

## **Minutes of RARA committee meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

**Present:** Lynette Gilbert (Chair), Suzi Shimwell (Secretary), David Catto (Riverside Place), Harry Goode (Godesdone Road), Alison Davies (Priory Road).

**Apologies/absent:** Tim Ensor (Treasure), Huguetta Chatterton (Godesdone Road), Rowland Coombes (Boats), Gordon Davies (Riverside Place), Alan Denney (Stanley Road), Cathy Eaton (River Lane), Rosie Ensor (Saxon Road), Tony Eva (Waterview Apartments and Riverside east of cycle bridge), Richard Fawcett (St Bartholomew's Court), Graham Garrett (Garlic Row), Sarah Hundleby (Beche Court), Deirdre Hyde (Communications), Chris Page (Abbey Road), Tim Page (Abbey Road), Phil Pollington (Oyster Row & Regatta Court), Sheila von Rimscha (Riverside – west of cycle bridge), Caroline Wardle (Beche Road, Jubilee Project & Newmarket Rd), Jennifer Wilson (Riverside House).

### **Agenda:**

1. Minutes from last meeting and matters arising
2. Eastern Gate – planning
3. Roads and traffic
4. Litter
5. Security Gates
6. Boats
7. Communications
8. Street Car
9. Conservation area
10. Riverside Improvement
11. Riverside railings
12. Other Matters

### **1. Minutes from last meeting and matters arising**

The minutes were accepted from last time. Matters arising:

#### **ACTION**

- ❖ Suzi to make sure people are assigned to actions and named in the minutes.

## 2. Eastern Gate

- The Eastern Gate Supplementary Planning document (SPD) was passed on 4.10.11 by the Environment Scrutiny committee and is now a legally binding document. Some issues were watered down but were reinstated by the committee.
- The Eastern Gate residential block is scheduled to go to planning committee on 16.11.11. Joint RARA/PACT/BrUNK submission raises concerns about variable roof heights, physical links, trees (all policy under new SPD) and open space (Local Plan policy). The applicant has done some new traffic modelling (at the request of County Highways) which looks at both residential and Intercell (hotel) traffic.
- The traffic modelling will be presented to the planning committee on 19.10.11.
- The provisional modelling done so far suggests Travelodge is going to really affect the traffic. Residential applicant is happy with the modelling but Intercell isn't and wants remodel. One issue is whether traffic from projected Coldham's Lane development is included.
- County have responded on residential traffic (which they say is OK) but not Intercell traffic.
- The River Lane/Newmarket Road junction will be upgraded, as a Section 106 condition of the Travelodge development

### ACTION

- ❖ Lynette will e-mail Gerry Corrance (County) about inclusion of future Coldham's Lane traffic.
- ❖ Lynette to ask Intercell what they are seeking to change in the modelling.
- ❖ Once figures final, we should go public and contact News about Travelodge impact on traffic.
- ❖ Harry and Huguette to represent RARA on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

## 3. Roads and traffic

- Stanley Road lights are still a problem.
- Residents are generally happy with improvements at Riverside/ Priory Road/Abbey Road.
- Riverside road surface is poor, creates problems when icy
- Unclear what County Highways intend to do with the extra lane on Newmarket Road which will be released by Travelodge and other Eastern Gate development – buses or cycles?

### ACTION

- ❖ Davd Catto to contact Caroline Hart, Adam and Margaret to ask if anyone has contacted them about Stanley Road lights – someone on Stanley Road may already be very concerned.
- ❖ Suzi to follow up with Sheila on the Campaign for Better Transport. RARA needs knowledgeable advice on road planning for the changes on Newmarket Road. This is a long term 2-5 year plan
- ❖ Suzi to ask Gordon Davies to follow up to see if Riverside has been put forward for funding for resurfacing.

#### 4. Litter

- David Catto met with Yvonne Mackender (City Council – Environment). Tesco have picked up some rubbish from the bushes by cycle path. They are also emptying bin by war memorial every day. There is still a huge problem with litter in the bushes not being cleared away.
- There is a continual problem of rubbish at the bottom of Priory Road on Riverside. One of the boaters is dumping rubbish on the pavement by the bin. This is clearly fly tipping. We have photos of the rubbish, but not of the boater dumping it, so City will not take action.

#### ACTION

- ❖ David Catto to continue to meet with councillors and Tesco to get the rubbish cleared up.
- ❖ If not resolved, we should go public with Tesco litter problem and involve the newspapers.
- ❖ Alison to coordinate residents to take photos. Harry will help her send the photos to David.
- ❖ David to collect photos in Dropbox and coordinate sending them to Environmental Health.
- ❖ Lynette to send photos and the new contact for Street Scene to David

#### 5. Security gates

- Council do still have money for security gates (up to £5000 per application) and have advised us to send in the application as quickly as possible to secure funding.
- Lynette has had two quotes from Dent; the 2<sup>nd</sup> quote is under £5000 including VAT.
- We are applying for five gates in total, plus padlocks with security codes.
- Response from residents affected has been generally favourable to the principle.

#### ACTION

- ❖ Lynette to fill in application form for funding and to send it off to the council.

#### 6. Boats

- Two recent meetings have discussed moored boats on Riverside: Riverside Action Group (RAG) coordinated by City Council, and Cam Conservators committee meeting.
- The city council have agreed to claim the freehold of the river bank. They will then have two options: build pontoons to create safe licensed mooring or say that no mooring is allowed. The Head of Legal, Simon Pugh, believes that licensed mooring cannot be introduced on Riverside 'as is' (with boaters climbing over railings) as they will be legally liable for safety.
- Problems with smoke and litter continue.
- The Cam Conservators commissioned a survey of incidents, comparing Riverside and Eights Marina. Rowers are unhappy with the analysis as they feel the two sites are not comparable, and because the Conservators will not specify a minimum navigation width – currently about 18 metres with the moored boats so difficult for two rowing crews to pass. The Conservators have however agreed to review 'pinch points' on the Riverside stretch of river.

#### ACTION

- ❖ Lynette to ask council about applying for freehold sooner than February .
- Lynette to put in the newsletter - residents should report problems with boats to Environmental Health and take photos and keep diaries of occurrences if possible.

## **7. Communications**

- We must get a newsletter out. It should include: update on the two planning applications, boats, security gates, Streetcar, conservation area consultation, info on new SPD and ask for people to volunteer as reps.
- We should include info on street rep and request for donations with newsletter – Tim has pulled together a first draft
- We should put AGM minutes, committee minutes and current campaigns on the website.

### **ACTION**

- ❖ Suzi to sort out the website and put up some content.
- ❖ Suzi to put the contacts list that David has created up on the website.
- ❖ Lynette to give Suzi any content she has for the website.
- ❖ Lynette to do the newsletter.
- ❖ David Catto to submit a short article on litter to Lynette for the newsletter.
- ❖ Lynette to proof read Tim's letter and add amendments we suggested.
- ❖ David to ask Gordon whether he contacted Street Car about advertising in newsletter.

## **8. Conservation Area consultation**

- Harry attended a meeting about this. Possible they will re-consult.

### **ACTION**

- ❖ Harry to find out if the consultation is going to be repeated.
- ❖ Harry to go to next meeting about it in January.

## **9. Street Car**

- Street car going ahead.
- Not putting any money into the local community as things stand.

### **ACTION**

- ❖ Ask them if they want to advertise in the Newsletter – see communications

## **10. Riverside Improvement**

- Residents are generally happy with the improvements. The main issue is railings – see next point.

## **11. Railings**

- Agreed that railings should be renovated/repainted rather than replaced.
- David has been gathering information on how City council can repaint them. If they do need to be removed from their fittings, they could be repainted in the Abbey Road carpark rather than taken elsewhere.

### **ACTION**

- ❖ David Catto to follow up on the railings – what colour will they be, do they have to be removed and if so could council use Abbey Road carpark.

## **12. Any other matters**

- Emergency plan for power cuts in Riverside Place and Waterview – do we need one? A generator in the garage that kicks in if there is a power cut would be a good idea.
- Due to moves, resignations or inactivity, we need reps for Stanley Road, Beche Road, Newmarket Road (from Elizabeth Way roundabout to River Lane) and River Lane.

### **ACTION**

- ❖ Harry happy to distribute to Beche Road and the agreed area of Newmarket Road as well as Godesdone Road.
- ❖ Tim and Rosie will ask a friend in Stanley Road if they want to be a rep.
- ❖ Put something in the newsletter about what's involved, and encouraging people to be reps.