **Apologies Corporate Members**

Bob Cowell – Communities Officer and Trustee  
Seanne Hunter-Hill – WBC  
Rev Scott Smith – St Andrew’s Church  
Hilary Harris – GP Cubs  
Jonathan Lord MP

## **Members**

Chitra Rana  
Steve Willson  
Bob and Barbara Challoner  
Irene Watson  
Pam Taylor  
Chris Arthur  
Hilary and Michael Addison  
Ian Eastwood  
Julie Newsam  
Wanda Binyon  
John Covus  
Liz Wilkinson

## **Apologies Members**

Ron Butler  
Jenny Ehlers  
Susan Nichols  
Malcolm Walrond  
Royer Slater  
Jill Arthur

## **1. Opening and Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the fourth Annual General Meeting of Goldsworth Park Community Association CIO.

## **2. Guest Speaker Binnie Crookes-Martin SCC Local Area Coordinator for Goldsworth Park**

The Chair introduced Binnie who gave a presentation on her new role for Goldsworth Park.

Binnie told the meeting that she was one of a number of LAC’s appointed across Surrey by Surrey County Council. Binnie explained that their role was to help people live their best lives, and to recognise their own strengths and capabilities before seeking help from more formal support and services.

After her talk, which was well received by the meeting, Binnie answered questions from the floor.

The Chair thanked Binnie for her participation and wished her every success in her new role, adding that the GPCA's *Goldsworth News* magazine and Facebook Group could assist her in building a relationship with the community.

Binnie Crookes-Martin can be contacted at [bintou.crookesmartin@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:bintou.crookesmartin@surreycc.gov.uk)

**3. Apologies for Absence** – see above

#### **4. Minutes of the last AGM**

The minutes of the meeting on 19th October 2022 had been distributed. They were agreed as an accurate account of the Meeting.

#### **5. Trustees' Annual Report**

The annual report to the Charity Commission for the year July 2022 to June 2023 had already been circulated, along with the accounts. The purpose of the Annual Report is to show the Charity Commission that the GPCA CIO is meeting its objectives by summarising its achievements.

The Chair presented the Trustees' annual report of the Association's activities over the year.

These activities included:

- Laying a wreath the outdoor Remembrance Day service at the war memorial
- Erecting and decorating the Christmas tree in the shopping centre with St Andrew's Church and Goldsworth Park Angling Club
- Chair's sit-down meeting with Woking Council leader Cllr Ann-Marie Barker as part of her programme to meet community associations in the borough
- A working party to help clear invasive cherry laurel from the woods by the lake
- Running a refreshment stall in The Lodge with volunteers for the Woking and Sam Beare Hospice Dragon Boat race day
- Sponsoring the children's roundabout rides at the Guides and church summer fair to the tune of £600.00
- Organising a residents survey to get feedback on what social events would be preferable for the GPCA to organise
- Three community litter picks

The Chair added that there had been three editions of the *Goldsworth News* and that advertising was holding up well. There were now over 1,600 members of the GPCA Facebook Group.

Councillor Saj Hussain thanked George for his chairmanship of the GPCA.

#### **6. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer Tina Hartley reported that the Association's main source of income over the year was from advertising revenue for the *Goldsworth News*. Expenditure included supporting community events such as the roundabout rides at the Guides and church summer fair, maintenance, insurance and printing costs for *Goldsworth News*. The deficit for the year was £3,067.00.

Tina added that £2,000.00 was still outstanding from Dianthus, owed as part of the lease transfer of The Lodge from the GPCA to Dianthus in 2017.

## **7. Retirement and election of Trustees**

Charity Commission rules for a CIO charity like the GPCA require new trustees to be formally elected by members at the AGM. Dueyna Chinere was proposed by Anne-Marie Barker and seconded by Hilary Addison. Steve Davies was proposed by Patrick Coad and seconded by Irene Watson - both were voted in unanimously.

Commission rules also require a third of existing trustees to stand down each year. This year Tina Hartley and outgoing secretary Celia Young stood down with both agreeing to seek re-election. Tina Hartley was proposed by Wanda Binyon and seconded by Irene Watson. Celia Young was proposed by Saj Hussain and seconded by Celia Young – both were voted in unanimously.

## **8. Questions from the floor and AOB**

Bob Challoner, the former project manager of Natural Goldsworth Park, was invited by the Chair to give an update on Natural Goldsworth Park. Bob told the meeting that plans for tree planting close to the playground in conjunction with Woking Council, the Tree Council and Network Rail had been abandoned due to a lack of progress by these organisations and that Natural Goldsworth Park would now be applying to the Woodland Trust for funding for the project.

The Chair informed the meeting that the GPCA continues to look for a new leader and project manager for Natural Goldsworth Park. The Chair thanked Bob for his hard work over the years in running and supporting the Natural Goldsworth Park project.

The Chair then invited the Goldsworth Park Angling Club secretary and water bailiff Roger Westcott to provide an update on the sterling work undertaken by Roger and his team. Roger updated the meeting that the three cygnets on the lake were doing well and other wildfowl including grebes had had a successful breeding season. There had also been a re-stocking of fish including recently 200 tench. A large number of the fishing platforms had been repaired. The angling club has reinvested approx. £20,000 in Goldsworth Lake resulting in the lake being healthy due to professional management. One angler apparently stated “Never fished in such a well managed lake”.

Christina asked “How clean is the lake water? Roger informed “A1 for fish but not great for humans – hence no swimming”. This is in part due to a high rat population around the lake. In part the rat population is being encouraged by a huge (20 to 30 loaves plus rolls and pizza bases) amount of food waste being regularly “dumped” by the picnic area. Roger informed this activity is fly tipping.

The chair thanked Roger for the update and continuing support.

Dueyna informed the meeting that as a result of the survey undertaken by the GPCA a tea and cake get-together is being planned.

Saj Hussain informed the meeting that on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 6.30 to 8.30 a Police community event is being held at The Lodge – all are welcome to attend.

Bob Challoner raised the matter of grass verges not being regularly cut in particular some “island areas” near homes. After discussion it appears these areas are owned by Persimmon Homes Camberley who residents should contact to request maintenance. Saj offered to meet Bob to progress plus Ann-Marie also offered to investigate.

Irene Watson thanked the Chair and Trustees for continuing the work of the GPCA over the past 12 months.

George thanked the Trustees for their support in particular Celia for her time as Secretary of the GPCA.

Date of next meeting – April 2024.