**BACKWELL RESIDENTS’ ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes of the Virtual Annual General Meeting - Tuesday 23 February 2021 at 7.00 pm**

Present: The set up of the virtual Meeting was co-ordinated by Chris Elliott using Microsoft Teams. The following Committee Members also attended: Keith Riches (Chair), Barbara Harland, Margaret Kemp, Angela Ribbon-Miles, Mike Rose, Mike Veal, Sue Veal, Geoff Wells, Valerie Wells.

Also present were Richard Gaunt (Auditor), and Sally Heslop (Prospective Committee Member).

A further 15 BRA members attended.

Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received from Committee Members, Gill Collinson, Kevin Crawford, Terry Merrett-Smith and Bruce Stewart

Introduction: The Meeting was chaired by Keith Riches who commenced by introducing the Committee Members, Auditor and Prospective Committee Member to the participants. He then asked the Honorary Secretary, Mike Veal to announce the result of voting on the first three items of Formal Business below.

All members had previously been invited to vote by email or post and the results were as follows:-

1. Approval of Minutes of AGM held on 25 February 2020 (published on BRA website)

Votes for: 30 Votes against: Nil

1. Approval of Audited Accounts for year to 31 December 2020

Votes for: 31 Votes against: Nil

(The Audited Accounts are available to any paid up BRA member by application to the Hon Secretary)

1. Election of Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer and Auditor

Proposed:

Hon Secretary: Mike Veal – Proposer: J Thomas, Seconder: G Wells

Hon Treasurer: Kevin Crawford – Proposer: M Rose, Seconder: C Elliott

Auditor: Richard Gaunt – Proposer: K Riches, Seconder: B Harland

(voted en bloc) Votes for: 31 Votes against: Nil

The Hon Secretary declared proposals 1, 2 and 3 above to be formally approved.

1. Any Other Formal Business: There was none.

**The Formal Proceedings of the Meeting were concluded at 7.15 pm.**

The Chairman then invited comments or questions from all participants. The notes on these exchanges do not form part of the Formal Minutes of the Annual General Meeting.

Two Comments were made on the subject of speed limits in the Village.

1. Rodney Drew expressed the view that many vehicles are travelling too fast along Rodney Road, despite the new 20 mph limit. He feels strongly that there needs to be more enforcement.
2. Keith Riches replied that a BRA Committee Member has made similar observations about lack of compliance in Rodney Road and that he had been made aware of many similar views about traffic in Dark Lane. He knew of only one Police speed check in the Village since the 20 limit was implemented and this was in Dark Lane. It is known that Parish Councillor Hilary Power is considering the initiation of a Community Speed Watch Group in Backwell.

Keith acknowledged that opinions in the Village and indeed within the BRA Committee are divided on the effectiveness and desirability of the 20 mph limit but he agreed to forward Rodney Drew’s view to the Parish Council and to enquire whether they are considering any further initiatives to improve compliance.

Q. Olwen Gillespie expressed the view that the speed limit should change from 20 to 30 at the bottom of Chapel Hill, rather than the current location, on a blind, narrow bend half-way down the hill.

1. Keith Riches replied that he previously tried hard to persuade North Somerset Council to rectify this situation but had been told that the Council has to comply with the regulation that a 20 limit needs continuous development on both sides of the road so they were not able to move the 20/30 change point. In his view the logic relating to a particular case should prevail over slavish adherence to a general regulation. He agreed to enquire of the Parish Council their view on this situation.
2. Allison Attwood commented that the road markings adjacent to parking areas at the top of Rodney Road indicating pavement line and disabled area are very faded and require re-painting.
3. Keith Riches agreed to bring this to the attention of the Parish Council.

**There being no further questions the Meeting closed at 7.43 pm.**