



DORRIDGE & DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1961

ANNUAL REPORT

46th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 1st March 2007
Bentley Heath Community Hall, Widney Road, Bentley Heath, Solihull

AGENDA

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|--------|--|---------------|
| 7.30pm | Minutes 2006 AGM & Matters Arising | item 1 |
| 7.35pm | The Chair's Report - David Glanfield | item 2 |
| 8.00pm | The Treasurer's Report - Alan Holder | item 3 |
| 8.05pm | The Election of Officers & Committee - Malcolm Shepherd | item 4 |
| 8.10pm | Question Time | |
| 8.30pm | Interval, Coffee, Tea & Biscuits | |
| 9.00pm | Talk by ' Solihull Trading Standards & Licensing ' | |
| 9.45pm | Close of Meeting | |

1. DDRA MINUTES OF THE 45TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, THURSDAY 2ND MARCH 2006, AT BENTLEY HEATH COMMUNITY HALL, WIDNEY ROAD, BENTLEY HEATH, SOLIHULL.

Present and Apologies

The meeting was attended by approximately 40 Members including David Glanfield as Chairman.

David also welcomed Sgt Ann Strachan (Solihull Police).

Apologies were received from David Carter, Nest Overend, Helen Bragg, Lilian Gates, Yvonne Noble, Gladys Pemberton, Derek Grimmett, Alistair Laing-Scott and Gladys & Margaret Jowett.

Minutes of 2005 AGM and Matters Arising

The Minutes were approved. There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

David opened his report by paying tribute to the work of Jim Trangmar who sadly died on 24th April 2005.

On behalf of the Association he thanked all those people who made the Association work during the past year and in particular the Members of the Committee.

The Association was grateful for the support of our local Police led by Sgt Ann Strachan. Similarly we valued support from Solihull Council, which continues to respond positively to our requests and more importantly to act wherever possible. Thanks were also expressed to our three Ward Councillors and to the stalwarts who turn out to deliver 'The Newsletter'. We relied on the work of John Bragg and Colin Bennett for maintaining our membership database and auditing our accounts.

David said that one of the more significant changes in the past year has been our entry into the 21st Century with the creation of our website and a larger volume of e-mails.

We were also trying to strengthen the presentation of the DDRA as a significant organization in order to give ourselves the credibility which would cause the Council, Police, Railway Companies etc: to listen when we speak.

Referring again to the local Police, David said that strong links between the community and the Police were important and that Sgt Ann Strachan attends our Committee meetings and keeps us informed by telephone or e-mail of current issues. However it was also important for residents to do their bit but the poor attendance by the public at the twice-yearly Police Consultation Forum was disappointing and could lead to it being scrapped. Efforts to extend the play area at Bentley Heath had stalled for the moment because the regulation space required to install a slide is not available partly due to the Council creating a new path across the patch we wanted but we were still pursuing this. We were also still trying to get the sign erected, which will acknowledge DDRA's role in providing the play area in the first place.

We were very disappointed that it was not possible to establish some Christmas lights in Bentley Heath due to the layout and positioning of the shops and lamp standards. However we have at long last managed to address the problem of the unsightly garden outside Forest Court.

We petitioned, unsuccessfully, for a reduced speed limit through the centre of Dorridge but achieved, finally, the installation of a pedestrian crossing below the HSBC Bank. The DDRA had assisted Darley Green residents in getting a speed limit of 40mph. Dorridge Road has also suffered from speed merchants and action was being considered by the Council.

On Membership David reported that we didn't top the 1,000 paid up Members we had hoped for last year, ending with a final total of 875 but over half that number have already paid up for 2006. The Committee had tried over the years to introduce some kind of social activity but nothing succeeded until this year, when our trip to the Houses of Parliament was such a resounding success. We now hope to arrange a day visit to a place of interest on an annual basis.

The Association has made its position clear regarding the plans to extend Birmingham International Airport and we had a very gratifying response to the questionnaire in 'The Newsletter', so we will now write to submit our views.

Treasurer's Report

Alan Holder referred the Meeting to the Annual Accounts included in today's Agenda. The surplus was more than that for the previous year. However it was difficult to draw firm conclusions from this as there was an uneven flow in the Association's income and expenditure. As referred to in the Chairman's Report the Committee was planning expenditure on public spaces in the Village Centre and to utilise the Youth Account. The Accounts were approved.

Changes to the DDRA Constitution

Malcolm Shepherd referred to the proposed new Constitution circulated with today's Agenda. He identified the significant changes. These included the removal of the provision enabling the DDRA to adopt Candidates for election to Solihull Council and there was also no longer a restriction on the length of time that DDRA Officers could serve in a particular post. The total number of Committee members was reduced. The new DDRA Constitution was agreed.

Election of Officers and Committee

Malcolm referred to Item 5 on the Agenda listing the current Committee Members and showing that all were willing to stand for re-election. He confirmed that he had received the appropriate nominations as required by the Constitution. However additional nominations for Committee Members could be taken at the AGM and Malcolm encouraged new Members to come forward from the floor. Although none were forthcoming Malcolm said that the Committee would welcome informal contact from anyone who may wish to find out more about our work and who could then be co-opted at a later date.

As the Nominations for the Association Officers were unopposed and the number of Committee Members was within the total number allowed in the Constitution, Malcolm asked the Meeting to elect the DDRA Committee for the forthcoming year as follows; Chairman David Glanfield, Vice Chairman Glennis Portsmouth and Peter Radnall, Treasurer Alan Holder and Secretary Malcolm Shepherd.

Committee Members; Helen Bragg, Pam Nunn, David Bell, Dave Carter, Lilian Gates, Margaret Johnson, Martin Lambert, Nest Overend, Ian Spencer, Bridget Trangmar and Tim Burchell.

The Election of the above was agreed.

Malcolm said he would like to take this opportunity to express thanks to David for his work as Chairman during the past year and for agreeing to be our Chairman for the coming year. This was warmly endorsed by the Meeting.

Question Time

In response to a question about crime and anti-social behaviour Ann Strachan referred to the relatively low incidence of overall crime in our area. She also gave examples of the work being carried out by the Neighbourhood Police Team and of their successes with the support of the local community. The new Police Neighbourhood structure would come into effect on the 3rd April enabling a greater concentration on local issues. Various questions were raised about traffic and parking. Of particular concern was the problems caused by delivery vehicles to Tesco. David outlined the action that had been taken in co-operation with the Police and Solihull Council.

A Resident asked if it was likely that a Post Office would re-open in Dorridge. David said he believed some discussions were continuing but he was not aware of any outcome. Favourable comments were made on the DDRA web site and Ian Spencer was thanked for his work on this.

The Meeting was concluded.

2. DDRA THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – DAVID GLANFIELD

The report will be given in detail at Item 2 of the agenda, and will cover the following points:

- Welcome
- Neighbourhood Policing
- Motorway Service Areas M42
- Dorridge Station
- The Newsletter
- Thanks
- Traffic Management
- Toilets in Dorridge
- Gardens and planted areas
- Membership and Recruitment

3. DDRA ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD 1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER 2006 2005

GENERAL ACCOUNT			
INCOME	Subscriptions & Donations (including £388.00 for 2007)	2,217.00	1,701.00
	Donations from Business	0	350.00
	Newsletter Advertisement Fees	2,635.00	2,480.00
	Notice Board Advertisement Fees	140.00	80.00
	Bank Interest	166.89	89.81
	Donations for BHLSG	0	120.00
	Parliament Visitors Payments	1,200.00	1,245.00
		£6,358.89	£6,065.81
 EXPENDITURE			
	Newsletter Printing	1,390.06	1,498.56
	Plants & Landscaping	1,574.47	194.85
	Administration Expenses	363.53	163.65
	Insurance	205.00	195.00
	SALRUA Subscription	5.00	5.00
	Donation to BHLSG	0	120.00
	Hall Hire	30.00	49.50
	Membership Cards	0	86.72
	Parliament Visit Costs	1,200.00	1,245.00
		£4,768.06	£3,558.28
 SURPLUS		 £1,590.83	 £2,507.53
 YOUTH ACCOUNT			
INCOME	Bank Interest*	£85.29	£4.56
 SURPLUS		 £85.29	 £4.56

*note: In February 2006 a transfer of £4,500 was made to the General Deposit Account, to earn extra interest. General Deposit Interest is therefore shared for March 2006 and onwards

OVERALL POSITION				
SURPLUS	General	£1,590.83		
	Youth	£85.29	£1,676.12	£2,512.09

BANK BALANCES HSBC			
31 st December 2006	Current Account General	£1,549.56	£875.02
	Deposit Account General	£7,657.02	£6,740.73
	Youth	£4,584.36	
	Current Account Youth	£1,114.92	£5,613.99
		£14,905.86	£13,229.74

BALANCE INCREASE FOR YEAR (equalling operating surplus above) **£1,676.12** **£2,512.09**

Alan Holder, Hon Treasurer

Colin Bennett, Hon Auditor

4. DDRA OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2006/7 (15) – MALCOLM SHEPHERD, SECRETARY

*David Glanfield, Chair
*Alan Holder, Treasurer
*Margaret Johnson, Health
*Nest Overend, Police
Tim Burchall

*Glennis Portsmouth, Vice Chair & Youth
*Malcolm Shepherd, Secretary
*Martin Lambert, Education & Transport
*Ian Spencer, Planning
Lilian Gates

*Peter Radnall, Vice Chair & Editor
*Helen Bragg, Membership
*Pam Nunn, Events
*David Bell
*Bridget Trangmar

*members who have agreed to stand for election for 2007/8