**Racecourse Residents Association**

**(RRA)**

**Minutes of Meeting held at the Lodge 27 October 2024 1630 hours**

Present: Committee Members

 Racecourse Residents

 Sean Hines Racecourse CEO

Purpose of meeting

To introduce CEO to residents

To council ideas from residents on creating a community

Agenda

1. The meeting was opened by **Adrian Abbs (Chairman)** and members of the committee introduced themselves. **Adrian** stated that as there had not been more volunteers to take part in the committee vs the roles we needed to fill therefore all members were elected to their committee roles unopposed. It was pointed out that an AGM soon after formation should be done. Adrian stated that the intent was to hold one before the xmas break. At the AGM any changes to the committee can be made as well as any changes needed to the constitution , a copy of the current constitution is available on the website.
2. The Chair then introduced Shaun Hinds to the group. Shaun gave details of his background and went on to describe the various functions undertaken by the Racecourse. The business is successful to enable development and the spaces are good and represent Newbury in its best way. There is a lot of competition for the racecourse and its attractions and events facilities. Rockingham nursery was graded as outstanding by Ofsted.
3. Aims for the Association – the website is the main focus for minutes and formal matters which are then posted to the Facebook group which is specifically for the Racecourse Ward residents. A conversation took place about helping to build the community and that David Wilson Homes (DWH) are meant to deliver what is called a local centre but not in itself a community centre. Additional discussion took place with regard to David Wilson Homes and its marketing suite which is going at some point. The question was raised as to the potential of utilising it rather than demolishing and rebuilding. It was agreed that the committee will engage with DWH on this point.
4. Ideas to build community were presented based on feedback before the meeting began.
5. Public EV charging points
6. Front gardens to be managed – not feasible
7. Chairman joked that there are a lot of spiders in communal areas and skeletons showing community spirit.
8. To approach Greenham Parish Council for a grant.
9. That it may be possible to run a Christmas Tree Carol Concert.
10. More Defibrillators – you need to be within 400 meters for the emergency services to direct you there. Placing extras at public areas like the playgrounds would fill these gaps. These are also public access so available 24x7
11. Lack of bus shelters an not all roads adopted yet. It was agreed to approach bodies to see whether this can be addressed and maybe these could also act as locations for defibulators. It was mentioned that the bus stops are run by bus advertising company.
12. There is a very damaged bus shelter on Racecourse Road and no one is taking responsibillty. Shaun Hindssaid the Racecourse will look into it.
13. There is a serious traffic hazard for pedestrians along the Long Strand because there is no public footpath – who owns it. Adrian confirmed it is the Local Authority it will be brought to the attention of the district councilors.
14. The damaged gate at the end of the racecourse has been replaced with a single one resulting in inaccessibility for wheelchairs. Committee will discuss at the next meeting.
15. The questions was asked about if there a reason why only Nuffield gym members have access through the estate and only when visiting the gym. The history of this was explained as it was a result of the original traffic management plan an avoiding a rat run being created . It also results form Nuffield health having a wright of access over this land. It was agreed that the association would seek to change the conditions with the local authority by asking for a traffic management review.

Date of next meeting to be decided.