

GC - I now pass the table to SB as we had an email from a member of the association that needs to be addressed before we continue.

SB – so Mr John Camp – as he has signed himself in the email, has sent an email to Horsea Lane, as in the committee email, copying in an associate member and myself.

He has raised some concerns and as he is away and absent from today. We want to make sure that they are addressed in the correct way.

I am going to read – verbatim – his email and then what we have responded to. We could not put this out to the whole committee as the email was only received yesterday morning (Saturday). So myself, the Chair, Vice Chair & Treasurer have reviewed and pulled together an answer.

What I will do is to read out each concern, come back with our response – again not the full Committee again our apologies for that, then open to the floor to see if you agree, if you want to add anything else or raise a question yourself and go from there.

So Mr Camp starts with

“To the Committee,

My apologies for not attending the AGM but I am on holiday.

There are however a few points I would like to be raised and/or explained during the meeting.

Firstly I would like an explanation as to why there are no formal minutes published as of the moment I am writing this e-mail. Without minutes or 'Records of Decisions' (RoD's) of last year's meeting the meeting never happened and as such the Committee having been operating without authority. As I recall it is the Secretary's responsibility to produce minutes/RoD's and the Chairperson responsibility to ensure circulation through the membership for ratification.”

SB – after debate our response to this was –

Mr Camp was present as an association member at last year's AGM, standing at the back. He has been in the shop on several occasions since then and has never once raised our oversight of not sending out the minutes nor has he requested copies of them until now.

Again we apologize for not issuing but as per the normal AGM agenda point, at every AGM everyone has a copy of last year's minutes and in a moment we will go through them and ratify as part of the standard terms.

So again we apologize & please last year was our first AGM as a team and we had been thrown in the deep end due to Mr Camp's sudden departure from the Chair

Open to the floor – are you in acceptance of this

Gayle Hansom – it doesn't actually say in your reply why no minutes were sent - but then you have added the comment as to this being overlooked. This needs to be completely understood and added to your response.

SB – thank you and noted – it was a complete oversight on our part

Jayne Clark – it is a voluntary thing to do and if he has a problem then he can volunteer to be on the committee.

Peter Daley – non publishing of the minutes was an oversight and shouldn't have happened. However, I don't think that this means you were not duly elected – I wasn't at last year's AGM, but that is the process that elects the committee

Alan Read – I've been on several other association's – not allotments, but I don't ever remember us publishing the minutes until the following annual general meeting

Several members agree with this comment that minutes are not received until just before the following year's AGM.

Jackie Stevens – I attend a meeting once a month and we don't get the minutes of the last meeting until we get there and they are on the table for us.

SB – His concern is that we've been operating without due consent from yourselves as representatives of yourselves. So you all have last year's minutes and we will ratify them in a few minutes.

Gayle Hansom- are there rules and regulations for the association as the AGM should be in that

HH & GC – yes there are

Gayle Hansom – So it should all be in there the process and the same for AGM items. Generally AGM items should be put to the committee a week or so before **not** the day before so that a response can be made otherwise you are rushing and that is not fair on either party

HH – Good point for next year and a learning point for us

SB - Thank you Gayle we will bear this in mind for next year

Ricky - Having spent 25 years on the committee in one thing or another, we **always** give the minutes out at the following AGM. You don't send them like confetti. It goes to the meeting the following year. So we come to this meeting to have last year's minute's. That's always been done including when John Camp was Chair.

GC - We haven't changed any process have we?? The process hasn't changed – minutes always been here?

Ricky - you have not changed it.

GC – he is saying he doesn't know what's going on

Jackie Stevens – he should come to the meeting

Ricky - that's the problem chucking your dummy out the pram

SB – moving on – Many thanks for your support on that, we will go back on the minutes and respond as such.

SB – Mr Camp's second concern

Secondly, are Committee meetings still happening?

If yes then why are the membership not informed of when they are happening in case they have something to raise and why are minutes/Rod's not disseminated so that us rank and file members know what is going on, future events and the overall general state of the Association.

If no then why not. The Committee is voted in by the membership to represent us and therefore formal meetings should be held to ensure everyone has a say in the running of the Association. Or do the Committee do their own thing and follow the Chairperson, this leans towards being a dictatorship with only 1 person stating what is happening and when.

Laughter & derogative comments made from the floor at the comment read by SB about Dictatorship

SB – please the email that I am reading will be available to you so that you can see that I am reading this verbatim.

So you can see that we were a little bit emotional at this part

Dick Stevens – strikes me as rather funny that he should say that as when he was chair, everything **had** to go through him.

Dick Stevens – quoting a case of painting of the shop somebody had enough people doing it but because he wasn't asked he got upset over it – am I right

GC- yes

Jackie Stevens – I remember talking to people and that most people feel we have much more input and receive more information than we ever did before.

SB – Thank you – our response. Rather than email out agenda and minutes we ask that the elected row reps on the committee speak to people on their rows and bring issues to the table, This encourages people to know who their rep is and covers people who are not on email or who do not want to be emailed and are otherwise unrepresented.

We have more communication than in previous years, through signs, emails – immediately followed by Facebook updates on our FB page, so that we keep in touch with more of our association members than by an email sent approx. once a quarter. It must be noted that the previous communication had just reduced to sending out minutes, we were not being informed of burglaries or the mindless and hideous vandalism at any time in the preceding 12 months until we came on board as the 'acting' committee.

Also, we would bring to the attention of the AGM attendees, point 30 of the constitution states '30) *Other Matters. Any matters for which provision is not made in this constitution shall be decided by the Committee at its discretion and shall be reported to the next Annual General Meeting for endorsement or further direction.*

To the floor are you consenting to this agreement

Alan Mugford – he needs to grow up

Roger Billington – it is not rocket science is it, we produced a list of all row reps which GC and team have put on every gate. If you've got an issue and the person on your row isn't on their plot – write a note and slip it in their shed or at the shop.

SB - Thank you Roger – there was one other point that I did not want to say and we were hoping that the floor would say it for us and Roger kindly has. We have seen an increase in association members contacting the committee members and Chair directly with queries and concerns. We have tried to create an open relationship with our members so they feel they can communicate with us.

Roger Billington – posting information on notice boards is still a work in progress.

GC - I have been waiting for more tilt and turn windows, so I can back them and put them on the gates. New idea is just a board, with a slopping cover. Will get on this shortly

Alan Mugford - did this happen when he was Chair

SB & HH – we cannot and will not comment on that

Trish – Could minutes or information be put up in the shop

Alan Mugford – about time he grew up

Andy Hansom – letter through peoples shed - how about a box on the shop wall that people could post concerns etc

SB & HH – Love it!

GC – More people are approaching me as they are getting more of a responsive from me – they are not told, you've had a break in phone the police. That is all we got, touch wood we have resolved that by adding Herris fencing to the gates.

Jackie Hollis – definitely seen an improvement since then

Bernie Clark – I was getting regular break ins – not doing any damage just sitting on my plot drinking beer – since the fence was added this has stopped.

SB - So suggestion box at the shop – polite ones only please and picking up from Trish, could we vote please on emailing minutes, put up in shop or on notice board.

Pat – helpful to do all 3 if not too much trouble for those that don't have a computer

Jane Clark – make them do it not rely on you the committee to do it. Why should people have a computer when they can go to the shop

Unanimous for all three methods

GC - we will give all the access we can then it is down to them

Ricky - if I've got a query I see George

SB – we are trying to make the committee more open and approachable

Is everyone happy with our response and we will endeavor to include your responses with ours

Floor – yes!

SB – For the final one I would ask that we split into two. I will read as is and then I will split it into two sections if that is ok with you

Ricky – What here we go?!

Alan Mugford – What the....

Third and finally, whilst the 'N' row car park is a huge improvement to the quagmire the area had become, who authorized the spending of OUR money without informing the membership. Or maybe it is just the select few who are informed of projects and the costing's or how it is being funded (i.e. donations of materials), not the rank and file of the membership. This is very concerning especially as most of the damage was caused by the Chairperson and his inept driving. Anyone who done any off road driving are taught the last thing you do when your driving wheels start spinning is to use more throttle.

SB - I would like this split into two areas the car park and the blame

Laughter from the floor

SB – Car Park, we have gone through old minutes – copies are available.

October 15 – cost of the shop, we will admit there is not costing for

the car park, but you can see the new shop and environs costing.

July 17 – it states section 5 – *new shop build has a final amount owing... to complete the work including creating a car park*

Copies are available and will be sent to Mr Camp with our response.

It has been minuted, please blame me as the secretary at the time for not including the words 'car park' in the minute's when talking about the new shop. I will take the blame!

Jane Clarke – deduct it from your salary!

SB - I get a salary!?

Several derogative comments from the floor

Alan Mugford – he is being a child

HH – it's alright when everyone who gets stuck gets pulled out by George's truck?

Alan Mugford – it's alright when George is clearing stuff away in his truck

SB - this is why I would like to split this into two. I feel we have answered the first part about the cost – again everything is available.

The second point – several people in cars struggled with the parking and on several occasions both the Chair and Vice were dragging people out

So I don't see – and this is my personnel opinion – as I am not on the floor, I cannot see how 1 person can be held to blame and I feel that this needs to be struck from the minutes as this is vilification on 1 man when we and others were parking and therefore also to blame.

Jane Clark – they could not bring their car – they could walk, cycle or leave their car on the road. Should just be an area to upload for the shop. When dad had my plot there was no parking and so sorry totally out of order and he is lucky to have a car park at all

Gayle Hansom – actually part about the driving doesn't form his question – just his opinion and doesn't need an answer. Question he is asking about who gave authorization which you have answered. Rest is just comments and opinions which he is entitled to but do not require an answer and can be disregarded

GC – waiting to hear someone from the floor saying I should be sent on a driving course that they will pay for

Dawn – is there not something in the association rules against personal attacks as it is getting to this stage

GC – please no

Dawn – no sorry, I don't have an issue with John, he is polite to me, however this is beginning as everyone has said about throwing toys out his pram, at the end of the day he chose to resign from the committee, it was his choice no one pushed him out the door and the fact he is having a constant dig which appears to be pretty much wholly aimed at George is unacceptable. This is my opinion and I would like it minuted

Chris Hollis - Suppose the democratic way of dealing with this is as we are at the AGM is to have a vote of confidence in the committee

SB - this is the one reason we wanted to bring these concerns to the floor **before** any voting. You can see how uncomfortable this has made all of us and we appreciate your support against the resentful comments aimed at us.

Andy Hansom – have we offered to meet with John to offer remediation

SB – the problem is that I picked this up at 06:30 yesterday (Saturday) and immediately let HH & GC know. Normally I wouldn't check my email just straight down the plot and so it could have been missed!

HH – Suzy please state the last part of Mr Camps email

SB – reading the final part

I have also given details of these issues to someone attending the AGM so I am hoping they don't get lost or forgotten.

Hope the meeting goes well and am looking forward to seeing the answers to these issues,

Regards,

Mr John Camp

GC – so he's sent a representative

Gayle Hansom – he is entitled to do so

SB – I don't know if it is me or not

Alan Mugford – why send an email like that on holiday – I would be relaxing!

GC – I don't think this will end here

Gayle Hansom - that is where mediation can help, ask the person in charge of parks to come in to it and mention it in your response. To be honest an AGM is not the place to bring this, He should know that it is a personal issue and not an AGM,. He needs to bring personal closure to this. Can you review the rules and regulations of

the association and refer to it.

SB – coming from Chris' idea please can we ask the floor for a vote of confidence in the committee and our response to Mr Camp.

100% agreement and confidence given

Ricky – can you get a copy of the constitution

Chris Read – I have a soft copy and will email it

HH – thank you we will put a hard copy up in the shop