

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASHTEAD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17TH APRIL 2024 IN THE ASHTEAD PEACE MEMORIAL HALL.

Introduction

Vice-President Larry Unthank (LU) welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance. He explained that currently the Association did not have a Chairman nor a President and as he was the only Vice-President, he would chair the AGM. Before he formerly opened the AGM he had some concerns about the possibility of non-members being able to vote later in the AGM on significant changes to the constitution. He had requested that membership records be checked before people were allowed to enter the APMH. This had not been done and he did not know why. LU referred to a meeting in 2001 regarding Epsom and St Helier hospitals, where everyone attending had their ARA membership checked before being allowed entry to the meeting.

LU also considered that Motion 1 that had been put forward by the Standing Committee was not valid as it referred to clauses 2e,4c and 4d. He had looked at the Constitution on the ARA website and clauses 2 and 4 did not have any numerated sub-clauses. LU therefore considered that the AGM should not proceed.

David Harper (DH) as the acting Chairman of the Association responded to LU's concerns by stating that everyone attending the meeting had been asked to sign in to confirm that they are current members of the ARA, as was done last year. Two people had advised the membership secretary that they were not members and they were reminded that they could not vote. There was a request from the floor that in future membership cards should be issued when people pay the subscription and the display of membership cards could be used to gain entry to future meetings and ensure only members vote.

DH also referred to clause 15 of the constitution that states that the AGM should be held before the end of April and only the committee has the power to postpone or cancel the AGM. A point of order was raised by Quentin Armitage (QA) from the floor regarding who can chair the meeting as clause 7 of the constitution refers to selecting the President or a Vice-President to preside at General Meetings. LU proposed that the meeting be adjourned but DH said the Committee were adamant the meeting should go ahead and he proposed that Lynda Coburn (LC) chair the meeting. QA raised another point of order regarding the status of DH as he had been co-opted onto the committee earlier in the year and made acting chairman in the last few weeks. Clause 8 states that co-opted members shall serve only until the next AGM and so DH should stand down at the start of the AGM.

A comment was made from the floor that the Association was a disgrace and that people had made the effort to attend the meeting and that they wanted, as a minimum, to hear the Chairman's Report and to hear the Honorary Treasurer's Report. It was agreed that the meeting should proceed and be chaired by LC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

LC opened the meeting and thanked people for their attendance. She reminded everyone that when voting takes place later in the meeting, only those people who are members can vote. LC proposed that there be a change to the published agenda and that the first item should be the item 7 on the published agenda, appointment of President, Officers and Members of the Committee. There were questions raised from the floor regarding this late change to the agenda. The general feeling in the room was that the AGM should proceed based on the agenda published in TAR and the meeting proceeded on that basis

There was a request from the floor for the people on the stage to introduce themselves. They were as follows:

David Knoyle – Honorary Secretary

Lynda Coburn – Standing Committee Member

Martin Cox – Honorary Treasurer

Larry Unthank – Vice-President

Peter Shrubsole – Vice-Chairman

David Knoyle (DK) advised that apologies had been received from Chris and Emma Harbot and from Pam and Wyndham Ventham-Smith.

The Minutes of the AGM of Wednesday 20th April 2022 published in The Ashtead Resident 2023 (Number 225) were commented upon as follows:

- Peter Williams (PW) referred to the statements made about the Green Lane crossing in the ARA Chairman's Report (approximately two thirds of the way down page 3 of TAR). The issue has not been passed to the Secretary of State as it is still with Surrey County Council to make a decision on the subject. The person dealing with the topic says there is no timescale nor specific criteria for making a decision on whether the crossing is a Public Right of Way. The final sentence of that paragraph should be *'In addition, he continues to monitor the situation with the Green Lane crossing as Surrey County Council is yet to make a decision on whether there is a Public Right of Way (PROW) over the tracks at Green Lane. Network Rail has said they will object if SCC state it is a PROW.'*
- QA queried why the agenda item 1 does not refer to the AGM held on 23rd October 2023. DK explained that the minutes in TAR are in two parts and on page 8 of TAR there is reference to the deferred AGM held on 25th October. The agenda item 1 should have referred to the 25th October as the AGM took place on 26th April and 25th October.

The Minutes of the AGM held on 26th April 2023 and on 25th October 2023 with the amendment above proposed by Peter Williams was proposed by David Baker and seconded by Tim Robertson. The minutes were put to a vote and were accepted by a majority of voters. There were no matters arising.

ARA Chairman's Report.

Currently there is no ARA Chairman so, as the Association's Vice-Chairman, Peter Shrubsole (PKS) had agreed to present the Annual Report provided by the Committee. PKS explained that following the resignation of Tim Robertson as Chairman at the end of 2023, he had acted as Chairman until quite recently when David Harper has been appointed as acting Chairman. As well as giving the Chairman's Report, PKS will also include details of proposals for modernisation of the Association (agenda item 5) in this part of the meeting.

1. INTRODUCTION

As acting Chair for the last few months of this year, with the leave of those present, I will report on the ARA's activities on behalf of the acting ARA Chair David Harper.

2. CONSTITUTION

At the last AGM, the members present voted to have a ballot to decide upon several Motions. There were then two public meetings during which the Motion owners presented their Motions. Then; after further meetings, the majority of the Motions were withdrawn leaving the Motion in the name

of Councillor Hawksworth & a question to the Members on behalf of the Committee. Councillors Hawksworth Motion was defeated and the ARA Question agreed. The ARA, in consequence of that vote, has placed the Motion before the Members today. Peter Ross as the Constitutional and Governance Sub-Committee Chair will expand on this after the interval.

Last year a completely new constitution was proposed, this year the committee proposed changes to 3 clauses only so that the result of the ballot question can be incorporated, meaning essentially the ARA should have no affiliation with any registered political party.

3. MOLE VALLEY COUNCIL MEETINGS

I have since November I have continued to attend the bi-monthly meetings between Residents' Associations and Mole Valley Council Officers.

4. COMMITTEE WORK

4.1 Tim Robertson

I and the committee would like to express our thanks to Tim Robertson for his valued contribution between last year's AGM, when he was elected Chair and November 2023 when he stood down and I stepped up as Acting Chair. Tim continues to be an active & valued member of the Committee.

4.2 Secretary

I wish to thank David Knoyle, the Committee's Secretary who continues to provide invaluable support to everyone. **David's** many responsibilities include being the ARA Committee lead for *The Ashtead Resident*, minute-taker and events secretary.

4.3 Treasurer

A sincere thank you to Martin Cox as Treasurer for keeping a day-to-day handle on our accounts and ensuring timely payments to our creditors. Also producing the ARA's annual accounts and ensuring they are independently examined. The Committee thank Tim Tennant for examining the accounts and approving their accuracy.

4.4 Planning matters

Thanks, are also due to Roger Bennett (RB) who diligently reviews all of Ashtead's Planning Applications. Although there have been many straightforward applications, some have required Roger to write a letter of representation to Mole Valley, on behalf of the committee and take into account residents' concerns. The letters are all published on our website and referenced in the spring and autumn publications. Notable applications recently include Murreys Court, which MVDC has now rejected (although approving the Barn) and we anticipate applications for developments in Ermyn Way.

In January, Roger presented, on behalf of ARA and residents, to the Development Management Committee that rejected the Ashtead Park Garden Centre (Marsden Nursery) planning application. In addition to insufficient affordable housing (recommended by the Officers), most important of all added was the protection of the Green Belt and inappropriate development thereon citing also the ANDP Policy AS-H5 (maintaining build character).

The committee continues to closely monitor the Mole Valley Local Plan. The Local Plan which had stalled for many months with the MVDC and the Inspector awaiting a decision from the Secretary of State about Green Belt, is now back in motion. In January this year, we learned that the government had published a revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), including a provision appearing to mean that the Council would not be able to use the new NPPF in any further examination of the

Local Plan. Councillors were very disappointed with this news as it was hoped revised thinking would enable Green Belt to be removed from the Plan.

The Minister of State issued MVDC with a direction not to withdraw its Local Plan from the examination-in-public. The subsequent meeting of the full Council then debated how to proceed with the Local Plan in the light of this directive from the Government.

The Council debated whether instead of proceeding it should seek to make changes to the plan that was submitted to the Inspector back in 2022. After a full and frank dialogue, a majority concluded that making those changes was not in the best interests of the district as a whole. As a consequence, areas of Green Belt will remain in the Local Plan and sites such as those in Ermyn Way and Exxon Mobil remain identified to deliver housing.

ARA's response to any plans brought forward is to examine, in detail, all aspects of the plan. Assertions about traffic impacts, working hours, delivery hours, and safety on the approaching roads; to hold to account the developer any local promised infrastructure delivery, to scrutinise aspects of biodiversity claims; to listen and collate the views of residents. The decision taken by national and local government, and the influence of your local Councillors, is summed up in the Local Plan. However, the implementation around any plan is where ARA will act in the resident's best interests to test and verify that the development delivers the infrastructure required in the order that makes sense.

The Modifications have been out for consultation after which the Planning Inspector will prepare their report, expected by late Summer.

4.5 Website

David Baker continues to do a lot of work on behalf of Ashted's residents, primarily on Highways & Rail but also in maintaining the Association's websites and social media, whilst writing contributions for other publications including the Leatherhead & Ashted Pages.

4.6 Highways & railways

David Baker has continued to liaise with Surrey Highways, Govia Thameslink, Network Rail (NR) and the station car park operator (APCOA Connect). In addition, David monitors the situation with the Green Lane crossing.

David represents the Committee in all aspects of the railways, including Woodfield Level-Crossing: There are the 600 or so households who are effectively marooned when there is engineering work, or when there is a barrier failure.

The ARA will look to contribute to the study initiated by SCC **Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPS)**. One of the routes being considered is between Leatherhead and Epsom. The route includes the whole length of both Barnett Wood Lane and Craddocks Avenue between the Plough roundabout and the A24. At one point where the road narrows on the Leatherhead end of Barnett Wood Lane, the path is below the minimum SCC standard width for two-way cycles to share with pedestrians (2.5mtrs).

The proposed route through Ashted is a mixture of shared pavements, one-way and two-way tracks, carriageway widening, verge narrowing, junction modification, new crossings, possible tree felling etc. As of the beginning of April, there had been no movement MVDC are awaiting details from SCC as to the consultation process. Everyone wants to see safer cycling but any plan needs to be carefully considered and consulted on. When things start moving, we will need to be highly active in scrutinising the plans. Nothing is decided yet. It's very early stages.

4.7 Members & Road Stewards

Thanks also to Tony Mansell for his continued work as our Membership Secretary and for organising the Road Stewards Summer Meeting together and two ad-hoc Road Stewards meetings to discuss the future of the ARA. It is very clear that they remain the lifeblood of the Association, and the Committee is very grateful for all that they do to support it. Peter Warran has retired as a Road Steward after 35 years of service. Thank you, Peter, we will mention this again later.

4.8 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): Chargeable developments have to pay a levy to the Council that is then used by the Parish Councils or bidders from Non-Parish Councils to support infrastructure projects. The MVDC decide who gets money from this pot for non-Parish Councils upon a bid and recommendations from MV Officers and a CIL Working group. The Green Lane improvement work to the footpath proposal was passed in Autumn 2023 by the MVDC cabinet and CIL funding was granted. Thanks to David Baker for everything he does. We would like to either prepare further CIL bids or support others in bids and would welcome suggestions from Members, after which the Committee will prepare an Ashted CIL priority list.

4.9 Litter Pick

On March 23rd, Lynda Coburn ran her third successful event as Spring Clean Coordinator and we thank her and the Brownies, scouts & volunteers who joined us and collected 71 black bin bags full of rubbish, one battery, three cylinders & a chair from our roads, verges and hedges. **Clive Stirling** warrants special thanks. He is an invaluable asset during our annual Spring Clean collecting as he did all the rubbish sacks and discarded items from all the meeting points around Ashted and ferrying them all back to the APMH for collection by Mole Valley. Another special thanks to **Victoria Russell**, Ashted City of London Ranger who also collected bags from Craddocks and Ashted Station car park. As one concerned resident told me afterwards that as a resident, they were ashamed that so much rubbish had been thrown on our streets. Poignantly, less than 24 hours later we had a report that *'someone has tipped rubbish illegally in Woodfield'*.

4.10 Constitution & Governance Sub-Committee

I would like to thank Peter Ross and the Sub-Committee for their work over the last two years. They have all put in a considerable number of hours considering and preparing proposals then last year planning and undertaking a ballot of the Members. Everyone can acknowledge how the committee responded to the direction of the AGM and implemented the ballot of members to arrive at a solid democratic foundation to move forward with adaptations of the Constitution.

4 ARA PUBLICATIONS

As usual, we published the 2023 Autumn and 2024 Spring issues of our newsletter, which now has the name The Ashted Resident, incorporating Ashted Village News. These two publications were under the editorship of Andy Smith. Andy is a professional journalist with a huge amount of editing experience and our thanks go to him for taking on this role to continue the life of the very much-valued publication. The spring TAR, was our first addition in the new format and we have received some feedback, in particular, the order of the items and the minutes of the AGM. We have welcomed that feedback and will review the format accordingly. **We, may, subject to the views of the Members here, publish the AGM minutes on the website.** This will reduce printing costs. Views?

5 MODERNISATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Blue Sky Meeting: In December the ARA Committee met for half a day to discuss how the Committee could improve the service provided to our members. As technology and committee members have

changed dramatically, there is a drive from the committee to update the approach and re-invigorate the mission of the ARA. The Committee have discussed and consulted particularly Road Stewards several options. These include the possibility of making all residents/businesses members of the ARA; migrating to voluntary subscriptions with advertising revenue funding the ARA activity; stimulating and enhancing the role of the Road Stewards, acknowledging their valuable link between the Committee and members; seeking new Committee members, particularly younger and diverse residents. Moving from predominately paper publications to digital, recognising that some have no access. This process is in its infancy and the only decision made so far is amalgamating the AVN & TAR. We welcome all contributions towards the modernisation efforts- please talk to any committee member.

6 COMMITTEE & MEMBERS THANKYOU

As ever, the committee is grateful to our "Friends" who, while not on the committee, provided invaluable support to the Association, in particular Di Stirling who represents us on the Joint Residents' Associations Bus Group.

The Committee on behalf of the Members would like to thank Pam Ventham-Smith for her maintenance of the notice boards. Due to the proposed constitution changes and the ballot held in the autumn, there has been a lot of information added to the notice boards over the last 12 months. So thank you.

During the year our President, Simon Ling and Vice President Janet Marsh stood down. They have both served the Ashted Community in various roles including Councillor for many years. Simon took a particular interest in the work of the Committee and was a regular observer at the Committee meetings. He also gave the Chairman's report in the absence of a Chair last year. I know everyone here would like to join me in expressing our thanks to them. Additionally, Peter Stanyard stood down as a Committee Member, having been a member since the 1970s and a committee member and then Councillor for many years. I again thank Peter for his work on behalf of Ashted as a Committee Member and Councillor and his valuable contribution to the discussions within the Committee will be sorely missed.

7 CONCLUSION

Finally: The ARA was formed in November 1945, here in APMH and yes, we will be 80 years old next year, **I have spoken with a couple of the Committee who were there at the start and they told me** the ARA was the idea of 22 residents who were concerned with the rapid development of Ashted, the demand for new houses and the felling of trees. That Ashted would become part of London and the Green Belt start beyond Dorking. Nothing changes, we are still wary of extra housing and concerned about the impact on local amenities, adverse quality of life and increased flooding to name but a few. We are stronger when we work together and aim to continue to honour the tradition of the committee and what it was set up for. I would hope that we all agree that we need to work together to ensure that we continue to progress the reasons the Committee was set up. It was not set up to be a quasi-political party.

Myself and the committee have spent the last year exhaustively following the process to arrive at a reformed position of the ARA – that being a non-political entity. We must welcome all residents of Ashted, no matter their politics or other beliefs. Whoever Ashted elects to represent them at local government and whatever policies they have is the decision of the individual voter and not one that the ARA has any authority to influence. Decisions taken by Councillors and Council are for them to take. With the updated constitution, the ARA will not be aligned to any particular political view or involve itself in those debates and will position itself as supporting all residents equally. You'll recognise I and the Committee feel strongly about this, and we look forward to your support in

building the new invigorated ARA.

I thank the Committee, Road Stewards, friends and partners for their dedication and hard work. Finally, congratulations to the Ashted Peace Memorial Hall, a hundred years old. Since the inception of the ARA, there has been a close link between the APMH and the ARA. This continues into the centenary celebrations which will be supported by the ARA Committee.

Thank you,

The report was proposed by David Baker and seconded by Peter Ross. Passed nem con.

Honorary Treasurer's Report

The Honorary Treasurer's report and the draft 2023 accounts have been published in The Ashted Resident 2024. Martin Cox (MC) advised that expenditure in 2023 was significantly more than in 2022 for the reasons explained in the report. Around 2,300 households pay the annual subscription. In response to a query from a member at last year's AGM and in light of higher bank interest rates, some funds are now held in fixed term and notice accounts.

There were some questions from the floor following the Treasurer's Report. Peter Stanyard (PGS) asked if MC was expecting a large increase in the cost of insurance for 2024. MC advised that preliminary discussions with insurers suggest an increase of £100 from last year's cost of £754. Garry Stansfield (GS) asked about the 'fighting fund' which is nominally 5 times the annual income (so around £25k). He had been on the committee for around 20 years and there had typically been £20k or greater in the ARA bank accounts at all times. Would this continue if the subscription fee was abolished? PKS responded that the intention is to maintain the 'fighting fund' and if the subscription is abolished, other sources of income would be sought.

The report was proposed by Gerry Sevenoaks and seconded by Tony Mansell. Passed nem con.

INTERVAL FOLLOWED BY SPRING MEETING

SPRING MEETING

DK introduced Alan Horden who gave a talk about the new Mole Valley Community Fund (MVCF). Alan is a volunteer working for the Community Foundation Surrey (CFS) and has been tasked with setting up a Mole Valley Community Fund. There are already many community funds across Surrey but none that cover Mole Valley. CFS believe in a stronger fairer Surrey enabling everyone to support

organisations who are making a positive difference to our communities so that no one is left behind. The aim of MVCF is to raise money from businesses in Mole Valley and to spend that money with community groups and organisations. In the last year CFS made grants worth over £1.2M and the work of the Guildford Community Fund is a good example of what can be achieved. Alan is looking to build relationships with local companies and asked for information about who to engage with in local companies and high worth individuals. Alan asked to be contacted by email via alan@cfsurrey.org.uk if anyone has any suggestions or contacts in local businesses.

DK thanked Alan for his interesting and informative talk.

2nd PART OF AGM

A question was asked from the floor as to who was chairing the meeting. DK explained that LC had been the chair at the start of the meeting but as the proposal to change the agenda of the meeting had not been accepted, she did not wish to continue to chair the meeting. DK had therefore taken over as chair and this was accepted by those in attendance.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF CONSTITUTION

There are 4 motions to be discussed and voted upon.

Motion 1 – This motion has been proposed by Peter Ross (PR) seconded by PKS and endorsed by the whole Committee. PR explained the reason for the motion. The motion states:

Following the outcome of the paper ballot of members held in 2023, this meeting approves the following amendments to the constitution of the ARA:

Clause 2e to state 'to have no affiliation with any candidate or any registered political party and remain independent of any party ties'.

Clause 4c to state 'In all matters, and always, act solely in accordance with the objects of the Association'.

Clause 4d to state 'continue to support by considered suggestion and constructive criticism the efforts of elected Ashted councillors without prejudice to their independence of the Association'.

Clause 17 to be removed in its entirety.

PR stated that the committee want to implement the results of the ballot so that the ARA should have no affiliation with any political party and be politically neutral. If rejected then a number of committee members would stand down. PR referred to the comment from Simon Ling, the ARA President at the time of the ballot, that the result was conclusive with over 70% of the people who returned their ballot papers answering yes to the question asked by the committee about the ARA being non-partisan, working on behalf of all Ashted residents. There were many more people who responded to the ballot than were present in the APMH tonight so a rejection of the motion this evening would be a blow to democracy.

There were a number of responses and comments from the floor, some in favour and some against the motion.

The motion was put to a vote by a show of hands and PKS reminded everyone present that only members of the ARA could vote. The result of the voting was as follows:

Votes for Motion 1	52
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Votes against Motion 1	32
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Therefore, the motion was defeated as it did not achieve the required 2/3rds majority.

Motion 2 – This motion was proposed by PW. The motion states:

This meeting approves the following 2 amendments to the ARA constitution:

- i. In the Management Section: The words 'support and' be deleted from the clause named as 4c in Motion 1
- ii. Delete all of Clause 17

PW explained that he understood that the committee had problems with the word 'Support' that is mentioned in clause 4. So, he had proposed this motion for consideration in the event that motion 1 was rejected.

The motion was put to a vote by a show of hands and PKS reminded everyone present that only members of the ARA could vote. The result of the voting was as follows:

Votes for Motion 2	47
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Votes against Motion 2	3
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Therefore, the motion was passed and the constitution is to be amended accordingly.

Motion 3 – This motion was proposed by PW. The motion states:

This meeting approves the following amendment to the constitution of the ARA:

Add the following clause to Aims and Objectives 2:

To encourage those prospective and present Councillors who will not join any group or party that is subject to a whip which has the effect of overriding the best interests of Ashted Residents.

PW explained the reason for the need for this change. The ARA is a lobbying organisation that aims to help Ashted Residents to get their own way, wherever possible, in a world where most of those with the power to vote on decisions that affect Ashted are subject to a whip. This objective, to counter any whip, needs to be made clearer in our constitution

The motion was put to a vote by a show of hands and PKS reminded everyone present that only members of the ARA could vote. The result of the voting was as follows:

Votes for Motion 3	48
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Therefore, the motion achieved a 2/3rds majority and was passed and the constitution is to be amended accordingly.

Motion 4 – This motion was proposed by David Hawksworth (DH). The motion states:

Insert in Clause 6 at the end of the first sentence after “Association” the words: “none of whom shall be members of any national political party”.

DH explained the reason for the need for this change. The tradition of the ARA since its formation in the 1940s is that it must remain independent of national political parties. Having independent Councillors, ensures our Councillors will have seats on decision making committees; if they did belong to national parties, as committee places are not aligned to wards, that could mean Ashtead having no voting member on critical decision-making bodies. It would also mean they would be obliged to vote along party lines, even against something that would be in Ashtead’s interest. For many years, potential ARA Committee members were asked to confirm that they did not belong to a national party. If they did, there would be the prospect of the Committee becoming dominated by persons belonging to national parties and promoting them in local elections. It could become “political”, contrary to its aspiration to be apolitical. Further, it would constrain the ability of any independent Councillor to work jointly with the ARA Committee in developing new projects for Ashtead. My motion may not have secured a majority in the 2023 paper ballot because it sought also to exclude anyone who belonged to the Ashtead Independents – a local party established only to secure an emblem and descriptors in local elections and not to formulate policies. Note that elected Council members would still be barred from being members of the ARA Standing Committee.

The motion was put to a vote by a show of hands and PKS reminded everyone present that only members of the ARA could vote. The result of the voting was as follows:

Votes for Motion 4	21
Votes against Motion 4	49

Therefore, the motion was defeated.

Appointment of President, Officers and Members of the Committee

There were nominations for committee members to be re-elected as follows:

- a) David Baker – In light of the rejection of Motion 1, David withdrew his nomination and announced his resignation from the committee.
- b) Roger Bennett (Proposed by D G Moore. Seconded by I A Moore) c)
Tony Mansell (Proposed by Sue Lacey. Seconded by Susan Phillips)

Roger and Tony were re-elected onto the Committee unanimously.

David Harper had been nominated to become a new Committee member but in light of the rejection of Motion 1, David withdrew his nomination.

There were also nominations for the roles of Officers of the Association as follows:

David Harper had been nominated to become Chairman of the Association but in light of the rejection of Motion 1, David withdrew his nomination. So there is still a vacancy for the Chairman role.

Vice- Chairman – Peter Shrubsole (Proposed by Janet Watson. Seconded by Douglas Watson)

Hon. Treasurer – Martin Cox (Proposed by Peter Gray. Seconded by Dr Charlotte Gray)

Hon. Secretary – David Knoyle had been nominated but in light of the rejection of Motion 1, David withdrew his nomination and announced his resignation from the committee. DK considers that the current constitution makes the ARA a mouthpiece for the Ashted Independents and so it is difficult for the ARA to act for all Ashted residents.

Peter and Martin were duly re-elected.

There were nominations for the role of President but in light of the rejection of Motion 1, Glynis Peterkin withdrew her nomination. Therefore, there was only one nomination for President – Larry Unthank BEM (proposed by John Rowley, seconded by Gill Northcott). There were objections raised from the floor regarding LU becoming President and so it was put to a vote. There was a clear majority in favour of LU becoming President.

Larry Unthank was duly elected as President of the ARA.

Appointment of the Examiner

Peter Shrubsole proposed Tim Tennant and he was seconded by David Knoyle. Passed nem.con.

Any Other Business

Peter Warren has recently stepped down from his role as a Road Steward after 35 years of service. Peter was not present at the AGM but he was thanked for his many years of service as a Road Steward and the proposal that he be made an Honorary Member of the Association was passed unanimously.

Meeting Closed.