

MINUTES of the Houndwood AGM

Wednesday 20th June 2024 at 19.00 (via Zoom)

Present: Peter Goater, Deb Goater, Sarah Bolt, Heather Shearer, Jane Reeve, Sue Tarbard & Steve Tarbard

Present via Zoom: Hannah Paterson.

INTRODUCTION

Sarah Bolt welcomed everyone to the AGM on Zoom and informed everyone as to how the meeting would progress in that we will look and adopt the annual report and accept the previous AGM and accounts, elect committee members.

Sarah went on to say that we have made available several key documents on the Houndwood Community website, www.houndwoodcommunity.org, including the above and our constitution.

ESTATE MANAGEMENT

Peter Goater then gave a brief overview of the responsibilities of the upkeep of the estate and details of the complaint made to Premier Estates about their failure to upkeep the estate to the required standards.

Premier Estates are responsible for the upkeep of the estate and use Avery Landscapes for groundwork. We pay Premier the management fees, but Peter said that these were not enough to meet all the complexities of the site, so they must prioritise and do what is needed.

Crest Nicholson & Barratt Homes are responsible for getting all outstanding work completed so the estate can be adopted. They are still very slow at achieving this.

Somerset Council are responsible for bin collections.

COMMUNICATION

Sarah Bolt then went through the many ways we keep residents informed of what is going on and events coming up, such as Facebook, Website, newsletters, two of these were done in 2023 and we just distributed the first one in 2024 we also print & distribute information about specific events.

EVENTS

Sarah then went on to discuss events that were held last year.

Monthly Litter picks were carried out except when rain stopped proceedings

We had two picnics at "Gatherings on the Green" in July and August and one event for the Coronation in May

Halloween, residents on the estate were asked to decorate their residence and let us know via the Halloween Facebook post and we could then add to the site map.

Christmas Decoration Competition, where residents chose the best house, window/balcony and/or street.

ECOLOGY GROUP

Sarah talked about what we did last year.

Bird box cleaning was carried out on the bird boxes that had been used.

Bat walk, using bat detectors we took out a good number of adults & children and heard several common pipistrelles and we may have heard another species, but we were not sure.

We also had a connect with nature walks looking at bugs, butterflies and birds on the estate.

GARDENING GROUP

Jane Reeve spoke about the challenges keeping plants alive with a very hot summer and then a very cold winter, and it looks like it will be similar this year.

A lot of the planting is trying to encourage wildlife such as butterflies, bees, and other pollinators. Plants that require reduced water are also being used where possible.

Jane also said that they would love anyone interested in gardening to join the group.

FORMAL BUSINESS

Sarah Led to election of the officer's process. Current committee members are Peter Goater, Deb Goater, Sarah Bolt, Lorna Flintham, Michaela Edmunds, Jay Legge, Kay Poincey, Jane Reeve, Adam Trigol, Steve Tarbard & Sue Tarbard

1. Election of Officers: We must elect the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and these need to be proposed and seconded by committee members.

As there have been no names put forward for any of the roles Peter Goater will continue to be both Chairman & Treasurer and Heather Shearer will continue to be Secretary – proposed by Sue Tarbard and seconded by Jane Reeve

And there are no changes to the committee members, but we would love more people to get involved. Hannah Paterson said she would like to get involved is a member of the committee.

Minutes: The minutes of last year's AGM were proposed by Steve Tarbard & Jane Reeve seconded

2. Accounts: Street Parish Council continue to pay our running costs, Live West provide a £75 grant towards our events costs.

In 2023 £1678.50 was carried forward and received grants of £675.00 We received lottery £221 from Mendip Lottery and a donations of £50.00 income totalling £946.00

Outgoings equalling £701.91, so we will be carrying forward £1,922.59

Proposed Heather Shearer, Seconded Jane Reeves.

Sarah Bolt ended the meeting with a thought of how we see our community evolving over the next every house donated a couple of hours a month doing something such as litter pick, how much better we would all feel.

The committee would like to thank the following for their help throughout the year:

Street Parish Council & Live West

Steve Tarbard thanked the committee for all the work they have done for the estate.

ANY QUESTIONS?

Via chat:

None