

# **LANGSTONE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at  
Langstone Sailing Club on  
Thursday 15 May 2025 at 7:30pm  
Chaired by Andy Lewis

Prior to the meeting the Club Commodore, Owen Davies, welcomed everybody to the LSC and advised about emergency exits and general housekeeping rules.

The Chairman welcomed 43 members to the meeting, including Ward Councillor Gillian Harris and Hampshire County Councillor Lulu Bowerman. Six apologies were received, and full details are retained on the file.

## **1. Minutes of the Last AGM**

The minutes of the AGM held on 16 May 2024 were reviewed having been previously approved by the Committee. Ian Maclennan seconded their adoption which was agreed.

## **2. Matters Arising – Not Otherwise on the Agenda**

None

## **3. Chairman's Report**

Andy Lewis opened the meeting, stating the last year had been a difficult one for the committee. Retirement of Chair Angela Armstrong and Secretary David Pattenden was keenly felt and the committee was left sadly depleted. AL thanked Carolyn Holland, Margaret Hellawell, Mike Coombs and Sarah Maclennan for keeping the committee going during challenging times. AL agreed to take the Chair earlier this year, provided these committee members agreed to remain in post until at least the next AGM in May 2026.

AL explained that the focus of the committee going forward was on communication with members. He thanked Ian Maclennan, MH and DP for successfully introducing Mailchimp which more effectively allows for the administration of LRA membership. The Chair also thanked Steff Harding for updating the website with valuable input from SM and CH. We are now more able to post meeting minutes and important notices.

Going forward the Chair remarked how fortunate we were to have many Langstone residents with talents of considerable importance to the community. He gave an example of how the 2017 threat to Southmere Field was largely rebuked because we had expert advice from a number of residents ranging from environmentalists and ecologists to planners and legal expertise who together ensured we used the right professional terms and phrases.

There are 512 households in Langstone within the boundary of the bypass to the Hayling bridge, making networking of talent a vital part of our ability to both promote and defend issues important to Langstone residents

Mention was made of Coastal Partners planning application for coastal defence and its enormity of content. To assist our members, SM has sent out to members a guide advising which parts of the application may be of interest to them. The planning link can be found here:

[https://planningpublicaccess.havant.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=DCAPR\\_259868](https://planningpublicaccess.havant.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=DCAPR_259868)

Dog walkers and others who use the fields behind Langstone Avenue should be aware that this is where the main construction site will be, and access will be restricted:

It is important residents make their views known. Comments to CP plans must be made before 6th June 2025.

There are many more new challenges requiring our attention, including Devolution, Local Planning and ongoing issues of Harbour Pollution and Millpond to mention only a few.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

Margaret Hellowell presented her report and the Income and Expenditure accounts for 2024/25. Total income was £979.50 for the year of which £636 was subscriptions and the balance was received in donations.

To effect new communication use of website and membership database we have subscribed to Mailchimp which incurs a monthly fee of £12-15. Each year more members choose to pay subs directly into the LRA bank account, which is helpful for our administration and bank costs. Lloyds bank has advised we are required to pay more for our banking arrangements.

#### **5. Subscriptions 2025 – 26**

Since the membership fee has remained at £2 for well over a decade, it was proposed to increase the subscription to £5 per household, seconded by Ann Griffiths.

Payments are encouraged by bank transfer, details are on the website - especially as door collections are now becoming difficult to administer. Cash is still acceptable by posting a sealed envelope with your name and address, through David Pattenden's door at 18 Southbrook Road as usual.

The full report is appended to these minutes.

#### **6. Langstone Conservation Group Report**

Mike Coombes said this year we have continued twice monthly litter picks which are still very much needed as we are collecting so much rubbish. Prior to Covid we separately recycled all bottles and cans collected using the recycling facilities at Tesco and The Ship. We did intend to return to recycling this year but as the

facilities have been removed this has not been possible. MC is in contact with the Local Authority to see if it is possible to sort recyclables into separate clear sacks, and is awaiting an answer.

We are also repairing/replacing our notice boards as needed, at the top of the Billy Trail and the nature board on the West foreshore.

The primary activity is litter picking, on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. Alternating between Tesco footpath and stream, and the West foreshore. On average 6 - 10 sacks of rubbish are collected. Other activities have been undertaken, and the group is keen to respond to suggestions from members for new projects.

Once again we are asking for more volunteers. If you can help, you can contact us via our email on the website.

## **7. Election of the Committee**

The 5 members of the committee had previously agreed to stay on.

The Chair advised that he had been notified of two new members wishing to join.

Susanne Britcher  
Proposed by Sarah Maclennan, Seconded Polly Chapman

John White is willing to join the Committee but was unable to attend the AGM. In his absence he was proposed by the Chair and seconded by Jenny Paterson.

## **8. Election of Officers and the Independent Examiner No 8**

The Chair advised that the offices of Andy Lewis Chair, and Margaret Hellowell, Secretary and Treasurer agreed to continue service for a further 12 months, and this was seconded by Carolyn Holland. Owen Davies was confirmed as the Honorary Independent Examiner for another year. Seconded by Margaret Hellowell

## **9. Any Other Notified Business**

No further business had been notified for consideration by the meeting.

## **10. Hampshire County Council, Lulu Bowerman**

Councillors Lulu Bowerman HCC and Gillian Harris HBC were welcomed and invited to update the meeting on the following:

- Devolution plans for Hampshire
- Langstone Flood Defence
- Revised Local Plan
- Recycling arrangements

Lulu Bowerman, HCC

- Devolution

LB explained that the advantage of a Mayoral Combined Authority, with an elected Mayor is principally one of size. Consisting of Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and Isle of Wight, we will be part of a group similar to mayoral authorities already established in the North of England. This will give us access to bid for our share of large infrastructural and economic opportunities for our area. May 2026 will be the first round for the election of the Mayor.

The Mayoral Combined Authority will not be responsible for delivering local services. They will continue to be the responsibility of local government, but these will need to be reorganised, reflecting the formation of the MCA. Details of the reorganisation are yet to be formulated and agreed. The Isle of Wight will opt out of this and will remain a self-contained authority.

## **11. Havant Borough Council, Gillian Harris**

- Millpond and Footpath

Gillian Harris, as an appointee to Langstone Harbour Board and to the Chichester Harbour Conservancy, recognised opposition to the present proposed solution because there has been greater focus on preserving the footpath and not enough on protecting the Millpond from tidal sea. She thanked residents for their written opposition sent to Phil Munday which has been encouraging.

GH reported there was opposition to appropriate repairs from Chichester Harbour Conservancy but their decision appears to be based on incorrect assumptions. By contrast, Graham Horton, Regional Director of Natural England, had stated that he would support “appropriate repairs” of the seawall.

GH and Phil Munday have written to CHC asking for their written reply as to how they arrived at their conclusion. In the meantime they encourage residents to continue writing letters of concern but to make sure they are copied to Matt Briars @ Chichester Conservancy, and to Graham Horton, Regional Director of Natural England.

- Revised Local Plan

GH confirmed that Southmere Field was not marked for development, and that there were no plans for new developments on Hayling Island.

Meetings and exhibitions will be inviting planning comments. Consultation for the Local Plan will be open until 11/7/25

- Recycling Arrangements

Recycling from April 2026 will include food recycling.  
Recycling cans and glass from April 2027 will be kerbside collections.

The meeting was closed at 9:00pm with thanks to the Councillors for giving their time, to Langstone Sailing Club for hosting the meeting, and to the members for attending

Andy Lewis  
Chair LRA  
/HDL 26 May 2025