

**Minutes of the meeting of the Garrison Residents Association held on  
02 June 2025.**

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Present: Damion Beech (Member)  
Nicola Boxer (Member)  
Amanda Powell (Secretary)  
Lara Meville (Chair)  
Karim Taha (Member)  
Rik Mistry (Member)

In Attendance:

Apologies: Amanda Gorman, Charlotte Walker (Treasurer)

24.45 **Apologies and Chairs Announcement:** Members noted apologies above.

24.46 **Approve for Publication the Minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2025.** Doc A approved.

24.47 **Matters Arising:** Members confirmed all matters arising were completed or to be discussed in the minutes below.

24.48 **Community Events & Website:** The Chair thanked members for the organisation of VE Day celebrations and the movie night held on the cricket pitch the evening before. Damion and Karim were thanked for setting up the movie night which was a huge success. Lots of people attended even though the weather was cold.

For the VE Day street party on the cricket pitch the wind didn't stop the event; mini golf and tug of war were hugely popular. The ice cream van that agreed to attend, kindly donated £50 of takings back to the Residents Association.

It was agreed we would send Dawn who sang all the war songs for the day some flowers to say thank you.

The next event is Garrison In Bloom. It was agreed to start promoting this on the Garrison Facebook page.

Members discussed organising the 2025 Christmas carol Service at the clock tower and also holding a small Christmas fair (10 stalls circa) on the same day. Members discussed the possibility of using the parade ground subject to consultation with GRA management company and local residents. members discussed parking and facilities for stall holders. It was agreed that stall holders would be asked not to park on the Horseshoe but in other streets.

Karim agreed to contact the Salvation Army to look at availability for carols on the Sunday 7 December and as a backup the 14 December.

Members noted that a blog post highlighting the VE Day celebrations had been published on the new GRA website.

Members discussed raising funds for future events. It was agreed that each member would approach 4 businesses to look at sponsorship / website advertising opportunities.

24.49

**Setting up the Santander GRA Bank account update.**

Members received a progress report submitted by Charlotte and noted the additional information required in order to proceed.

**Approved:** Members approved the following request for submission to Santander:

In reference to XXXXXXXX

Sort code XXXXXX

Account number XXXXXX

Name of account XXXXXXXX

*(Info redacted for security)*

We wish to remove Phillip Jonathan Coombe

and Pamala Ann Deakin and Christopher Martin William Coomber from the account

We wish to add Charlotte Walker and Lara Melville to the account.

Members also noted the additional information requested from Santander related to the secretary role.

**Agreed:** Amanda as Secretary agreed to provide and send a copy of the information requested to Sandander this week.

24.50      **Big Spark Application:** The Chair informed members that an application for community improvement funds has been made for £5,000 to improve the interior of the Garrison cricket pavilion. The pavilion is currently used by a cricket club on certain days.

There is potential to use facilities to support a few community initiatives like GRA community events but also creative activities and mental health support club, in liaison with Southend Council. The GRA Chair liaised with the Chair of Shoebury Residents Association to put forward a bid.

24.51      **New Town:** An event hosted by The Shoeburyness Oracle Magazine on the 13th of June between 7pm and 8:30 p.m. at Saint Peter's church has been organised to discuss the development of Newtown. A representative of the GRA was invited to attend. Members agreed to share communication about New Town on the GarrisonResidents Association Facebook page to keep its members informed.

24.52      **Any Other Business:** Minutes of the meeting on the 2 June would be drafted and circulated to members on 3June and approved by Chairs Action so that we could proceed with the submission to Santander..

24.44      **Date for the next meeting is:** Monday 30 June 2025 7:45 -8:30 location tbc.