

EFFINGHAM RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
and
PUBLIC MEETING

Catholic Church Hall, Lower Road, Effingham on
Thursday 10th May 2012 at 20.00 hrs.
(approx. 15 residents present)

1.0 Public meeting (part 1)

1.1 AgeUK

An interesting and informative talk was given by Andrew Bennett.

AgeUK is a consolidation of:

- AgeConcern, which was started after WW2 to aid suffering old people.
- Help-the-Aged, which was largely a fund raising operation for help for third world countries.

By combining, a stronger single voice is achieved in campaigning. AgeUK works as a federation of independent organisations. Thus locally in Surrey it is AgeUKSurrey which offers a comprehensive range of advice and services as follows:

1. **Advocacy service**, which is free and manned by volunteers, gives help to people over 50, but mostly over 70, who have lost their homes or been made bankrupt.
2. **Counselling service** is also free to help people with depression, bereavement or illness. 6 sessions are provided.
3. **Home Help** service provides, at a charge, workers, who are self-employed, on an on-going basis. There is a fee which is negotiated between the worker and the client. There are about 3,000 clients in Surrey.
4. **Healthy living programme** of organised GO50 walks works on a roll-up and pay basis. Short "Fit as a Fiddle" courses (Lottery funded) courses are run to help people improve fitness. They include Nordic walking and cookery for older men. There is also a "Men in Sheds" initiative to help men socialise; men tend to feel excluded at Day Centres.
5. **Products** are sold including Utilities, such as electricity and gas, and also insurance, particularly travel, home and car, with no upper age limit.
6. **Funeral plan** is run as an independent Trust Fund enabling fees to be paid at to-day's prices and relieving grieving relatives of the ever increasing financial burden of a funeral.
7. **Financial services**, working with financial companies, to provide, for example, equity release schemes.
8. **Campaigning** for the interests of the elderly and aged.

2.0 Annual General Meeting 2012

2.1 Minutes of AGM 2011 approved. No matters arising.

2.2 Chairman's report approved

2.3 Treasurer's report and accounts Roy Donovan presented the accounts. Surplus for the year is £194 and balance at bank is £3938. The accounts were adopted.

2.4 Election of Examiner Ivor Gillespie was appointed, proposed by A. Hunt, seconded by Liz Hogger

2.5 Election of Secretary David King was appointed, proposed by K. Walker, seconded by Julie Iles.

2.6 Election of Treasurer Roy Donovan was appointed, proposed by D. King, seconded by Liz Hogger.

2.7 Election of committee All current members (K. Walker, Pat Bleasby, A. Hunt, Julie Iles, O. Odensi) are willing to serve for the coming year. They were appointed en bloc, proposed by Ros Patey, seconded by W. Reay. Liz Hogger is co-opted.

2.8 Election of Road Wardens The wardens are volunteers, thus do not require to be elected.

2.9 Any other business None.

3.0 Public meeting (part 2)

3.1 Minutes of last public meeting Approved

3.2 Matters arising None

3.3 Planning Roy Donovan reported that there had been 23 planning applications in Effingham in 2012 to date, approx. the same as 2011, of which 5 have been refused. The status of the significant applications is as follows:

- **The Long Barn, High Barn Road:** appln. for a basement was refused and has now gone to Appeal.
- **Care Home, Church Street** Closing date for objection was 27-4-12; 101 objections lodged, and 39 in favour, many of which were from non-Effingham residents.
- **Two Firs scrap yard, Calvert Road** has applied for Certificate of Lawfulness to continue current trading activities. Applicants have lodged financial depositions which are being studied by GBC

3.4 Any other business

- David Anderson suggested that ERRA have a leaflet/statement to give to residents describing the work of ERRA; possibly include in Public Meeting Notices. Committee to consider this suggestion.

D. J. King (May 2012)

