

# **THE BOOKHAMS RESIDENTS ' ASSOCIATION**

Company Limited by Guarantee – Number 10053863

## **Minutes of the 98<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting Held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

### **Present:**

**Directors:** Simon Edge (Chair), Geoff Tranter, Neil McDowall, (Treasurer), Les Huett (Secretary), Cllr Andrew Matthews.

**District Councillors:** None present.

**County Councillor :** C Cllr Clare Curran.

Members and Committee & Members of the Association.

### **1. Chairman's Welcome**

Simon Edge welcomed everybody on the 98<sup>th</sup> AGM.

### **2. Apologies for absence:**

Apologies had been received from Carolyn Elson, David Cox, Neil & Patty Clarke, Pauk Kennedy, Gill Apted, Mike & Rita Derriman, Gill Cauldwell, Peter & Daphne Leith, Peter & Lynda Smith, Peter & Jan Gapper, David King, David & Melanie Cumper, Edmund & Beryl Morgan-Warren.

### **Minutes of the 97<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting:**

2.1 Accuracy. The Minutes were ACCEPTED as a true record of the meeting.

3.2 Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

Office

### **3. Chairman's Report:**

A full copy of the Chairmans Report for 2024 is attached as Attachment 1

### **5. Financial Report for 2024:**

Neil McDowall presented the Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024. A full copy of his report is attached as Attachment 2.

### **6. Appointment of Directors:**

The Meeting was asked to note that Cllr Andrew Matthews had been appointed a Director as the Mole Valley District Council's nominated representative in place of Cllr Roger Adams.

## **7. Election of Officers to the Company:**

### **7.1 Election of Chairman:**

Simon Edge was nominated as Chairman. On being put to the vote this was AGREED.

### **7.2 Election of Treasurer:**

Neil McDowall was nominated as Treasurer. On being put to the vote this was AGREED.

## **8. Appointment of Independent Examiner:**

Patrick Maddison was nominated. On being put to the vote this was AGREED.

## **9. Determination of Membership Subscription for the year 2025/26**

It was AGREED that the membership subscription for the year 2025/26 remain at £5 per household.

## **10. Any Other Business:**

Nothing to report.

## **11. Passing of John Howarth:**

The BRA President and former Chairman, Peter Seward, gave a moving tribute to a former BRA Secretary who had recently passed away.

A full copy of his tribute is attached as Attachment 3.

## **12. Guest Speakers:**

### **1. Nicola Reid – Citizens Advice Bureau:**

The CAB had been founded during the Second World War to assist and advise people in distress. It was manned by volunteers and its services were given without a charge. It was self funding from donations although some Government Grants were obtained

In Surrey well over 1,000 issues had been raised in a year, mainly by phone or email, ranging from financial problems, housing, Government Benefits and long term health problems. There were two CAB offices in Surrey at Dorking and Leatherhead manned by 50 volunteers plus a small number of paid staff.

**2. Vivian White – Local Historian:**

Vivian explained her talk would cover the last 1,000 years of the history of Great and Little Bookham. The area was originally just forests with some arable land, although as the years progressed, most of the land became arable and was finally enclosed as late as 1822.

Originally the land belonged to Chertsey Abbey until it was destroyed in 1557 by Henry VIII. From then on, the land was owned by a number of rich men including Howard of Effingham. Up until 1900 many large houses were built, many of them surviving, although somewhat altered by the present day.

Much of the land was sold off into smaller plots permitting the building of houses as we know them today.