

Penkhull Residents Association (PRA) Annual General Meeting Thursday 23rd November 2023.

The meeting which commenced at 7.00 p.m. was chaired by Chair of PRA [Charles Pantin (CP)] and Community Development Co-ordinator, Stoke-on-Trent City Council [Kevin Hawkins (KH)] and attended by 40 people including 2 by Zoom.

Presentations

The Lord Mayor of the City of Stoke-on-Trent, Councillor Majid Khan, and Penkhull and Springfields Ward Councillor, Sarah Hill presented gifts to those committee members standing down after finishing their 9-year terms of office. They thanked Charles Pantin (chair), Lynda McConaghy, Terry Hitchen, Elaine Greer, and Chris Preece for their service to the Penkhull Community.

Minutes of the last AGM held on Thursday 24th November 2022: accepted as an accurate record.

Annual report of the Penkhull Residents Association

Attendees were given a copy of the written annual report
CP and Cllr Hill spoke to the report and answered questions. Points raised that require discussion by the incoming PRA committee not already on committee agenda are:

Community

Defibrillators: The defibrillator on Penkhull Service Station requires new pads-cost approx., £200. Discuss with AEDdonate

Building and planning

Penkhull Education Centre: will be offered freehold by the council to interested community groups which have a viable restoration plan. However, cost of restoration is approximately £7M. Matt Oxby (elected to PRA committee for next year) suggested PRA look at exploring Community Land Trust to save the PEC.

Land behind Sillitoe Place This is classified as amenity land now privately owned. PRA must be alert in case a request is submitted to planning for change of use.

Infrastructure to support potential new building in Penkhull

The sale of the Royal Infirmary and Central outpatient sites for building in the next year or so will require PRA to push for required infrastructure e.g. schools, GPs, parking.

Highways, car parking and transport:

Doncaster Lane rebuilding wall: A resident asked for the owner to be reminded that the collapsed section of wall needed rebuilding in sandstone as in Penkhull village Conservation Area.

Penkhull New Road: Matt Oxby (elected to PRA committee for next year) suggested road narrowing on Penkhull New Road and other roads may slow traffic and reduce accidents
CP 24/11/2023

Open spaces

Bins on the Lower Croft (field area): Steve Rylands (elected to PRA committee for next year) said these have not been replaced and people are hanging poo bags on the fences and hedges, and litter would worsen with the placing of a bench on the old playground. KH explained the council is placing bins only by a road so they can be easily emptied.

KH suggested that the bin near the new bench is replaced and volunteers from the PRA remove the inner bag and leave by the bins on the road. Mr Ryland said he would volunteer. KH and Councillor will organise a Service Level Agreement between Council and PRA for this suggestion.

Finance.

M Allen (Treasurer) presented the report which covers the period 31/03/22 to 01/04/23. He said a welcome increase in donations from residents had helped fund the Recorder printing costs and small community projects. Opening balance at 04/04/21 = £ 5,990.26 and closing balance at 04/04/22 = £ 6692.66.

Meeting agreed to move AGM date to April (as occurred before lockdown) to realign with accounting year.

Nominations and Elections for PRA committee Members (led by KH)

The meeting passed a resolution to expand committee beyond limit in PRA constitution to accommodate number of applicants. After the elections, the new PRA committee is sixteen strong.

Joint Chairs : Mark Mabey and John Chinn, **Secretary:** Janet Wakefield, **Treasurer:** Mike Allen, **Committee:** Mike Willis, Karen Jones, Mandy Francis, Dave Hindle, Dave Chadwick, Jayne Deaville, Graham Fletcher, Stephanie Brown, Mathew Oxby, Bruce Jarvest, Gwen Rylands, Steven Rylands.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm. **Date of next AGM – April 2024**