



The Committee of Management of  
Hanover Crescent Enclosure

## **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Committee of Management of Hanover Crescent Enclosure DRAFT 3**

**Wed 24 June 2020**

### **Opening**

*This meeting was held on-line using Zoom. All residents and owners had been informed of the meeting and those that said they wished to attend were sent a link to the meeting via email.* The Annual General Meeting of the Committee of Management of Hanover Crescent Enclosure was called to order at 19:40. Neil Smith began by welcoming everyone to the meeting and introduced the chair of the meeting, Leanne Allan.

### **Present**

There were 16 attendees at the start of the meeting. Apologies were received from 4 residents.

### **Nominations for Membership of the Committee**

All members of the outgoing Committee volunteered to be re-elected.

### **Approval of the Minutes of the last AGM**

The minutes of the 2019 AGM were approved.

### **Secretary's Report and Review of the last year.**

John Hinchliffe presented the report, part of the published AGM pack, and summarised the Committee's activities for the past year.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Neil Smith introduced the financial statement, part of the published AGM pack, on behalf of the Treasurer, explaining the accounts were in good order with a gradual building of a reserve fund. There were no questions about the statement.

### **Election of the Committee**

Fifteen minutes having elapsed and no further nominations for the committee having been made or any objections having been received, the outgoing members were re-elected for the next 12 months. There were no questions from the floor.

## **GENERAL MEETING**

### **General Business**

#### **1. Garden and Tree Maintenance.**

John Hird described the new planting that had been done over the year. There are still gaps in the planting towards the south end (as a result of the wall maintenance work and the damage to Elm trees) that will gradually be filled with at least some evergreen trees. It was noted that the lawn and new furniture were being well used over the last few months.

Tree maintenance over the year was minimal with no major works. Views on future work on the trees is welcome. The trees overhanging the parking bays at the south end mean that those parking bays are little used – because of the pigeons and the sizes of the bays. Trees there have been cut back, but only complete removal of at least one of the larger holm oaks would have a significant impact. It was not felt that this, or the re-design of the parking bay chevrons was necessary at the moment. Trees also overhang the bays towards the north end and John H will review this with Julie from 23/24.

#### **2. Recommendation for Fence and Gates as Deterrent to Drug Use**

John Hird introduced this proposal, which arises as a result of requests for the committee to investigate options at last year's AGM. The proposal is for installation of chain link fence barriers at each end of the back path as described in the background paper at a cost of around £4000. The proposal was generally welcomed. There was some concern that it may merely displace the problem elsewhere on the crescent and that it may be overkill in addressing the problem and that it may be unsightly. It was agreed that the fence would not solve the whole problem but was an additional deterrent, that the very high level of concern expressed over many years warranted such a project, that the fence would be constructed to blend in with existing vegetation with new planting to grow up and around the fence. It was also noted that if there were problems of any sort it could be removed.

In a vote, the proposal was accepted with 9 votes in favour, subject to final designs being made available to residents for comment.

#### **3. Parking Issues**

New permits have been circulated. There has been a busy time monitoring scaffolding lorries and trade vans recently. There are still sufficient spaces, but the committee continue to monitor this. The inclusion of the Hanover Crescent address on the permits was an error and would be corrected on future passes.

#### **4. Recommendation for installation of Electricity Supply in the Garden**

Neil Smith introduced this proposal, which arises as a result of requests for the committee to investigate options at previous AGMs. A number of future and current uses for the supply were

mentioned. The works will provide sufficient capacity for any foreseeable future use and improve the infrastructure of the Crescent. The budget amount of £7000 is preliminary and subject to tender but is high because the main works can only be done by UK Power Networks.

In a vote, the proposal was accepted with 11 votes in favour.

#### **5. Electric vehicle Chargers**

It was reported that the survey results did not justify going ahead with this at this time.

#### **6. Crescent levy for 2020/21**

The recommendation to continue the Levy at the same rate as last year was approved with 12 votes in favour.

#### **7. Dogs on Lawn**

It was generally agreed that resident's dogs are not the cause of fouling on the lawn with the resident foxes the likely culprits. Neil Smith proposed that the former bylaw be reinstated: "Residents will keep dogs under control on the lawn and gardens". There were no comments on this proposal and no vote was held.

#### **7. Any Other Business.**

The issue of rubbish collections, particularly glass recycling, was raised. The Committee does not believe it can do much about what seems to be a general problem in Brighton.

There was further discussion about anti-social behaviour of groups coming over from the Level, the anxiety this can cause, and non-residents using the gardens in general. One suggestion was a further experiment with using security companies, perhaps on a call-out basis. Neil Smith said he will look at options and costings.

At approximately 21:00, the Chair thanked everyone and Neil 21 thanked Leanne Allan for chairing and closed the meeting.

JH 26/Jun/2016