



BLUSTERETTE

The Newsletter of the Watermead Village Residents Association
Special Edition March 1993



THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

This meeting was held on the 4th March 1993 in the Village Hall. About 40 residents attended. Anne King, Honorary Treasurer, took the chair because of the recent resignation of the Chairman and Honorary Secretary. Anne completed the formalities of confirming that the Notice about the Meeting had been posted for a month, and that every household had received a copy of the notice.

In fact a very few (out of 500 or so) had not received the notice, for which the Chairman apologised. In view of the difficulties within the Committee, those present were invited to select a Chairman for the evening, and Robert Ellis was elected.

1. **THE CONSTITUTION.** Robert opened a discussion on Item 1, the new draft Constitution, by commenting that few people would have read it, and suggested that another meeting should be called when residents had had a chance to read it. Anne King pointed out that the Notice did offer residents the chance to have a copy of the Constitution before the meeting, and about 15 had been delivered on request. However, the meeting agreed to Robert's suggestion.

Discussion then ensued about the worth of a Constitution until the residents had decided whether they wanted an Association, and if so what purpose it should serve. The opinion was also expressed that the very name of the Association put people off by its formality and that the Constitution was a daunting document and would not attract people. Anne pointed out that the Constitution was only for guidance of the Committee, and that the proper medium for interesting residents in village activities was Blusterette. Residents should nevertheless feel reassured that the Committee was running its affairs within agreed guidelines.

During this debate it was also suggested that the remaining members of the old Committee should resign immediately so that a fresh start could be made.

After some discussion, it was finally suggested that as all members of the Committee come up for re-election at the AGM, the easiest way of getting a new committee and discussing the Constitution in the near future would be to bring the AGM forward from September to mid-April. The Treasurer would close the books at 31st March 1993 and have them audited in time for the advanced AGM.

A date of Thursday 22th April 1993 was agreed for the AGM, which will be in the Village Hall, starting at 8 p.m. Mr. Crockford was elected to chair the AGM until the new Chairman is elected.

Nomination forms for officers and committee members will be distributed to all residents in good time before the AGM. Residents will be requested to return them in time for Ballot slips to be printed for the AGM.

2. **THE COMMITTEE.** As this matter had effectively been discussed earlier, no further consideration was given to it, apart from confirming that existing Committee members will remain in place until the AGM. The Treasurer particularly emphasised that the Hall must continue to run, income has to be accepted and banked and bills must be paid, and that the books could not be handed over without audit.

3. **THE HALL.** Problems associated with users who do not clean the hall properly after use were discussed. Improvements to the facilities were also mentioned; large cupboards have been secured for regular users so that, for example, the kitchen need not be used as an office and store for activity materials.

Night storage heaters have been purchased to improve the heating. The fluorescent lights need to have diffusers fitted, and the problem of mould on the north wall sorted out. Dr. Cox suggested that this was a health hazard, and this fact might be used to get positive action on stopping the seepage of water through the roof. Various ideas were mooted for regular cleaning of the hall and the matter was eventually remitted to the AGM.

