Minutes of the Rowney Green Association meeting
on Tuesday July 4th 2023 at 7:30pm

Attendees: Andy Dunkers (Acting Chair), Sheila Pellowe, Marc Worral (Alvechurch PC), Barry Thornton (Alvechurch PC), Alan Bailes (Bromsgrove DC) plus many villagers.

1. Apologies: Michael Corfield, John Cypher, Martin Miller, James McManus

2. Approval of Minutes. These were approved as an accurate record of the meeting on May 2nd 2023.

3. Matters Arising from the Meeting on May 2nd 2023. Three items noted:

At the previous RGA meeting, Marc Worrall had noted that no one from Rowney Green itself had put themselves forward to be a Parish Councillor. This remained the case and so a new councillor, Barry Thornton, will take prime responsibility for representing RG's interests. Barry introduced himself to the meeting's attendees, explained his long connection with the village, and expressed his desire to attend all RGA meetings. This was welcomed by all.

Addressing concerns on speeding through the village, a two page article on Community Speed Watch had been included in the June Calling Oak. No volunteers came forward.

Marc Worrall and RGA representatives anticipate a meeting in August with County Councillor Aled Luckman and possibly a County Highways officer, to discuss a number of long-standing concerns to the village. These include

- 20mph signs for the main part of RG with the associated traffic order to change the speed limit from 30mph.
- Mobile ANPR camera for use across Alvechurch parish
- Possible traffic management options for The Holloway pinch point (speed limit, roads signs, markings)

4. Flooding Issues outside the Dell. This remains an issue and will also be on the agenda for discussion with Aled Luckman.

5. Planning issues including Bordesley Hall development. Alan Bailes, newly elected Independent District Councillor for Alvechurch South ward was welcomed to his first RGA meeting. Alan updated on current planning matters relevant to the village.

Bordseley Hall

Alan noted that he had received responses from Paul Lester, Planning Officer at BDC.

- Demolition of heritage garden wall. Although there had been some debate on exactly which party was responsible, the current land owners have agreed that they will reinstate it.
- Footpath Lighting. This remains an item for discussion. No decisions have yet been made and the concerns of local residents to minimise light pollution are documented.

Arosa

A new planning application has been submitted to convert/build 9 apartments on the site of the current property. This includes an element of new build where permission had previously been given to extend the property but never actually completed. If successful, this development would provide even more challenges for traffic on the Holloway. APC have objected and asked for the application to be 'called in' for full consideration by the planning committee.

6. Crime Issues. Police presence at coffee mornings has been welcomed. Marc Worrall noted that most vehicle theft seemed to be of keyless cars.

7. Treasurer's report. RGA funds comprise £2,505.48 in the bank and £349.51 in cash, totalling £2,854.99. The RGA sponsored apple tree in the new orchard has been paid for and planted. Noted also that, to date, there has been no request for funds from Worcestershire Wildlife Trust for a new information board in Newbourne Wood.

Membership stands at 141 out of 193 properties, meaning 73% of the village are RGA members.

8. Any Other Business

A villager had raised that the long cut grass left on the village green looked a mess and enquired whether RGA wanted to raise this with BDC. The grass had been intentionally left to grow as part of 'No Mow May', and the cuttings would naturally decay. There was no support in the meeting to take this matter further.

Marc Worrall reminded that all villagers are welcome and encouraged to attend APC meetings, where items are of interest.

The meeting was closed at 8:40 pm.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday Sept 5th 2023 at 7:30pm.