

Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 11th October 2005
at Fellowship House at 8.00pm

Present: David B Lewis in the Chair

Simon Abbott, Denis Baron, Andrew Botterill, John Boulter (Hon Treasurer), Carol Boulter, Terry Brooks, Alan Brudney, Arnold Elliott, Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council), Eva Jacobs, Rosalind Josephs, Richard Kemp, David Lewis, (Vice-Chairman), David Littaur, Georgina Malcolm, Steve Morris, Gary Shaw, Douglas Thomas, Richard Wakefield (Hon Secretary),

Visitors: Janet Elliott, Mrs de Freitas, Joyce Littaur, Terry Rand

- 1 Apologies for Absence
Jean Barraclough, Peter Beesley, Douglas Blausten, Derek Chandler, Colin Gregory, Michael Rowley, Francois Crompton-Roberts, Leonie Stephen. Alan Walker
- 2 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
- 3 Matters Arising not on the Agenda

HGS Institute

Alan Brudney reported:-

Neurological Site

LB Barnet had approved the revised plans.

The new access road to the site will have to be strengthened which will delay the building work.

MacDonalds Building

The proposed lease of part of this building is proceeding and it is hoped that these premises may be in use early in the new Year.

Park House

LB Barnet had agreed in principle to extend the lease to the Institute and negotiations are proceeding.

Simon Abbott asked what classes will be available on the Suburb this year and Alan Brudney referred him to the Institute's brochure. Simon Abbott asked whether it is intended to continue registration on the Suburb to which Alan Brudney replied that the Institute owns the Tea House, but it would not be able to afford to continue renting some of the other premises which it uses. It would also depend on whether the School agreed to the Institute continuing to use their offices.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Morris said that the RA subscriptions are £500 down as at the same time last year, although this year the money has been banked more quickly.

Alan Brudney said that he had ordered the fireworks for New Year's Eve at a cost of £850 which will be delivered to his house. David Littaur is sorting out the question of insurance with the Trust.

Legacy

Georgina Malcolm had ordered cherry trees to be planted in Kingsley Way but she has had no response from LB Barnet about the proposed Memorial Seat.

Resolution regarding Financing of Independent Election Candidates at Barnet Council elections

Gary Shaw proposed the following motion which was seconded by Alan Brudney and passed Nem. Con.

IRA Council resolves that any funds collected in support of independent election candidates at the Barnet Council elections shall be separately recorded and accounted for. Those supplying such funds shall be informed at the time the donation is given, that any unspent surplus remaining after the

election will be used for centenary celebrations'

Leonie Stephen

The Council was pleased to hear that Leonie Stephen was out of hospital after her operation and recovering at home. She would like visitors but only at pre-arranged times.

Parkway Cafe

Simon Abbott said that this pavement terrace seemed to be modest and was a qualitative addition to the Suburb. Georgina Malcolm explained that the local shops were unhappy as although Parkway had been told that they were unlikely to get planning permission they still went ahead. David Lewis said that this is an illegal erection and permission was not obtained. The Chairman said that retrospective planning permission will be requested and so far the RA had not taken a stand on this. Alan Brudney thought that the RA should give support to LB Barnet and Eva Jacobs said that the RA must be seen to support the Trust.

Richard Wakefield proposed a motion which was seconded by Georgina Malcolm and passed by Council with one vote against.

'that the RA should write to the relevant authorities objecting to the illegal installation of an extension to the Parkview restaurant in Kingsley Way'

4 Question Time

There were none.

5 Publications Committee

Terry Brooks had delivered a paper to Council members regarding the problems involved in getting help with organising and selling advertising space. Publications are looking for a volunteer to take over the advertising for Suburb News and the Suburb Directory.

It was proposed that the number of issues of Suburb News will be reduced from four to three due to the amount of work involved. The Newspaper cannot become larger as it becomes too heavy for the distributors to carry.

Steve Morris said that someone with selling skills is also needed to sell the proposed Membership discount scheme to the local shops.

He also raised the question of e-mailing residents regularly with details of 'what's on' which the Council thought a good idea.

Carol Boulter considered that selling advertising is really a professional job and there must be a retired professional living on the Suburb whom the RA could approach.

Terry Brooks said that there will be an appeal in Suburb News for such a person. In due course he will also be asking for comments on the Suburb Directory.

Deborah Warland had requested interesting residents with interesting stories to come forward to be interviewed for 'Suburb Style'.

Terry Brooks reported that after discussions with the Trust, on a possible conflict of interest now Richard Wakefield is on the Trust Council, it had been agreed that he would stand down as editor. Richard Wakefield will become the 'publisher' and Terry Brooks will stand in as Editor for the time being. Simon Abbott said that Richard Wakefield's contribution to Suburb News was exceptional and Arnold Elliott said that after 22 years as editor of Suburb News the RA should record its appreciation to Richard Wakefield which Council agreed.

6 Proposed CPZ - Report by Gary Shaw

Gary Shaw told Council that the Ham & High had reported that LB Barnet had agreed to limit the proposed CPZ between Temple Fortune Lane and Bridge Lane. A line would be drawn from Bridge Lane to Temple Fortune Lane and there would be no controlled parking north of this. Gary Shaw had not received any formal confirmation of this from LB Barnet. He had written to Barnet to say that the RA were happy with this provided that Barnet confirmed that the scheme would be introduced in the lifetime of this administration and that it would be carried out at the same time as a review of the East Finchley scheme and consideration of the opening up little used residents parking for general use.

A Motion to hold a public meeting on 14th November at HB School was proposed by Gary Shaw, seconded by Alan Brudney and passed Nem Con by Council. It was agreed that microphones would be made available and that the Councillors would be invited to attend. The Chairman said that it would be advertised in Suburb News and on the Notice Boards

Gary Shaw explained that originally it was thought that the residents of Asmunds Hill wanted controlled parking but when consulted, out of 59 houses only 26 replied. Fifteen wanted a scheme and 11 did not. A meeting had been held in Asmunds Place with the Councillors but the RA had not been invited.

Richard Wakefield said that many residents wanted a one hour restriction to stop commuters but Gary Shaw said that nearly all Suburb residents affected had opposed a CPZ and the new policy of LB Barnet is that one hour restrictions are to be extended to all day ones. Few shops can withstand losing one hours trade each day. He said that the Roads & Traffic committee do have other ideas which they would like to develop.

7 Cutting Down Mature Trees in Gardens

Georgina Malcolm circulated a paper setting out details of some old trees which may be causing subsidence or a safety hazard and where applications had been made to fell or reduce them. Pressure was being put on LB Barnet and the Trust to agree to these requests by Insurance companies and they cannot afford to fight these applications in court. The view of Insurance companies is that large trees close to houses on the Suburb can cause subsidence. Sometimes the Trust and Barnet disagree about the future of various applications.

Jane Blackburn had arranged a meeting with representatives from Barnet the Trust and the RA on 3 November to discuss this problem and try to agree a policy .

Terry Rand circulated a copy of a letter he had written to Cllr Harris including a petition against the removal of the oak tree outside 123 Erskine Hill. The Council agreed that Georgina Malcolm should speak to representative from the Woodland Trust and find out the cost of obtaining expert advice and liaise with the Trust.

G
M

8 Celebrations Committee

A paper prepared by Chris Kellerman was circulated to Council. It said that it would be helpful to have £10,000-£20,000 in the bank to fund some of the projects planned for the Centenary. He suggested asking for a donation of £10 from each household when membership forms are sent out in April and that for one year the RA collected for the Centenary rather than for Fellowship. A glossy sheet could be sent out with the Membership forms. A request for £800 was made to print these.

Carol Boulter said that she preferred an alternative idea to raise money . She proposed a glossy leaflet advertising Centenary events to go in Suburb News with a tear off section. This would be separate from the Membership envelope. Georgina Malcolm and Alan Brudney thought that the leaflet should be sent separately from Membership and Steve Morris said that his ward organisers also agreed.

Georgina Malcolm is trying to ascertain from the Trust whether donations can be gift-aided. David Littaur proposed a Motion for the RA to spend £800 on producing leaflets and this was seconded by Alan Brudney and passed Nem Con.

G
M

A public meeting will be held on 24th January at the Free Church Hall at 8.00pm to discuss all the ideas for the Centenary and Council members were invited to attend.

Centenary Calendar

This item was postponed until the November Meeting.

9 RA Constitution

This will be discussed at the December Meeting when Michael Rowley will be able to be present. The Council sent their best wishes to him on his forthcoming operation.

10 Any Other Business

Ombudsman

Gary Shaw said that he had received a letter from the Ombudsman regarding the RoSPA report. He had requested copies of the Minutes of the meeting when it was decided to commission the report. Rosalind Josephs handed Gary Shaw a copy of the minutes of December 2003. The Ombudsman also asked how much the RA had paid towards the Report and John Boulter will ascertain this figure.

JB

Membership

Richard Wakefield asked the RA Council for £190 to finance the preparation of leaflets to enclose in Suburb News requesting new Membership Representatives. This proposal was seconded by Steve Morris and agreed Nem Con.

Membership Representatives Party

Steve Morris asked the RA Council to agree to make £150-£200 available for the Membership Representatives party to be held on 8th November. This was seconded by Richard Wakefield and agreed by Council Nem Con

Bigwood Management Group

On November 24th at noon there will be a bluebell planting and interested residents were invited to meet at the Memorial Gate to help plant 500 bluebells.

- 11 To Confirm the Date of the Next Meeting
Tuesday 1 November 2005 at 8.00pm at Fellowship House