

NOTES OF A MEETING BETWEEN RBK and MCRA held at Guildhall1

on

20TH FEBRUARY 2019 at 10am

Present: Cllr Rowena Bass (in the chair), Cllr Ian George, Stephen Evans (RBK Director Communities), Neville Rainford (RBK Neighbourhood Manager Maldens & Coombe), Dr Judy Kane (Co-Chair MCRA), John Tarrant (Director MCRA) and Mick Taviner (Secretary MCRA)

Cllr Bass invited all attendees to identify themselves.

Cllr Bass introduced the meeting by explaining the special nature of the Coombe Estate and its special relationship with RBK arising out of the provisions of the Maldens & Coombe UDC Act 1933.

Mr Evans announced and confirmed that Mr Rainford would be the point of contact for RBK with MCRA going forward. Mr Rainford's postal address is

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames
Guildhall 2
High Street
Kingston upon Thames
KT1 1EU

tel no. is 020 8547 4625

email address is neville.rainford@kingston.gov.uk

This information would be germane in overcoming the recent problems concerning identifying the various heads of department within the Environment. Mr Rainford would be able to direct any matter of concern by MCRA to the right source as well as allowing him to keep an oversight on matters as they progress.

An opportunity was made possible to highlight pressing items of concern by MCRA and were as follows:

CCTV security. The introduction of CCTV to the Estate was explained and concerns were raised concerning the failure of the present CCTV at the barrier to produce video stream during low light that would offer a clarity to provide admissible evidence for police use. In addition dismay was registered over the delay that has ensued in getting additional CCTV that has been agreed with RBK installed at the two Kingston Hill entrances to the Estate. It was agreed that Mr Taviner and Mr Tarrant would meet with Mr Rainford and Mr Begley (RBK CCTV) to progress the situation. Cllr Bass asked to be kept in the frame as to progress.

ACTION Meeting to be set up in the next 2 -3 weeks with Mr Begley

Street lighting has been a recent problem with some bulbs not being replaced. It was acknowledged that perhaps some residents are ignorant of the fact that they can simply report a bulb failure and in most cases labels are attached to lighting standards giving contact information for that purpose. It was agreed also that the contact information could also appear on the MCRA website (www.mcrald.com). The quickest way to report council related problems, issues and concerns(eg lighting, potholes etc) is through the RBK website - <https://www.kingston.gov.uk/report>.

Coombe Estate Grounds Maintenance Concerns were raised as to the absence in clarity regarding the provision of service agreements with regard to roads maintenance, grass cutting, shrub maintenance and deep cleaning/scavenging. The schedule in our possession was drawn up

in 2015 and possibly needs revision as to who does what and how often in relation to the contracts placed with Idverde and Veolia.

Potholes in the carriageways were raised as a point of concern and more proactivity was asked for though Mark Murphy was praised for his action to problems once they were pointed out. Potholes can be reported directly via the RBK website on the link above. The observation was also made that schools are using huge buses to transport pupils in/out which were distressing the wearing courses on the carriageways. The question was asked as to whether the schools should be contributing more to the repair works necessitated by the excess damage caused.

Bell Bollard at Golf Club Drive (GCD) Serious concerns were raised regarding the bell bollard installed at the Golf Club Drive/Coombe Hill Road intersection which has resulted in some cars being severely damaged. It has been realised that there is a visibility issue that needs addressing and MCRA want it rectified as soon as possible.

There has also been a reluctance despite requests from MCRA for a damaged bollard at the end of the barrier island at the Warren Road/Coombe Lane entrance to be replaced/repaired.

ACTION Urgent action needs to be taken at the GCD mouth

Community Rangers Mr Rainford said after listening to the matters aired that there were services of a light nature that could be carried out by the RBK's rangers and requests could be made through him from time to time to call upon their services. Requests could be made and met depending on the sort of assistance required eg low level fly tipping

Kingston Safer Neighbourhood Board Cllr Bass mentioned the Kingston Safer Neighbourhood Board will be held on 4th March at the Guildhall. These are public meetings and chaired independently of the police and council - details can be found on the RBK website.

Coombe Hill Safer Neighbourhood Panel The next meeting of the Coombe Hill local safer neighbourhood police panel in connection with ward policing is due to be arranged for a date tbc in March.. Such meetings are resident led and held every other month. They would welcome a resident from the Coombe Estate to join the panel. MCRA said they may have such a person who would be approached.

Parking/Yellow Lines. The council agreed to contact the Parking Enforcement team to police the yellow lines especially in the afternoons at school pick up times.

ACTION. Ensure parking restrictions are policed.

Oak Processionary Moth This is being monitored by the council (currently 43,000 trees in the area) by Leon Parry

RBK annual maintenance budget Mr Rainford said that all was on schedule for the draft budget to be available for comment in time for consideration by MCRA before going to the Neighbourhood committee.

The meeting closed at 11am.