

## Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 6 January 2006 at Fellowship House at 8 pm

*Present:* David B Lewis in the Chair

Simon Abbott, Andrew Botterill, John Boulter (Hon Treasurer), Carol Boulter, Alan Brudney Derek Chandler, Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council), Eva Jacobs, Rosalind Josephs, Richard Kemp, David Littaur, Georgina Malcolm, Steve Morris, Gary Shaw, Douglas Thomas, Richard Wakefield (Hon Secretary),

Visitors: Susan Lewis, Joyce Littaur, Cedric Feather

The Chairman told Council that Arnold Elliott has resigned from Council due to ill health and Council thanked him for all the work he had done for the RA and wished him better.

Michael Rowley was making good progress after this operation and was due to leave hospital within the next few days.

1 Apologies for Absence

Jean Barraclough, Denis Baron, Peter Beesley, Douglas Blausten, Terry Brooks, Colin Gregory, Michael Rowley, Francois Crompton-Roberts, David Lewis, Leonie Stephen, Alan Walker

2 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

3 Matters Arising not on the Agenda

Fireworks: The sum of £430 had been collected on the evening which will be used towards reimbursing the RA for the cost of the fireworks.

The Council was unsure how many residents had attended but some thought that there may have been more than the 400 people anticipated which may affect the cost of insurance for any future fireworks.

Thanks were expressed to all those who had helped especially Alan Brudney, his son and David Littaur. David Littaur will thank Richard Orme and David Brown who had helped Alan Brudney clear up after the fireworks. Dlt

Crime Prevention on the Suburb

Problems with Dog Walkers

The Chairman will ask Colin Gregory to look into this and report back to Council

CG

Thomas O'Brian

Alan Brudney said that he had seen Thomas O'Brian sleeping in the doorway at St Judes. Richard Wakefield said that the Trust were taking further action against him. They had already spent some £12,000 on the injunction taken out against him.

Hilda Williams had reported that a tramp had been sleeping on a bench outside Fellowship House and had left it in a dirty and unhygienic state. The Chairman said that we should continue making complaints to the police, with copies to the HGS Trust.

Northway Gardens

Georgina Malcolm reported that the fallen tree had now been removed.

AGM

The Chairman reported that Christopher Colomb had kindly agreed to arrange the public address system for the AGM.

HGS Institute

The Chairman had written a letter to the Institute, a copy of which had been circulated to Council members

4 Question Time

Cedric Feather a resident of Hurst Close asked whether the RA was aware of arrangements between the Trust and the houses surrounding the tennis courts at the rear of Hurst Close and Ruskin Close. He had written to the Trust for details of this proposal and he was concerned that open spaces such as these on the Suburb are protected.

The Trust owned the tennis courts which were formerly let to the Institute. They ceased to be used after falling into disrepair and the subsequent problems with insurance and the Trust were unable to maintain them. Georgina Malcolm will ask the Trust the position and for information about this new arrangement as Council wants to ensure that the site remains a tennis court or an open space and no building development is permitted.

GM

5 Consideration of the Manifesto for Independent Candidates for the LB Barnet Elections and Adoption of the Motion to be proposed at the AGM.

The draft motion and manifesto had been circulated to Council members and the Chairman asked Council members for their comments.

Alan Brudney wanted the manifesto to refer to other local issues such as education and social services.

Steve Morris said that residents will have views on other local issues and they will wish to know the candidates views on these but Carol Boulter thought that this should be a single issue campaign.

Simon Abbott said that for a local community pressure group to succeed it must attract a lot of support. He wondered whether enough residents are interested in Temple Fortune alone. He suggested that the manifesto document should be called 'Campaign for Democracy'. He thought that it is unnecessary to define attitudes to other issues as candidates will be acting in support of local residents. However he thought a clearer statement about the parking proposals is required: about its spread and increase in cost and hours. Many residents may not know what a CPZ (controlled parking zone) is. The RA should not assume that it is the only local organisation to have views and other organisations should be involved or included in the manifesto. Georgina Malcolm agreed that some residents are unaware of what the parking proposals are about.

Carol Boulter was concerned that the shopping area in Temple Fortune would be destroyed by the all day parking controls.

Richard Wakefield said that Golders Green restrictions appeared to work well and he asked why Edmunds Walk residents would want to vote for any independent candidate. Gary Shaw thought that the Golders Green traders may not agree with Richard Wakefield. Originally Edmunds Walk residents wanted restrictions but now the size of the zone has been extended other Suburb residents are able to park in Edmunds Walk.

Derek Chandler pointed out that it is the arbitrary behaviour of Barnet which is the problem but the parking restrictions are the issue.

Alan Brudney asked whether we can halt the commencement of the scheme in the meantime. The Chairman said that only a judicial review could do this but this could cost £50,000 or more in legal fees.

Eva Jacobs was concerned that the Association may be seen to be encouraging the creations of car parks which was a dangerous concept. She suggested the deletion of this point. David Littaur suggested that the words 'as long as the amenities of the Suburb are not compromised' may cover this.

The Chairman suggested that the motion is amended to support independent candidates rather than a specific manifesto.

In response to a question, Gary Shaw said that candidates are at present being interviewed and agreed that this is not an attempt by any particular political party to gain a position.

Simon Abbott suggested calling the proposed manifesto a *Campaign Statement* and not a draft manifesto and to keep it until the election is fought in May.

Andrew Botterill proposed and Richard Kemp seconded an amended motion which will be put to the AGM:

*!This Annual General Meeting of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association believes that the London Borough of Barnet has ignored the views of the residents of Hampstead Garden Suburb over the issue of the Temple Fortune controlled parking zone and supports the campaign of the independent candidates who propose to stand at the Barnet Council elections in May 2006'*

GS

The Motion was passed with 13 votes in favour, no votes against and three abstentions.

#### The Celebrations Committee Public Meeting on 24 January

David Littaur asked all Council members to attend this meeting at 8pm at the Free Church Hall. The meeting will be chaired by Alan Walker. Eddie Caplin, The RA Chairman, David Littaur, Georgina Malcolm and Marjorie Harris will address the meeting.

DLt

The Celebrations Committee will send out invitations to selected organisations as well as to the Mayor and the Councillors.

Projects suggested so far are a Carnival, Cricket match, Olympics, Bridge Tournament, Pageant, Bike ride from Letchworth, special celebrity St Jude's Proms, Exhibition in Church Farm Museum, Merchandising of Suburb souvenirs, Book launches/signing, Garden party, Jazz Festival in Central Square, Children's entertainment and Special lectures.

Approaches have been made to the Antiques Road Show, Gardeners World and Gardeners Question Time, Any Questions and Question Time.

- 9 Any Other Urgent Business  
There was none.

- 10 To confirm the Date of the Next Meeting on Tuesday 7 February 2006 at 8pm at Fellowship House This was confirmed.