



# North Stoneham Community Group

## **AGM - 25/01/23**

### **Location:**

YMCA Eastleigh

### **Present:**

Sammy Jordan **SJ**

Gaz Richardson **GR**

Tracey Jones **TJ**

Agnes Rock **AR**

Clive Dlima **CD**

Matthew Nowell **MN**

Kat Short **KS**

Jim Vaughan **JV**

5 community members

### **Apologies:**

Lois Ainger **LA**

Adie Smith **AS**

The meeting opened at **7pm**.

### **Item 1 - Welcome from the Chair**

Everyone was welcomed to the AGM by **SJ**.

### **Item 2 - Apologies**

Apologies were received in advance from **LA & AS**.

### **Item 3 - Membership sign up**

Those in attendance that were not members were formally signed up.

### **Item 4 - Agree revised constitution**

**SJ** explained the suggested changes to the constitution. Copies were made available to everyone. The changes were unanimously agreed.

### **Item 5 - Secretary's Report**

**GR** provided a report on the NSCGs activities over the last year.

### **Item 6 - Treasurer's Report**

**AR** provided a report of the groups finances. The accounts were made available to all those in attendance.

### **Item 7 - Words from the Chair**

**SJ** thanked all Trustees for their hard work over the last year. She handed out pin badges to all as a token of her appreciation.

### **Item 8 - Voting for new Trustees**

The following people were elected Trustees for a 2 year period:

Sammy Jordan  
Gaz Richardson  
Adie Smith  
Matthew Nowell  
Tracey Jones  
Agnes Rock  
Kathy Grubb  
Clive Dlima  
Lois Ainger

### **Item 9 - Voting for constitutional roles**

The following people were elected to roles indicated:

Sammy Jordan - Chair  
Tracey Jones - Vice Chair  
Agnes Rock - Treasurer  
Matthew Nowell - Vice Treasurer  
Gaz Richardson - Secretary  
Adie Smith - Vice Secretary

### **Item 10 - Chair's look to 2023**

**SJ** explained the priorities for NSCG for 2023.

### **Item 11 - Introduction to Sustainable Stoneham initiative**

**TJ** provided those in attendance with an overview of the new Sustainable Stoneham initiative.

### **Item 12 - Community Feedback**

Members of the Community provided feedback.

There was a comment about the noticeboard not being updated as often as it should be. **GR** agreed and said he would address this.

People wondered if the new Community Fridge was going to be used enough.

### **Item 13 - AGM Close**

Everyone was thanked by **SJ** for attending. The AGM was closed at 8:30pm.

### **Secretary's Report**

2022 has been quite the 1st year for the North Stoneham Community Group!

A group of residents were approached in 2021 by our Community Development Officer from EBC, Kat Short, who wanted to know if we would like to get involved in helping her to create a Christmas light switch on event at the YMCA. A number of us agreed and we successfully planned and put on our first event. As a result of the success, we thought it would be nice to create a formal constituted group so that we could put on a similar event in 2022 and look at doing other events throughout the year. We had to define a purpose of our group and decided that we wanted to develop, support and strengthen community cohesion at North Stoneham and the surrounding areas through events and initiatives. We

wanted to help to enrich the already fantastic community spirit that was already developing on North Stoneham Park. The NSCG as you know it today was born in March 2022. Appointed Trustees were Sammy Jordan, Chair - Gaz Richardson, Secretary, Agnes Rock - Treasurer, Jim Vaughan, Jo Newman, Lois Ainger, Matthew Nowell.

We created our first newsletter in March which was delivered to all houses on the estate. This introduced the group to the community and helped to advertise our first few events. Our first event was a Community litter pick in April. Turnout was good and we managed to clear a lot of rubbish from the park. We held further litter picks throughout the Spring and Summer but turnout dwindled and in the end we gave up on them. There's a potential for us to pick them up again this year and it may fall under the banner of our sustainable Stoneham initiative which you'll hear about later. and we may try and see if there's anything else we can do to entice people.

We also held a very successful Easter egg hunt in April. Approximately 380 people turned up (we counted!) on what was a gloriously sunny day.

In May, we released a Platinum Jubilee Street Party Pack which contained lots of information to help people plan street parties. We also then held a jubilee craft and party planning event. Lots of people, mainly families came down to the YMCA and made decorations. We actually managed to put neighbours in touch with each other, who subsequently went on to host parties. This event in particular really highlighted the purpose and values that we've defined so it was great see. In May, we also welcomed 3 new Trustees. Tracey Jones, Clive Dlima and Adie Smith.

In July we created another newsletter, advertising further events. We also took delivery of our very own noticeboard, which you'll find outside the entrance to the YMCA on the right hand side. In July, we also said goodbye to Jo Newman who stepped down as a Trustee as she could no longer commit the time. Jo made a valuable contribution to the set up of the group and we thank her publicly for her help and support.

In August, we released 3 history & nature trails around NSP. These were primarily app based via a smartphone however paper copies were made available. Unfortunately, the trails didn't turn out to be that popular however they were released during the summer heat wave with temperatures exceeding 30 degrees for weeks on end. We put the poor turn out down to that. There is a potential for us to re-release the trails this summer and it is something we plan to explore.

In September, we set up an Eastleigh Basics Bank collection at the YMCA. We donated 3 tubs full of food to them, which had all been kindly donated by the community. People asked for this to become a permanent fixture and so you'll now find a collection point downstairs that went live this week.

In October, we delivered another newsletter to every house on the estate. We also held our Halloween Supper Trail in collaboration with St Nics. This was hugely successful. There were 100s of people out on the estate and we managed to feed a large number of people for free.

In November, we worked with the NS Craft Group to create knitted/crocheted poppies which were placed around the park on street signs. A number of the streets are named after soldiers on the war memorial and we wanted to recognise them. They went down extremely well with some veterans on the estate who were very touched at the gesture.

In December we hosted our Xmas switch on and carol events. These were incredibly successful and featured performances, Santa's grotto, market stalls, a raffle and more importantly, free food donated by Lidl. We fed in excess of 300 people for free. This was really important to us to achieve, particularly in the currently economic climate. We estimate in total there were in the region of 5-600 people in attendance, including EBC councillors and the Mayor of Eastleigh who kindly switched on the lights.

2023 has started well. We were awarded our first ever grant by Eastleigh Town Council. The £1030 donated will help to pay for an NSCG website, our Easter event and some food hygiene training and first aid courses. We have a few other grant applications pending too. We've also started working on our new Sustainable Stoneham initiative, which Tracey will tell you about soon.

#### Statistics:

Membership currently stands at approx 300. We define members as people who sign up to our mailing list (though this is a small number) and people who 'follow' our Facebook page. It's difficult to get an exact number. We will shortly begin building a website for the NSCG, so this will allow us to have a more definitive and accurate list of members.

In 2022, we held 12 committee meetings and at least 15 other event planning meetings. Trustees put in hundreds of hours of work for free.

As we close the end of our first year, I am immensely proud of what our little group have achieved and it has been a real pleasure to be a part of it. I can't wait to see what we manage to achieve in 2023.