

## SMIRA notes and actions – meeting held 21/5/2023

Topic	Summary	Action	Outcome
<b>AGM actions</b>	Accounts for approval	None required	Unanimously voted and approved by present members
<b>Chair's comments</b>	<p>1- Need for additional residents to support with activities. 4-6 people is not sustainable to run events and other activities residents would like to see reinstated following the pandemic.</p> <p>2- Communication issues by email. The increased number of residents means that mass emails are not being processed by the server as is being blocked meaning that emails need to be sent in batches of approx. 20. This is time consuming and unsustainable.</p> <p>3- The website requires a redesign and update.</p>	<p>1- Residents to nominate themselves and provide details of how frequently they can support and type of activities.</p> <p>2- Suggestion that CMT could help with resolving this issue, it will be discussed with them in Sept 2023.</p> <p>3- The SMIRA communications group will begin working on making the website more user friendly and updating its contents over the next few months.</p>	<p>1- 6 residents have put their names forward to help from Sept 2023. – Thank you.</p> <p>2- A volunteer resident has offered to pick up this action.</p> <p>3- SMIRA comms group will meet in Sept 2023 to discuss ideas on how to do this and allocate a timeline and tasks.</p>
<b>Residents' meetings</b>	<p>Frustrations on poor attendance over the last 4 years were raised. Evening weekday meetings no longer a practical time for most residents with work and family commitments.</p> <p>Members in attendance felt that the new Sunday slot presented better opportunity for attendance and fitted with their lifestyle.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minimum of 4 meetings and 1 AGM will be planned and spread across the year.</li> <li>- Drop-in and additional sessions will be planned as/when needed.</li> <li>- New residents will be invited to meetings with a leaflet drop to welcome them to SMI.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Comms group to design new leaflet for use.</li> <li>- Meeting dates to be announced end of August 2023.</li> </ul>

<b>Noticeboards</b>	There are two noticeboards on the island and SMIRA will post information on these.	The SMIRA segment will be updated in Sept 2023 with new material including residents' meeting dates for the coming year.	Members of the comms group will be helping with the design and layout of the 'new look' posters to be displayed.
<b>SMIRA Newsletter</b>	Residents expressed that they would like this back and available as a hardcopy.	SMIRA board and comms team to work together to update the newsletter.	Aim is to have two newsletters distributed at even intervals in the coming year. Sustainability of printing and associated costs to be discussed at a future date.
<b>Car speeding</b>	The Speed Indication Device has been moved from the bridge.	This is owned by SMIRA. It will be requested that it be returned and only moved in the locations around the SMI.	SMIRA to contact CMT and request update on what has happened to the device. Follow-up to be given at next meeting.
<b>Police/PCSO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- Residents had requested road by road crime statistics.</li> <li>2- Bike marking event</li> <li>3- Drug dealing in Watersmeet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- This is available form the Kent Police website and in their annual report for residents to access.</li> <li>2- PCSO to provide dates for when this will take place.</li> <li>3- Residents to continue to report all cases even if action by police is not seen. It will help build the picture of events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- PCSO will not be creating a separate crime report for SMI as this data is available for public access.</li> <li>2- Dates now confirmed as Friday 18 August 12-2pm at SMI community centre. Details of the SMIRA Facebook page.</li> <li>3- SMIRA to ask CMT if the surveillance cameras cover the problem areas.</li> <li>4- MK has verbally flagged this issue to the local MP.</li> </ul>

<b>Foxes/vermin</b>	Residents have reported an increase in the number of foxes and other wildlife considered to vermin causing nuisance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Policy on culling to be sought from CMT/Council</li> <li>- Residents to be reminded that refuse should only be put out on the morning of refuse collections and not the night before to prevent a food source for vermin and prevent scattering of rubbish across the island.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council and CMT to provide details of culling policies/guidance.</li> <li>- Council and CMT to be contacted to discuss how reminders should be given to residents about refuse collection timelines.</li> </ul>
<b>Public transport</b>	<p>Number 100 bus timetable has been stripped back.</p> <p>This is causing problems for residents as it impacting their ability to leave the island at a reasonable cost using public transport.</p> <p>There are also no/limited evening buses to SMI/dockside after 19:30 and none going directly to the train station from SMI.</p> <p>This is a particular problem for those who do not drive, young people on the island or those whom have disabilities as it restricts their ability to carry out basic activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MK to speak with local councillors and MP to arrange more frequent buses to/from SMI.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MK spoke with Habib Tejan about availability of public transport. The conversation took place after council budgets were agreed but it would be revisited.</li> <li>- Two additional bus times added from 3 Sept 2023 between 11:00-13:00. Details to be published by Arriva.</li> <li>- MK will continue to liaise with the councillors and MP on further improving this service.</li> </ul>
<b>Lampposts</b>	The colour change of lightbulbs was a concern as changed the ambience of SMI. SMIRA has raised this with the council formally as complaint/concern- council will progress with the installations as planned.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council have stated the new bulbs provide energy efficiency and improved lighting.</li> <li>- Residents have complained that light is too bright.</li> <li>- Councillor Habib Tejan visited one street to see the problem to report back on this.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SMIRA cannot raise complaint for light changes for the whole island. Residents need to contact the council directly and provide the number printed on the lampposts to discuss adjusting the light intensity. The council can</li> </ul>

			adjust these remotely with the new bulbs.
<b>Chatham Docks</b>	SMIRA have actively supported the 'Save Chatham Docks campaign' through hosting the alternative vision and existing businesses of Chatham docks at the SMI community centre to show residents how the docks are sustainable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Artist vision have shown how a better environmental plan can be put in place.</li> <li>- The costings for the locks provided by Peel LLP is incorrect and is achievable for maintenance.</li> <li>- The new proposed homes rely on SMI greenspace without those units contributing to their upkeep and existing healthcare centre and school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Residents are encouraged to attend all events to understand each proposal.</li> <li>- SMIRA following resident indication have provided a position of support for saving Chatham Docks and will continue to support these events and provide opposition to overdevelopment of the area in the absence of suitable infrastructure.</li> </ul>
<b>Parking</b>	This continues to be causing residents issues with some prohibited vehicles parking on SMI and causing blockage of some roads and limiting pedestrian access and safe visibility for drivers. Some NHS staff are parking on the island and then using the NHS bus to get to work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council have applied double yellow lines in some areas.</li> <li>- SMIRA have worked with CMT to find an alternative solution for such vehicles. One proposal that is currently under consideration is identification of suitable parking space off the island for owners/vehicle users of restricted vehicles to purchase parking permits which would give them a guaranteed space and reduce the impact on their neighbours or in some cases provide parking space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Residents to contact parking enforcement officers when breaches outside their homes occur or pose a safety risk.</li> <li>- MK/CR to continue conversations with CMT on offsite parking locations.</li> <li>- SMIRA to raise NHS staff parking issue with councillors and CMT for this to be escalated to the appropriate person(s).</li> </ul>

		<p>for residents without a parking spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The hospital management to be contacted to remind staff NHS allocated parking is in the dockside and not on SMI.</li> </ul>	
<b>CMT CEO appointment</b>	CR has led on the recruitment process for CMT.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New CEO appointed and due to start in Sept 2023.</li> </ul>
<b>Dragon Boat race</b>	Residents were asked to join the team with 4 seats remaining/available. Name and costume suggestions were asked.	The SMIRA and CMT team did wonderfully on the day with more signups for the boat race than places.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Photos, videos and team times are available to view on the SMIRA Facebook page.</li> <li>- The festival raised around £90k in total- Thank you to everyone for their contribution.</li> <li>- SMIRA will be sponsoring a boat for 2024. Residents to put their names forward from now to be in the boat, give team name and costume ideas.</li> </ul>