

**SUMMERSDALE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2013**  
**at St. Michael's Hall**

[www.summersdaleresidents.co.uk](http://www.summersdaleresidents.co.uk)

*Residents Working Together*

**Present**

Jeremy Hunt (Chairman)

Roger Hobbs (Vice Chairman/Minutes)

Mrs Sue Spooner

Michael Berry (Newsletter Distribution)

Peter Bickley (Treasurer and Minutes Sec No.2)

Mike Steel (Webmaster)

Andrew Birch (Planning Secretary)

Mrs Mary Quiney (Newsletter Editor)

**1. Welcome to Members Attending**

The Chairman welcomed SRA members, Ray Carter (RC), Robert Johnston (RJ), Liane Ellis, Janet Leonard, Hanelore Thomas, Bill Ure, Mike Prangnell, Linda Exelby, John Isard (JI), Gill & John Fielding (JF).

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Trevor Owen (Assistant Planning Secretary), Dennis Martin (Goodwood Liaison), Mrs Vanessa Stern (Membership)

**3. Minutes of Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2013 were accepted.**

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

No Matters Arising

**5. Planning**

**Draft Local Plan Report**

AB introduced the topic. The plan once adopted would be the principal planning tool for Chichester District Council for the period 2014 – 2029. The importance of having an adopted Local Plan is that it gives the planning authority CDC an ability to refuse development where it does not accord with the Plan. It also provides the ability for CDC to charge a Community Infrastructure Levy to assist in mitigating the effects of the development. The Plan is based on an annual target of 395 houses a year from 2012 to 2029. The CDC preferred approach is to allocate the additional houses that are not already catered for in existing planning permissions to four main sites. These are; North-East Chichester at Westhamnett (Old Farm Place), West Chichester (White House Farm), Shopwyke Lakes, and North Tangmere. Some medium scale extensions are also proposed to Southbourne, Selsey, and East Wittering/Bracklesham. CDC are constrained to some extent by the South Downs National Park which is excluded from this Local Plan as they produce their own and Chichester Harbour an area of outstanding natural beauty.

RH reported on the meeting that SRA Members attended at Chichester City Council where CCC was discussing the Local Plan in an open forum. A Chichester City Impact Study was presented by consultants commissioned by CCC. It concluded that the development of the strategic housing sites could stimulate parts of the local economy, and could create affordable housing although it did acknowledge that the affordability would require 'social engineering'. It could also rebalance the social mix and the population age profile. The developments would not change the existing City Centre function. Traffic congestion at peak times would become more significant, and the attractiveness of the City as a whole would be detrimentally impacted. It would have a significant effect on the historic city setting and inevitably lead to an increase in urbanisation of a currently rural area. A further report on the Chichester Community Assets Project 2013 into what the citizens of Chichester value about their own immediate area, concluded that the main aspect enjoyed was the compact, walkable and friendly nature of the City, along with the open space provision and the proximity to the Downs and coast. The meeting also took many questions from the floor, which challenged the ability of people to purchase affordable housing. The meeting heard that currently the affordable housing was generally being satisfied through the private rented sector with state subsidy and the Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update (SHMAU) suggested that this would continue to make up the shortfall in genuine affordable housing.

Attending members then spoke from the floor. John Fielding (JF) presented a very informative paper which challenged the whole basis of the Local Plan. In respect to JF we felt that to summarise his presentation would lessen its impact. JF has therefore very kindly agreed to the SRA publishing his presentation on our

website. Please go to [Summersdaleresidents.co.uk /planning](http://Summersdaleresidents.co.uk/planning) and then click on *here* under the Analysis by John Fielding.

John Isard suggested that perhaps County Hall could be moved from Chichester and that site could be used for housing. Robert Johnston felt that any building on Greenfield sites should be discouraged as there would be a loss of agricultural land.

JH raised the issue of lack of infrastructure plans put forward by the CDC. He understood that a full infrastructure plan was being developed, but not in time for this consultation period. JH reported that the CDC had stated that until the sites for the new houses had been determined they couldn't produce an infrastructure plan. JH suggested that if we knew more about infrastructure plans, such as roads, schooling, sewage etc we might be more likely to listen to the CDC's plans. It is a question of which comes first, the chicken or the egg!

It was agreed that until there were some satisfactory answers to our concerns on infrastructure matters, especially relating to traffic issues arising from the Whitehouse Farm site, the SRA would pursue a policy of objecting to any plans to build on greenfield sites. They considered that, in the words of the NPPF, the adverse impact of developing Whitehouse Farm and Old Place Farm would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits. JH encouraged individuals to go onto the CDC website to make their views known.

### **13/00390 – sign boards for surgery.**

The committee did not object to the principal of appropriate signs for the surgery. They did object to the proposed design as they considered the addition of logos to be advertising to be seen from the highway and not in keeping with their surroundings. AB would write to the CDC objecting in particular to the accompanying logos on the signs.

Members also discussed an application for a refreshments trailer at Hunters Race West Lavant. Although this was outside of the SRA area it was decided that as many of our members enjoyed walking in this particular part of the countryside we should raise a formal objection letter. (*Ed Note: Since our meeting this application has been refused by the CDC*)

## **6. Report from Treasurer**

Lloyds TSB Treasurer's a/c £1325.40 includes £360.45 RAGE2 fund

Lloyds TSB Business instant access a/c £8529.65 (including a fighting fund transfer of £1250 agreed on 4.4.13)

Nationwide Treasurer's Trust £38.85

## **7. Update from other Representatives.**

- a. **Webmaster MS.** Some more minor developments. E-mails are being well received.
- b. **CRAG SS** reported an encouraging meeting. There was a consensus around 'appropriate development' and that assumptions in the Local Plan should be challenged. RA's should work together and not against each other.
- c. **NMP Next meeting 25/06/2013 if anyone wants anything raised.** Gillian Berry circulated her report from the last meeting. JH thanked Gillian for providing additional information to members regarding a recent spate of burglaries.

## **8. Any Other Business**

MQ wants to start putting together the July's Newsletter and asked for all articles/notices/events/pictures to be with her by end May early June. **ALL Committee Members please note.**

Janet Leonard kindly offered to join and was co-opted onto the Committee. JL is happy to take over as minutes secretary if JH gets elected to the CC and RH becomes the Chairman.

RC reported that repairs to the wall of the Barracks was not in keeping with the rest of the wall and the wall was full of moisture

**Meeting closed 21:30**

**Date of Next Committee Meeting:**

**7.30 pm. Wed 5<sup>th</sup> June at St. Michael's Hall.**

RMH/JH Final 14/05/2013