



Established 1970
Making The Bayle a better place to live and work

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 22nd February 2025 at 1:30pm
Refreshments from 12:30-pm

MINUTES

(taken from the 2025 AGM reporting on the year 2024 for formal approval at the AGM in 2026 - sent out via email prior to said meeting)

20 members attended the Annual General meeting:

The Reverend Christopher Johnson, Marilyn Edey, Paul Fox, Judith Fox, Ann Gaston (Committee Member), Catriona Hunter, Chris Hunter, Ann-Charlotte Jonsson (Committee Member), Marketa Patelova, Dean Richardson (chair), Marian Walters (Committee Member), Chris Waterton, Ben Madin, Anna Madin, Stephen Blundell, Richard Cross, Ann Hawkins, Elizabeth Lonkhurst, Trevor Haycocks, Hilary Heycocks,

Guests:

Folkestone Town Mayor Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly
Councillor Liz McShane

Apologies:

Hasu Patel (Committee Member)
Mark Andrews (Committee Member)
Chris Andrews
Andrew Buchanan
Lauren Kennington
Tim Kennington
JJ Charlesworth
Jeniffer Thatcher
Councillor Belinda Walker
David Richardson
Claire Worley
Rob Worley
Hannah Richardson

Welcome by Dean Richardson - The Chair of the Bayle Residents Association Committee for 2024

Dean welcomed everyone and covered health and safety matters.

Dean thanked all volunteers, Ann-Charlotte Jonsson, Marian Walters & Judith Fox for serving the refreshments for the event and the school for making the hall available for the meeting.

Dean also thanked members of the current committee who have helped to stage this event.

Opening address by Abena Akuffo-Kelly - The Town Mayor of Folkestone:

- The Mayor made reference that she thinks of The Bayle Residents Association as one of her favourite local Associations.
- The Mayor also thinks of The Bayle as a village and that The community works very well together. The Mayor made mention that the Flowers in The Bayle are fantastic and the events that The Association put on during the year are wonderful and bring the community and visitors together. The Mayor made mention to The Bayle in Bloom initiative, The Winter Windows, The Autumn Event and The Annual Garden Party that all go to make The Bayle a Precious place in Folkestone.
- The Mayor also thanked the Association for supporting her charities.
- The Mayor also commented that the AGM booklet issued at the meeting showed and celebrated the achievements of The Association for 2024. She stated she enjoyed all the Bayle Resident Association events that she went to this year.
- The Mayor had to leave early as she had another event to go to and that she wished us a wonderful AGM

Other guest address by The Reverend Christopher Johnson

- The vicar wanted to echo the Mayors comments.
- He commented that he had only been in The Parish for four months but felt at home straight away and felt that the sense of community shone through.
- The vicar made mention that he wants to shape the Parish with community, worship and heritage of the area.
- He said it was clear that the people in The Bayle are committed to Community

Minutes of previous AGM (2024) for approval:

The Chair asked for the minutes of last years AGM to be approved and Catriona Hunter commented that she had not seen them. The Chair stated that they had been sent out prior to the meeting via our new gmail account. It appears that there had been a technical glitch and that these had indeed not been received by the members at the meeting. The Chair apologised profusely and stated that they would be sent out after the meeting. However to allow member to agree/comment upon them the Chair read them out and then asked for a vote of agreement which was indeed given by show of hands.

Chair Report 2024 - presented by Dean Richardson

A Presentation Booklet was issued via email prior to the meeting and handed out to all attendees at the meeting on the day

- The Chair expressed his thanks to Hasu Patel and Marketa Patelova for the wonderful production of the AGM booklet. This year we made it larger so that the font and pictures were more visible for those with sight difficulties.
- The Chair commented that The Bayle community works well together to make it a great place to live. Collaboration with other areas has worked well this year to have events like open garden, the seed swop, the autumn event and working with Marketa with the groups she's involved with. Collaboration and Community.
- The Chair stated that it had been a busy year for the Residents Association concerning community events. Open Gardens, The Autumn Event, The Yearly Garden Party and Winter Windows. These events have brought people together. The Autumn Event had

around 500 children and their parents visit The Bayle and The Old High Street which we collaborated with on this event.

- The Chair highlighted the record number of members that belong to the Association: 143.
- Ann Charlotte Jonsson and her Bayle in Bloom team have again worked tirelessly this year to make the Bayle beautiful. The Chair wanted to put it on record that Bayle in Bloom could not happen without the hard work of Ann Charlotte and her team.
- Also The Chair commented that we had received grants from Folkestone Town Council, Folkestone Ward Grants, Folkestone & Hythe District Council, KCC and from many members of our Association. Without these Grants we could not carry on with these special events and initiatives: These grants help us create Collaboration and Community.
- The Chair thanked Chris Waterton for the preparation of the yearly accounts and for the upkeep of the membership list. Also to Steve Bundell for auditing the accounts.
- There has been a recruitment drive in Glendale, which was one of our main aims for the year, and a large number of new members have joined. Mainly due to the hard work and determination of Ann Gaston, Chris Andrews and Mark Andrews for which the Chair thanked all three.
- Glendale is a large part of our Community and having events like coffee mornings, soup lunches and bingo bring people together.
- A huge achievement during 2024 was how The Association had organised various local events and worked on behalf of members with The District Council, The Town Council, Various District and Town Councillors, Police and St. Eanswythe's School to address problems arising.
- The defibrillator has been taken out of its security box ten times since it was installed and thankfully not used due to heart attacks being Category A events so are prioritised. One day it might just save a life! We have carried out CPR/defibrillator training and will do more in 2025.
- Priory Gardens Rubbish collection issues: We have been working with Landlords, Managing Agents, some tenants, Folkestone & Hythe DC and Viola to discuss and agree a way forward to stop the mess continuing. One of The landlords agreed to produce a drawing for approval of new bin stores for blocks 1, 2-4 & 5 by the end of March.
- The Bayle Pond: We continue to clean and maintain the pond..
- The Summer Garden Party which was held at the Battery was fantastic and the weather held out for us. Thanks were given to Ben and Anna the owners for their wonderful hospitality.
- The Notice board has got a new brass sign on it.
- Lamp posts have been painted with more to come in 2025.
- Parking, Speeding and the School run still cause issue to residents and we are to hold a meeting with members and residents to be invited to discuss what we can do.
- Church wall by the school that is still damaged needs to be repaired as its getting worse.
- Litter picking has been carried out on several occasions but the Council do a pretty good job in our area and we have collaborated with The Leas Residents Association on a couple of occasions. We constantly monitor our area.
- The Chair mentioned that The Town Sprucers run by Sunflower house are a terrific charity that clears and maintains areas in Folkestone and helped us clear up the area known as Sheila's Place in readiness for planting. The Chair recommended, if you can, please support this terrific charity.
- The Bayle Residents Association will continue to support local initiatives such as collaborating with The School, The Church, seed swap, MOLO and local events that benefit the community that we live and and surrounds us: Those two words: "Collaboration & Community".

- The chair mentioned that Devika Patel is litter picking on a weekly basis which is her community service for her silver award for the Duke of Edinburgh Award

Treasurer's Report

Due to the unfortunate fact that the treasurer was at a funeral the report was presented by Dean Richardson. Chris Waterton mentioned that the narrative in the booklet didn't quite match up with the accounts: but this wasn't significant and S. Bundell agreed to this statement. The accounts were correct.

Chris Waterton and Stephen Blundell were thanked for their hard work for producing the accounts and for the independent audit and signing off of the accounts respectively.

The accounts were formally accepted by members by a show of hands.

Dean Richardson took an opportunity to express his appreciation for the work of the 2024 Committee.

Election of Committee to serve for 12 months.

Those nominated below, in accordance with the Constitution, were elected with the full support of members by show of hands.

Chairman	Dean Richardson
Secretary	Marian Walters
Treasurer	Hasu Patel
Neighbourhood Watch	Mark Andrews
Committee members	Ann-Charlotte Jonsson, Ann Gaston, Ann Hawkins

Election of an auditor for the accounts:

Stephen Blundell was elected to continue as auditor of the Association's accounts. He was thanked for having done this for a number of years.

Proposals for 2025 Committee:

Dean Richardson introduced members to some of the priorities the previous Committee put together for the next committee to consider. These are outlined in the annual report. There was general support for these initiatives.

Speeding/Parking/School Run Issues
 Bayle pond watering point
 Parade Gardens: Renovation of gravelled area
 Heritage Bayle signs are faded: replacement
 Wayfinding signage
 Defibrillator/CPR training
 VE Day celebrations: Picnic in the Bayle Pond
 Priory Gardens Rubbish storage & collection solution
 The Bayle Fitness supported by Marketa

Hypertension Heroes
Free library in the Bayle Pond
Maintenance of The Pond

If you have any ideas that you want us to progress and help with please get in touch: we are here to listen and help

AOB

Dog fouling was mentioned as a problem.

Lack of or rusty refuse bins.

Constitution change: to state what happens to the Associations Assets in the unlikely case that it closes down. A separate special meeting to be set up to discuss this.

Ann Gaston stood up to thank Dean Richardson for the relentless work that he does for The Bayle Residents Association and The Community in general: The AGM thanked Dean by a round of applause.

The meeting closed at 3:00pm

Signed as a correct record by the Chair: Dean Richardson

Date: 16th March 2025