

The Minutes of the 40th Annual general Meeting of Martlesham Heath Householders Limited held at The Pavilion, Martlesham Heath, on Tuesday 7th March 2017, commencing at 8.00pm.

Present: 46 members signed the register including the following:

Directors: Mr. D Foster (Chair) Mr. N Bennett Mrs A Thomason Mr J Kelso Mr I Davidson

In attendance: Mr. R Boggon Mr S Dijon Mrs K Gould Mr D Markham Mr C Rodgers

The notices convening the Annual General Meeting (as circulated) were taken as read.

1. Apologies for absence

Mr P Davies, Mr and Mrs J Walsh

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 39th Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the 39th Annual General Meeting held on 10th March 2016 were approved on the proposition of Mr. M Cook and seconded by Mr. K Gleen.

3. Consideration and approval of the Chairman's report

Mr Foster read out his report and thanked Mrs D Bennett for all her sterling work over previous years and presented Mr Bennett with a gift from MHHL for Mrs Bennett. The Chairman explained the two administrative roles and that of our local litter picker and thanked all parties for their work. He explained that MHHL had looked into a contingency with The Land Trust if MHHL could not continue to manage their assets and the payments required which were significantly more than the current maintenance charge. Further thanks was given to the SSSI team and all the volunteers and directors for their continued assistance. He also thanked two directors retiring, Mr Bennett and Mr Davidson for their valuable contributions over 13 and 8 years respectively. Mr Foster ended by stating that we needed additional volunteers to continue. The floor thanked Mr Foster for all his hard work.

The report was approved on the proposition of Mr. C Rodgers and seconded by Mrs. P Denton.

4. Consideration and approval of the accounts and balance sheet

Mr N Bennett presented the accounts with a report. He stated that last year's accounts showed a deficit of £4,192. This was against a backdrop of the first year of the maintenance charge being set at £30 per household, the budget being set at break-even and the previous years' deficit of £4,580.

This year with the maintenance charge having been set at £30 for the second year The Board approved a budget which was a worst case scenario of a deficit of £3,500. As at the last four months of our financial year we remained on course for a small surplus as shown in the AGM document at the top of page 6. However he stressed this could turn out to be a significant surplus as we have a large chunk of our budget remaining for general asset and tree maintenance. This would go some way to re-addressing the last two years significant deficits if it out-turns with a surplus.

He added that the directors had approved his proposal to increase the maintenance charge to £35 per household which is intended to generate a surplus of around £2,000 and we now seek the AGM's approval to implement this. As Mr Foster outlined he has explored the possibility of out-sourcing the bulk of the work of MHHL to a third party contractor and they indicated that they would expect to charge around double the proposed rate with a series of increases over a 5 year period in order to build up a sinking fund of some significant value. The directors are currently not exploring this any further but it indicates that doing the work in village rather than out-sourcing is very cost effective for the membership. The suggestion from the floor last year of simply increasing the charge to £50 in an one off increase has been considered but with all of our members in mind a gradual and steady increase in the maintenance charge was considered to be the better route to follow.

Mr Bennett finished by stating this is expected to be his final year as Treasurer and felt it was time to step aside, he hoped that many more volunteers would come forward to help an ever dwindling number of people who are maintaining MHH way beyond its expected life span.

The accounts were unanimously approved on the proposition of Mr. A Moore and seconded by Mrs. E Everitt.

5. Election of Directors

Mrs A Thomason was re-elected to the Board of Directors

Mr D Markham was elected to the Board of Directors

Mr I Davidson and Mr N Bennett retired as directors

6. Authorise Directors to agree remuneration of Reporting Accountants

It was proposed that the members authorise the Directors to agree remuneration of the reporting accountants, Mr N Bennett explained that Mr Simon Lasky of RDP of The Square, Martlesham Heath is used as the Company's Reporting Accountant. A query was raised on this issue and Mr N Bennett gave a detailed explanation of for this requirement and the need to ask members to vote.

This was carried with 57 votes for and 1 vote against.

7. Resolution

To consider and, if thought fit, pass as an ordinary resolution:

"That the Company levy a subscription/maintenance charge from all its members for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 at the rate of £35.00 per dwelling, the subscription to be payable on or before 1 October 2017. In the event that the subscription remains unpaid the rate will rise to £37.50 on 1 December 2017 and £40.00 on 1 March 2018. For the avoidance of doubt members who occupy the same dwelling shall only be required to pay one subscription"

The resolution was carried with 58 votes for and 0 against.

After the meeting the following items were discussed:

- The roles and responsibilities of a volunteer and director. Mr Foster and Mr Bennett gave an overview of both roles. Anyone wishing to become a volunteer should contact MHHL and attend our monthly meeting so they can see at first- hand what goes on. Mr D Parsons was willing to attend the next meeting. A history of the roles was given by Mr J Kelso who stated it was originally envisaged that this system would not last beyond ten years.
- A query was raised on leaves on walkways, Mr Kelso explained the rules of all such matters encroaching footpaths both public and private and is regularly communicated by the Parish Council.
- A query was raised on the pathways and fallen trees in Birch Woods and these needed widening. This is on the MHHL agenda and will be addressed.
- MH100- Mr M Cook gave an update and overview of how the planning and preparation was going for this celebration in July 2017 which will be held on The Green.
- The appearance and use of the Western Corridor football pitch was raised. An explanation was given that MYFC are looking to use it as a training facility and that the Parish Council would be discussing future funding. This is ongoing between MHHL, MYFC and the Parish Council.
- A query was raised on the current update of the BT/CEG development, this was given by Mr J Kelso and Mr D Foster
- A query was raised on funding for outside gym equipment on Martlesham Heath via the Parish Council. Mr J Kelso gave an overview of this subject.
- A query was raised on the gated area beside the Northern Green, an update was provided by Mr J Kelso.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.