

ST MARY'S ISLAND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION RESIDENTS MEETING

21.02.2022



Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Apologies for absence
- Recording of the last meeting – available on the website
- Stakeholder Q&A – CMT & PCSO Angela Saunders
- Stakeholder Q&A - Medway Council
- Stakeholder Q&A – Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group & Maritime Health Partnership
- Stakeholder Q&A - SMIRA
- Any other business
- Next Residents' meeting date 25.04.2022
- Close

Apologies for absence

Jade Jones – SMIRA Company Secretary



Previous meeting minutes

Malcolm Gray – SMIRA Chair

Video available on the SMIRA website

1 min



Stakeholder Q&A – CMT and PCSO Angela Saunders

Malcolm Gray – SMIRA Chair



Questions - CMT

- There is scruffy wood and wire fencing along parts of Restharrow Way, which appears to serve no purpose at all, and looks terrible. I believe it was originally "temporary" but that was years ago! The Trust are supposed to be the keen to look after the "street scene" as they call it, but this eyesore does nothing for it. It also partially collapsed into the road one evening, and I ran over it causing £540 damage to my car, for which I received no compensation from the Trust whatsoever. What is the Trust doing about this?

CMT Comments

Unfortunately due to residents and visitors regularly parking on newly planted shrubs and plants we have had to put in temporary chestnut fencing in order to protect the plants until they have established enough that we are comfortable that we can remove the fencing. We agree that it is not an ideal solution, however without taking this action the plants would simply continue to be destroyed by vehicles parking on them.

In November 2019 the trust received a claim for damages to a vehicle under reference 7192016. The incident was passed on to the Trust insurance broker Claim Advisor to progress with claimant and was concluded no fault to the trust and case closed.

Questions - CMT

- What is being done about the uneven surfaces around the Island for wheelchair users.

CMT Comment

The Trust has worked hard across the estate over the last 5 or 6 years to make wheel chair and other users i.e mobility scooter, prams and cycling safe and easy across the estate.

The Trust has introduced additional drop down kerbs, pathways, and even removed cobbles from the river walk and added coloured tarmac. We take disability and movement around site very high on are list so everyone can enjoy the estate.

It has also been brought to are attention that the ramp to caisson needs alteration and will be undertaken shortly along with replacement hard wood decking across the caisson.

Questions – PCSO Angela Saunders

- The recent bike marking event was not advertised in advance of the event. We would appreciate greater notice in order to ensure greater participation.

Stakeholder Q&A – Medway Council

Malcolm Gray – SMIRA Chair



Questions – Medway Council

- Machine Shop No 8. A forlorn and derelict eyesore which has been left to fester for decades without attention of any kind, and is a weed infested disgrace. Now the subject of various crackpot development schemes, none of which are sensible or practical, and which all appear to have fizzled out and come to nothing. What is happening with this plot of land?
- Yellow lines on St Mary's Island. The problem raised regarding parking near junctions and the subsequent danger for drivers and pedestrians has not been solved by the introduction of yellow lines. An example has been provided as follows: parking adjacent to the playground along Restharrow Way still creates a long curving blind bend, with cars meeting head on and having to mount the pavement to avoid one another. The near approach to the Island Way East/Restharrow Way roundabout is still obscured by up to five or six large vans parked up, along with parking by dog walkers, commuters, etc who do not live here. Cars still meet head on here also. Cars emerging from Willowherb Close also do so completely blind. You cannot even see to cross the road by the children's playground.

The Council's view is appreciated as the PCSO for the Island is unable to take any action other than advise people as she sees them. For instance, is a parking officer patrolling the area?

- The Council fee to close roads in order to hold a street party for the Queen's Jubilee. Can the fee be waived, or alternatively could SMIRA pay the fee for the whole Island?

Questions – Medway Council

- When were the Council informed of the delays to the roadworks, and why were residents' not informed?
Residents' found out about the delays through the media.

Stakeholder Q&A – Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group & Maritime Health Partnership

Malcolm Gray – SMIRA Chair



Questions – Maritime Health Partnership

- When do you plan to start COVID vaccinations for children?

Stakeholder Q&A – SMIRA

Malcolm Gray – SMIRA Chair

10 min



Questions – SMIRA

- The Island Facebook site is policed by "administrators", and some of the more contentious or provocative comments are deliberately blocked. This keeps everything very "nice" but unfortunately also kills off the free speech that this country prides itself on, and which is a basic human right. There is a lot of debate about controlling content on Facebook and Twitter etc - but SMIRA are already doing it!

SMIRA Comment – SMIRA controls the official Facebook page only. It does not block any comments and allows freedom of speech in so far that comments do not amount to abuse towards other residents’.

2022 Residents' Meeting Dates

Malcolm Gray – SMIRA Chair



2022 Resident Meeting Dates

Commencing at 8 pm

25 April

27 June

19 September

9 December (AGM)

2022 CMT Board Meetings

The CMT Board meet six times a year. If you would like the SMIRA representative trustees to raise anything at the next CMT Board meeting please let us know and we will ensure your questions are put to the CMT trustees.

Thank you and close

