

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



Attendees: John Cypher (Acting Chairman), Andy Dunkers (Vice-Chair), James McManus, Dorothy Snaddon, Pete Cain, Tony Wallis, Pat Taylor, Owain Lewis, Brian Jones, Richard Woodward, Annette English, Will Savage, Steff Affleck, Ineta Dunkers, Martin Miller (Secretary).

1. John Cypher welcomed everyone and gave special thanks to Mr Thomas Watkins who had come on behalf of the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust to give a talk about the Trust and about the origins and development of Newbourne Wood. The talk was very well received and lively discussion followed. A note of the talk will be posted on the RGA website

2. Apologies: Michael Corfield

3. Approval of Minutes. These were approved as an accurate record of the meeting on January 3rd 2023.

4. Matters Arising from the Meeting on January 3rd 2023

4.1 Two emails about the highway flooding at the Dell had been sent to Cllr Aled Luckman on this matter without reply. The drain appears to have been unblocked and work done on the bank but this is likely to fail again.

4.2 Bromsgrove District Council have confirmed that the mention of a road connection between the Bordesley Hall Development and Weights Lane was an error and has been removed.

4.3 Severn Trent had replied promptly to concerns about frequent water supply interruptions to RG and are assessing what needs to be done and have acknowledged that a long-term solution needs to be found.

4.4 Tony Wallis stated that the Newbourne Hill dwelling proposal on the garages site had been amended with a reduced height to the gable of the property which reduced the bedrooms from 4 to 3. It was to be of brick construction and not painted white thus being more in keeping with adjacent properties. Tony Wallis had contacted the Electricity network provider for an update on the possibility of an electricity substation for the site but they were apparently unaware of the need for this to be done. Formal approval by BDC of the proposed plan for the development was awaited.

5. Flooding Issues outside the Dell. Already covered above.

6. Bordesley Hall Development

Cllr Annette English had attended the Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) planning committee meeting the evening before and said Tim Hawkeswood had spoken up with regard to issues about the development. The BDC had approved the development of 46 dwellings and 3 apartments within the Hall. There were changes to the position of 3 proposed properties to enable a better view at the front of the Hall but sadly these new positions encroached more on the woodland. Cllr English confirmed that tree preservation orders applied to all the trees in the development and she would write to the Tree Officer to ensure the woodland was not further harmed. The styling to the houses had been improved. However, the external footpath lighting plan was still to be discussed in relation to concerns about light pollution and had not yet been approved. Owain Lewis had explored through contacts if there were any other legal angles for RGA to challenge the development and confirmed that none was forthcoming that had a realistic chance of success. No dates had been set by the BDC for the development to start. **(Update after the meeting:** details have now been shared with Cllr English about what lighting information is required from the developer. The approval decision for the Hall development can now be read on the Council's planning application public access website)

7. Crime Issues. None were reported.

8. Treasurer's report.

This was presented by John Cypher. RGA funds stand at £2263 in the Bank and £359 cash. The membership is at 71% of RG residents. It was suggested that funds should be set aside towards an Interpretation Board for the Newbourne Wood, following on from comments made by Thomas Watkins in his talk. The meeting unanimously agreed this suggestion.

(Action)

9. Any Other Business

9.1 A resident asked if further consideration could be given to exploring the possibility of installing an Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) camera in the village to deter criminals visiting the village. A cost of £2000 was mentioned with the need for 50% local funding. **(Action)**

9.2 It was proposed that the RGA ask Worcs CC to consider the 30 mph speed limit being reduced to 20 mph through the village since at pinch points it was a single-track road with corners that meant 30 mph was inappropriately high for pedestrians to be safe since there was no continuous footpath through the village. **(Action)**

9.3 A request was made to ensure that residents trimmed hedges and plants appropriately to keep the existing pathways clear and to keep the roadway as wide as possible. **(Action)**

9.4 It was agreed that the talk at the beginning of an RGA meeting (as given tonight by Mr Watkins) had been a great success and John Cypher asked to members to make suggestions for possible further RG relevant talks. Michael Corfield was suggested with regard to the collection of historic photographs of the village that he has gathered.

The meeting was closed at 8:33 pm.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday May 2nd 2023 at 7:30pm.