

EASTBOURNE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

AGM Wednesday 7th March 2018

7.00pm the Old Parsonage Room, St Marys Parish Church, Ocklynge Road

Present: Roy Peacock (Meeting Chair), Sally Rannie (Meeting Secretary), Dr Isaac Suleman (Ratton Coord), Alex Forbes (Langney Coord) Colin Sargent (Treasurer), Gill (Editorial Team), Barry & Jane Mansergh, Ian Weeks (Web manager), Jan Weeks, Robin Bates, Ian & Barbara Fry, Astrid Goos, Alan Hook, Lionel Jones, Antonia Lucas, Andrew Somerville, Teri Walsh, Alan Warland, Tricia Wood

In Attendance: Sgt. Julian Williams, David Ruddle, theBestof Eastbourne

Apologies: Insp. Rachell Barrow, Cllr John Ungar, Diny Fvk (Editorial Team), John & Pam Rollison, Marion Underwood, Fiona Beer, Rosie Libatter, Mary Order

Roy welcomed all to the meeting.

Minutes of previous AGM: Agreed and signed by meeting Chair.

3. The Report of Meeting Chairman. (Roy Peacock)

Since our last AGM in November 2016 when John Rollison announced that he was resigning we have not had a Chairperson.

We have made various attempts to seek volunteers to become Chair and Deputy Chair but without any success. Like in our Newsletter, the Herald, Police, 3VA, Eastbourne Volunteers, ENWA Website, "theBestof" Eastbourne website.

Not only that, when John and Pam Rollison announced that they would no longer deal with our quarterly Newsletter, we had to find volunteers for doing that.

Very fortunately, Gill and Diny came forward and are now our Editorial Team. It meant that for 2017, we produced the four Newsletters in April, July, October, and December. This met our obligation to the advertisers. Now this year we are on course for a Newsletter every 3 months.

However, when it comes to our Ward Coordinators, again we have struggled.

Health conditions have affected five of us, including me, and three have had to give up because of their day job requirements. There were times in the year when those of us left felt that perhaps ENWA should shut up shop. Our partners the Police, Borough Council, and the Joint Action Group/Eastbourne Community Safety Partnership did not want that to happen. In the meantime, we have welcomed Alex Forbes to the depleted team as the Ward Coord for Langney Ward.

So just now we are looking for volunteers to act as Ward Coordinators for :

Devonshire, Hampden Park, East and Hampden Park, West, Old Town, Ratton, Sovereign, St Anthonys and Upperton.

We have managed to hold it all together. I think any other matters are best dealt with under AOB after we fulfil the next formal items. That should not take long.

4. Treasurer's Report (Colin Sargent)

Our overall outcome for the year was a net expenditure of £598, making our current balance £5621, of which £3593 is allocated to the Junior Neighbourhood Watch project leaving our unallocated funds at £2028.

No grants were sought in the year partly due to the resignations at last year's AGM, leaving us without a full committee structure at present and also only having two newsletter issues for which we had adequate funds.

Overall expenditure at £2583 reflected the costs of the two issues.

With only sufficient current funding for two, possibly three, more Newsletter issues and the absence of any further activity on the Junior Neighbourhood Watch, it is likely that we will have to utilise some of the Junior Watch funding in the future to subsidise further issues until more grant aid is available.

A detailed Income and Expenditure statement was circulated.

It was pointed out that in future, the Income and Expenditure sheet should be signed by the Treasurer (CS) as well as the Auditor. **ACTION : CS**

Sec's Note: An application for a grant was submitted for 2018/19 and been approved.

5. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Carrie Parker, who is a qualified Auditor is willing to continue the role.

6. Nominations for Chairman

There were none

7. Nominations for Hon. Secretary

There were none

8. Nominations for Minutes Secretary

There were none. Sally Rannie is covering this on a temporary basis.

9. Any other business

Newsletter Delivery

The system for delivering Newsletters has been re-structured, masterminded by Gill. RP explained how it works. 13,500 homes have Newsletters delivered, this is down from 15,000 as Scheme Co-ordinators have moved away/given up/died. We need to find more Scheme Co-ordinators.

ALERT System

RP explained the national ALERT system and the weekly local police reports, all sent by email to registered Co-ordinators.

Junior Neighbourhood Watch

We hope that Junior Neighbourhood Watch will be revived. Four volunteers have offered to plan to do this.

NW street signs

We have had requests for these. These can be put up by us respecting health and safety and siting conditions rather than involve EBC. But, beforehand, a licence must be obtained from ESCC Highways.

Police report

Sgt Julian Williams addressed the meeting. He thanked the volunteers and spoke of the need for the public to assist the police. There are 20,000 fewer police officers countrywide and a big hike in drug dealing is occurring. Discussion took place on 101 and 999 calls and police procedures and responses.

theBestof Eastbourne

David Ruddle addressed the meeting on on his role in the Best of Eastbourne and his interest in supporting ENWA. He is hoping to reach a large audience via Facebook and Twitter, for ENWA and asked for help in setting up and running community NW groups as an approach to out-reach communication.

Publicity

There was discussion on publicising NW in the Eastbourne Herald. This has not been successful on some occasions in the past due to lack of space in the paper.

Various suggestions were put forward for publicity and fundraising.

It was also suggested that a paragraph on NW should be sent to each "Parish pump" for publication in their newsletters.

ENWA Website

The ENWA website needs updating but presently we lack the manpower to progress it.

Ian Weeks was thanked for managing the website and posting new material that is provided by the members of the Committee team from time to time.

Street meetings

Street meetings, that the police used to run, were most useful. The possibility was raised of running street meeting ourselves as a form of out-reaching to the local community, and inviting the Neighbourhood First team to be present.

Both Barry Mansergh and Andrew Sommerville led a vote of thanks to Roy Peacock and the Committee Team for organising the meeting arrangements. And, Jane and Barry Mansergh were thanked for their part serving refreshments before the meeting.