

# Mytchett, Frimley Green & Deepcut Society

## MINUTES of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 17 April 2015

This year's AGM had a slightly different format. Instead of having a guest speaker and a panel of local councillors answering questions from the floor; as the general election was only weeks away, all parliamentary candidates were invited to attend a question and answer session as the second part of the AGM. All candidates did attend and each of them was allowed time to answer any and all questions from the floor.

### 1. WELCOME

President Sue Cartwright welcomed the parliamentary candidates and approx. 90 members and visitors.

### 2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As Kevin Daley was too unwell to present the report, Carol Drew kindly offered to present it for him.

Some of the issues the society has worked on, on behalf of the community, were:

As most of you will be aware, the Society has been working hard to make a Community Garden outside the Mytchett Community Centre. At the last Public meeting we told you of the plans Sarah Kingsley, committee member, had drawn up for the garden, and there were leaflets available to take away. At that time we had obtained the help of a local landscaping company, there were plans for a Christmas tree to be planted, and we had assurances of the ongoing maintenance of the garden, once built, from the Centre staff and local residents. We also had promises of grants and other funding.

Unfortunately it then emerged that the Trustees of the Centre had experienced difficulties in renewing the lease of the Centre from Surrey Heath Borough Council, and without a lease in place, we lost a donation from a major contributor. There is just no way that we can use any donated money whilst the Centre is without a lease. As you will see from the accounts, which I'll come onto shortly, we have actually received a grant of £3000 from the Frimley Fuel Allotments. This is currently ring-fenced in a separate account. We have asked our local councillors to become involved and determine if there is anything they can do to facilitate the granting of a lease, in order that the garden can become a reality in the future. We feel that such a garden would have a positive effect on the Centre's income, making it visually more attractive, and providing a place for people to sit and relax as well as providing a centre-piece of an illuminated tree at Christmas, and a place for public festive celebrations. Lets hope that the councillors voted in at the election will be able to work positively with the Centre and the Council to make this a reality. It will be a very sad day indeed if we have to give up on this idea, and hand the £3K back to Frimley Fuel allotments.

The Society is a member of the Farnborough Airport Consultative Committee, and is supporting the application to the CAA to allow an area of controlled airspace to be allocated at Farnborough Airport. Whilst not reducing the number of air movements, to and from the North West, this would mean that aircraft not actually arriving or departing, but just passing over, would have to do so in a controlled and organised manner. There was a wide ranging public consultation in 2014, covering many issues such as justification for the change, safety issues, environmental impact and responses were varied. TAG have agreed to provide a speaker for our next or subsequent Public Meeting in order to better inform us of ongoing developments.

Kevin attended the stakeholders session of the Princess Royal Barracks Deepcut development plans presented by SKANSA, where they outlined their vision of how the site might be developed into a new village environment. Many of you here will have visited the public display which was held over 2 days, following this session. Feedback was sought primarily on access to the new village, road alignment, food store and shops locations, and also positioning of the primary school and nursery. Kevin asked what improvements might be made to the surrounding infrastructure with emphasis on Frimley Green, Mytchett and Frimley. SKANSA were unable to provide a solution to the expected traffic congestion once the development was completed, but said they would be working with Highways Agencies to minimise the impact of construction traffic, and by retaining much of the development spoil on site.

We have been involved with local residents in Mytchett regarding the operation of the Potters restaurant at Mytchett Mere called The Water's Edge. We were able to ensure that the opening hours would be restricted to 11.00 pm Monday to Friday, and midnight on Saturday and Sunday, rather than the across the board 2.00 am closing time that the applicant sought. The applicant appealed against these restrictions, but the Court refused the appeal. The restaurant appears to be opening soon according to the notices.

Again, most of you will be aware of the proposal to build a Tesco's next to the MOT centre in Mytchett. Back in 2013 Tesco were refused planning permission by SHBC. A petition signed by more than 1200 people was presented to the Council. However, Tesco appealed this decision, and once again many local residents submitted their concerns to the Appeals Inspector. In April 2014 the Inspector approved the Appeal and planning permission was granted. This was against the

recommendation of the Council. Kevin wrote to Eric Pickles, Secretary of State for local government, but he received a reply to the effect that once the Inspector's decision had been published, he had no power to recall the appeal, and the only option would be to take the matter to the High Court. Obviously this was out of the question due to vast costs involved.

However, the development is currently on hold due to the decision by Tesco to not open any further stores, due to their financial tribulations.

There has been considerable congestion in the Mytchett Road with the building of the Kingsmead Care Home next to the BP garage. However, now the development is complete, it is hoped that this will now be reduced.

We are represented at the local Clinical Commissioning Group meetings in order to keep abreast of any decisions being proposed that might affect our health care services.

And finally we continue to be in correspondence with Government ministers, local MPs etc concerning national topics such as The NHS, Climate Change, Internet Privacy Bill, Fracking, Tax Avoidance, protecting our woodlands, and making our streets safer for walking, especially for school children, the elderly and other vulnerable people.

### **3. TREASURER'S REPORT from CAROL DREW**

You should all have got a copy of the accounts, which hopefully are self-explanatory. You will see that the current balance is £3691.24, but as said previously, £3K of this is donated funds from Frimley Fuel Allotments. The real balance is £691.24 which is slightly up on last year. The main reason for this increase is that a few more subscriptions were collected than the previous year, and the fact we no longer hire this hall for our committee meetings. We now meet in a corner of the Mytchett Community Centre.

Our only income is from residential subscriptions, and any money raised from raffles and refreshments at our two public meetings. I do hope that any of you here tonight who are not members, will pay your subscription and join. And please tell your friends! We do try to publicise ourselves by having a stand at the Frimley Green carnival, and it is essential that people, once joined pay by Standing Order, so that their payments are ensured every year.

### **4. ELECTION of COMMITTEE**

A copy of the minutes from the previous half yearly meeting in October was available to the audience and it was accepted as being accurate (nominated and seconded from audience members).

The committee stood up and introduced themselves. Sue then asked for all the committee to be re-elected and this was agreed. She also used this moment to once again ask for volunteers to join the committee.

### **5. TEA & COFFEE BREAK**

### **6. QUESTION TIME WITH PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES**

Those present were:

Michael Gove (Conservative)	Bob & Roberta Smith (Independent)
Ann-Marie Barker (Liberal Democrat)	Juliana Brimicombe (Christian Party)
Laween Atroshi (Labour)	Kimberley Lawson (Green Party)
Paul Chapman (UKIP)	

The question time was ably controlled by Sue and a podcast (courtesy of Paul Deach) can be found at:

<http://surreyheath-residents.co.uk/2015/04/18/mytchett-frimley-green-and-deepcut-society-parliamentary-candidate-question-time-podcast/>

### **7. RAFFLE and MEETING CLOSE.**

#### **MFGD Committee Members Present**

Sue Cartwright (President)	Carol Drew (Treasurer)	Sarah Kingsley (Publicity Officer)	
Chris Main	Howard Hyde	Duncan Clark	Jacques Olmo
Rod Carroll (Website Administrator)		David Brown (Minutes Secretary)	
Kevin Daley (Chairman)			