

Dear Member,

I have pleasure in inviting you to our 38<sup>th</sup> AGM on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 7.30 pm at the Windsor Forest Restaurant, Level 2, Ascot Racecourse Grandstand (use Car Park 3). The Authority are providing their facilities free of charge and our Guest Speaker will be Mr. Philip Everett LVO, FRICS, Deputy Ranger, Crown Estate. As usual, wine and nibbles will be provided by the Committee and we hope to have a good turnout at this prestigious venue. I now report on the activities for the last 6 months, leaving more detail for the AGM itself.



## PLANNING OVERVIEW

**RBWM LOCAL DEVELOPMENT (LDF)** It has been decided that the new Townscape Assessment Characterisation process finalised in November should not be evaluated until the results of the March 2009 Options Consultation (closing date 20.4.2009) have been considered. SPAE, with the Sunningdale and Ascot/Sunninghill Councils, is making a joint response to such Options Consultation; copies will be made available to members on our website. We attended the External RBWM Development Control Stakeholders Meeting on 3.12.2008.

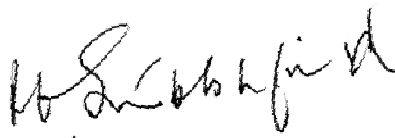
**GREEN BELT** Minor unobjectionable boundary changes are being considered by RBWM as part of the Core Strategy process.

**TESCO** Members are probably aware that on 17.3.2009 the Appeal for 1/3 High Street, Sunninghill was refused on parking, highway safety, servicing and noise grounds.

**SUNNINGDALE PARKING** As a result of local representations to our active Ward Councillor, Christine Bateson, in the last few months many more road parking restrictions have been imposed in Ridgemount, Chobham, Cross and London Roads as well as Broomhall Lane, Cedar Drive, Charters Way and Eden Place. These have been welcomed, and further proposals are being considered.

**WEBSITE & EMAIL** You are encouraged to visit our website ([www.spae.org](http://www.spae.org)) regularly for news, and to let Jacky Scott-Howison ([jspae@foxdalehouse.net](mailto:jspae@foxdalehouse.net)) know your email address if you have not already done so: your next paper report can then be replaced by an environment- (and budget-) friendly emailing.

**SPAЕ COMMITTEE & OFFICERS** Michael Clegg, a SPAЕ stalwart for so many years, is standing down as President this year to be replaced by Stuart Errington. Geoff Cooper is retiring for health reasons. During the year we have lost Tony Crowe, Geoff Donovan, Mike Porter and Peter Stubblefield from the Committee. Our grateful thanks is expressed to all those leaving for all their hard work. Any volunteers for Committee membership should apply to me.



Tower Lodge, Charters Road  
Sunningdale, SL5 9QB

R. G. Stubblefield  
Chairman

## PARISH REPORTS

### SUNNINGDALE

01344 623086

Keith Streams

[keith@streams733.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:keith@streams733.orangehome.co.uk)

Applications during the past half-year have reduced considerably compared with the same period of past years, no doubt due to the continuing economic turndown. The majority continue to be for relatively small extensions to existing houses and cause no concern, as is

the case with recent applications for the Coworth Park hotel complex for detailed improvements to already approved facilities. A matter of concern, however, is applications for the replacement of substantial houses, which were part of the early development and character of Sunningdale, by large multiple new houses. These are being vigorously contested.

An Inspector's Decision on the proposal for flats at Fairfield, London Road is awaited. At the appeal hearing, much play was made of the Covert Wood, Sunninghill, proposal (see Sunninghill below) as providing alternative public open space to Chobham Common SPA, thus easing the way for this and future development proposals. We hope that the Inspector will have taken note of the Borough Council's refusal.

## **SUNNINGHILL**

01344 623502

**Peter Standley**

[peterstandley@onetel.com](mailto:peterstandley@onetel.com)

Two outcomes of significance have occurred since the last Newsletter. First, the Public Inquiry into the Tesco appeal to open an extended convenience store at 1-3 High Street, Sunninghill was dismissed, thanks in large measure to the Local Community Action Group having Peter Deason as its expert witness on parking, road safety and noise (although Tesco can if they wish open in the existing premises without extension). Second, the refusal by Councillors to permit Covert Wood in Bagshot Road to become a public open space in spite of a Planning Officer's recommendation to allow the change of use. Here again spirited opposition by concerned local residents and SPAE was an important factor in getting that recommendation overturned.

On the apartments front, 16 flats at Brockenhurst House and Birch Common in Brockenhurst Road have been granted full planning permission, in place of their outline permission. However on London Road, Ascot, proposals for two blocks of 8 apartments at Rustlings and Kingsland have been dismissed at appeal; also Budgen Stores Ltd have withdrawn their appeal against refusal of permission for 14 flats above their rear car park. A proposal for a house on land adjacent to The Coach House, Wells Lane was also dismissed at appeal.

SPAE has been actively concerned for some years in trying to get regularized the processing of waste at the Short's site in St Georges Lane, for which planning permission expired as long ago as 2000. A new planning application has now been submitted, but as this seeks a significantly higher usage of the site than was approved 10 years ago we are objecting strongly and pressing for at least part of the site to be returned to agricultural use, as required by the original consent to permit waste re-cycling at this Green Belt location. The Society is now also taking an active interest in attempts to establish a skip hire business within the Green Belt at the other end of Wells Lane at Oakfield Farm, for which there appears to be no extant planning permission.

## **WINKFIELD**

01344 621797

**Stewart McDougall**

[stewartandjanet@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:stewartandjanet@tiscali.co.uk)

Applications to knock down houses and construct apartment blocks have all but ceased, with the exception of one outstanding application for 8 apartments in two blocks in Fernbank Road. The application to convert an agricultural barn in Prince Albert Drive to workshops was rejected by BFBC as inappropriate development. It has now gone to appeal, the result of which is expected within days. Regrettably the 1.8 metre wall proposed to surround the Ascot Place estate has been deemed as permitted development and can therefore go ahead. However I understand BFBC will try to pursue other avenues to prevent its construction, which would be a stain on the rural nature of the area. Further plans have been submitted for the redevelopment of 88 to 94 Locks Ride, which with a reduced number of 6 houses are less obtrusive to the street scene.

## THE THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Society will be held at 7:30 pm on Wednesday 20th May 2009

In the Windsor Forest Restaurant on Level 2 at Ascot Race Course, Ascot High Street

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 37th Annual General Meeting held on 21st May 2008
3. Matters arising from those Minutes
4. Election of Officers: the following have been nominated and are willing to serve:  
President: Mr S G Errington, CBE, DL  
Vice President: Lord Elibank  
Chairman: Mr R G Stubblefield  
Deputy Chairman & Planning Secretary: Mr G B Burgess, RIBA  
Hon Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Mrs C Webb  
Hon General Secretary: Mrs J Scott-Howison
5. Election of Executive Committee: the following have been nominated and are willing to serve:  
Mr G J Joyce                      Mr S McDougall                      Mr T J McElhaw  
Mr P W O'Kill                      Mr P E Standley                      Mr K D Streams  
Other nominations for Committee Members should be received by the General Secretary no later than 14th May 2009
6. Treasurer's and Membership Reports, including adoption of Accounts and appointment of Reporting Accountants
7. Planning Secretary's Report
8. President's Remarks
9. Chairman's Report
10. Any Other Business

Hon General Secretary  
Mrs J Scott-Howison  
Tel: 01344 620298  
jspae@foxdalehouse.net

Foxdale  
Heather Drive  
Sunningdale  
Berkshire SL5 0HR

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Upon the close of business there will be an address by our Guest Speaker,

**Mr Philip Everett LVO FRICS, Deputy Ranger of the Crown Estate**

after which refreshments will be served

	2008/09	2007/08
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions	1,827.00	1,885.00
Donations	69.00	148.99
NS Bank Interest (Gross)	594.20	768.65
Bank Account Interest (Gross)	13.09	29.09
Witan IT Interest (Gross)		1.31
	<u>2,503.29</u>	<u>2,833.04</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Printing & Stationery	469.52	843.39
Postage & Telephone	304.73	198.00
Publications		47.50
Hire of halls, AGM and meeting expenses	113.36	125.97
Subscriptions & Donations	46.00	246.00
Inland Revenue	160.80	151.18
Bank charges		
Accountants Fee	111.63	111.63
IT/office equip/website	316.73	849.53
Sundries - Presentations/wine		68.22
Advertising		145.00
Reception	65.58	25.00
Rent	84.00	84.00
Petrol/Travel	44.00	88.30
	<u>1,716.35</u>	<u>2,983.72</u>
<b>Excess (Deficit) of Income over Expenditure</b>	786.94	(150.68)
New Life Memberships	100.00	250.00
Accumulated Funds brought forward	<u>28,265.74</u>	<u>28,166.42</u>
<b>Accumulated Funds carried forward</b>	<u>29,152.68</u>	<u>28,265.74</u>
<b>Represented by:-</b>		
Investment with NS Bank	18,371.22	17,777.02
Barclays Business Premium Account	2,006.57	1,993.80
Cash at Bank & in Hand	1,774.89	1,494.92
Witan Investment Trust plc	<u>7,000.00 *</u>	<u>7,000.00</u>
* Market value 31.3.09	4,461.92	
	<u>29,152.68</u>	<u>28,265.74</u>

## ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

We have examined the accounts of the Society for the Protection of Ascot & Environs for the year ended 31st March 2009 in conjunction with the books, records, and information supplied to us by the Treasurer and confirm that they are in accordance therewith.

Porter Garland  
Chartered Accountants

Portland House  
Park Street, Bagshot, Surrey

## MINUTES of 37<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held on Wednesday 21 May 2008 in the Windsor Forest Suite, Ascot Racecourse at 7.30 pm

The Chairman opened the Meeting by welcoming approximately 70 Members and guests, naming the following principal guests: Councillor Mrs Dorothy Kemp, Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (RBWM), Mr Charles Barnett, CEO of Ascot Racecourse, Mr Graham Stallwood, Development Control Officer from the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, Members of the Parish Councils and the Press. In addition, Mr Stubblefield said SPAE were delighted that Mr Charles Barnett would be the Guest Speaker after the Meeting and he thanked him for providing the very impressive Windsor Forest Suite free of charge.

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The General Secretary read out the list of 21 apologies received.

### 2. MINUTES of 36<sup>th</sup> AGM

The adoption of the Minutes of the above Meeting held on 24 May 2007, which had been circulated, was proposed by Mrs Judith Stephens, seconded by Mr Neil Stephens and approved. No matters arose.

### 3. ELECTION of OFFICERS

The following were proposed by Mrs Pauline Smith, seconded by Mrs Mary Cooper and were unanimously elected:

President	Mr M W Clegg
Vice Presidents	Lord Elibank
	Mr S G Errington CBE DL
Chairman	Mr R G Stubblefield
Deputy Chairman and Planning Secretary	Mr G B Burgess RIBA
Hon Treasurer and Membership Secretary	Mrs C Webb
Hon General Secretary	Mrs Jacky Scott-Howison

### 4. ELECTION of EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The following were proposed by Mr Geoff Donovan, seconded by Mrs Judith Stephens and unanimously elected:

Air Cdre G M G Cooper	Dr G S Donovan	Mr G Joyce
Mr S McDougall	Mr T J McElhaw	Mr P W O'Kill
Mr M Porter	Mr P E Standley	Mr K D Streams
Mr P J Stubblefield		

### 5. TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORTS including ADOPTION of ACCOUNTS & APPOINTMENT of REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS

On behalf of the Treasurer, the Chairman referred to the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31/03/2008 and the Accountants' Report, which had been distributed to all Members, and commented:

- SPA E was now required to pay Corporation Tax (£151).
- Printing and stationery showed a saving of approximately £700, due to no longer printing the Annual Report in booklet format.
- The increase in IT expenditure was due to the purchase of necessary software licences and the purchase of an advertising banner.
- Witan Investment had fallen in value.
- The number of members was steady.

Mr Gordon Anderson asked why SPAE held such a large cash sum; the Chairman explained that it had been built up by previous prudent Officers and it was necessary to handle

planning appeals. It was proposed by Dr Christina Hill, seconded by Mrs Judith Stephens and carried unanimously, that the Accounts be approved and adopted, that the Accountants, Messrs Porter Garland, being willing, be re-appointed and that the Treasurer be authorised to agree their increased fee.

## **6. PLANNING SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Planning Secretary reported that much time had been devoted to considering higher density applications. The summary of all planning observations could now be seen on our website, ([www.spae.org](http://www.spae.org)). In brief, over the year SPAE commented on 153 out of a total of 610 applications in our area and, of these, 42% were refused or withdrawn. Considerable time was also spent on Appeals. SPAE hoped the recent legislation on SPAs (Special Protection Areas) and SANGS (Suitable Accessible Natural Green Spaces) would help us secure more dismissals of future appeals. This will be tested over Woodberry Down, Pucksfield and Summerwood, Ashish Nivas, Rosewood, Rustlings and Meadow Court (all apartment developments) as well as our increasing concern about one-for-one replacements of inappropriate scale, especially on small plots.

The Society strongly opposes the proposed 'Tesco' development in Sunninghill and will continue to contest it on grounds of its effect on the street scene, vehicle parking and access and its effect on the viability of other local traders. The Society has also noticed an increase in the number of deviations by developers from the planning consents they have been granted. He urged members to notify SPAE as soon as possible of any such variations which they noticed. Mr Burgess then thanked SPAE members for keeping the team in touch with the visual impact that planning applications might have on their immediate vicinity, and for their cooperation at Appeals.

## **7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**Planning Overview** Mr Stubblefield encouraged members who objected to planning applications to attend Appeals. He announced that the Dorchester Hotel Group is to redevelop Coworth Park House and gardens as a hotel and restaurant, spending around £50 million.

**Kotch Community Hall** Under the auspices of Mr Ronnie Wilkie, Racecourse Operations Director, this venue has been set up for the 14-16 year olds of Ascot, Sunninghill and Sunningdale by the Ascot Authority, using Section 106 racecourse development money.

**RBWM** Mr Graham Stallwood had provided the latest local planning news that the parking in Charters Road would be improved by September by re-painting the lines in Devenish Road and at the other end of Charters Road. The car park being built was due for completion by September. RBWM were planning a townscape report for each area and SPAE will be asked to comment.

**Conservation** SPAE will be proposing areas for conservation, especially the centre of Sunninghill village. They will also propose preservation of some Victorian houses and their fine gardens for the long term interests of the area.

**Finance & Membership** These have held up well thanks to Keith Streams and his publicity. The Society is just about managing out of income.

**Website and Publicity** Mr Stubblefield thanked Ian Valentine for all his work in putting items on to the website, which was proving useful to members. He also urged more members to operate via email. The new banner was currently at Sunningdale recreational ground and he hoped it would encourage more membership.

**Tributes** The Chairman paid tribute to all SPAE's officers, Team Leaders and the Committee for their hard work during the year, and their wives for providing the snacks for the AGM. He thanked retiring General Secretary, Glynis Morse, for her effort and presented her with a splendid plant.

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The formal Meeting closed at 8.40 pm and the Chairman introduced the Guest Speaker, Mr Charles Barnett, who gave an interesting and informative talk about Ascot Racecourse, Present and Future. After questions, the Chairman thanked the Speaker, and the proceedings closed at 9.20 pm.