

Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 1 May 2007
at Fellowship House at 8.00pm

Present: David B Lewis in the Chair

John Boulter (Hon Treasurer), Douglas Blausten, Jean Barraclough, Carol Boulter, Terry Brooks, Dave Brown, Alan Brudney, Francois Crompton-Roberts, Janet Elliott, Derek Epstein, Nicole Gerber, Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council), Eva Jacobs, Richard Kemp, David Lewis (Vice-Chairman), David Littaur, Georgina Malcolm, Steve Morris, Selwyn Nakan, Max Petersen, Brian Rivett, Leonie Stephen, Richard Wakefield,
Visitors: Joyce Littaur, Brian Viner, Pia Duran.

The chairman welcomed Derek Epstein and Brian Rivitt to Council

- 1 Apologies for Absence
Simon Abbott, Denis Baron, Derek Chandler, Colin Gregory, Rosalind Josephs, Gary Shaw, Will Sowerbutts, Alan Walker
- 2 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting - March 27
- 3 Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda

RA Nominee for the Institute

Douglas Blausten said that the Chairman had asked him whether he would become the RA's nominee on the Institute Council. He told the Council that although he considered the education was outstanding he was unhappy with other aspects of the Institute, including the financial management, the lack of transparency and the depletion of the Institute's funds. He believed that the Institute Officers would not welcome proper discussion on these issues and in these circumstances there was little point in putting his name forward.

Carol Boulter was concerned that there was little room for disagreement with the Institute to which many Council members agreed. Although an RA nominee does not have to be a member of Council the Chairman thought that it was preferable in order that they can express the views of the RA.

JB

Jean Barraclough said that the Institute Society would like more members and she was asked to bring some application forms to the next Council Meeting. The appointment was left in abeyance for the time being.

Award In Honour of Michael Rowley

Eva Jacobs told Council that she had been asked to deal directly with the department at the University of Kingston. She will be meeting with Simon Abbott and Alan Walker to progress this but it will take some time to implement

Banding of HGS Trust Management Charge

Richard Wakefield said that the Trust Council was still going to oppose the application by Angus Walker for a graduated management charge. With regard to the application challenging the level of the charge, Richard Wakefield said that in his opinion it was unnecessary for the Trust to spend a great deal on legal fees to fight this as there was no basis for opposing the charge.

Mayor of Barnet

The Mayor had accepted the invitation to attend the Big Birthday Party on 17 June.

Suburb Gallery

The Chairman told Council that there was a possibility of the Gallery moving to the lobby of Fellowship House. This could save as a significant amount in overheads to the RA as well as being of benefit to Fellowship. Richard Wakefield pointed out that it was the Trust which had borne any loss resulting from the Gallery and not the RA. It was pointed out that in the 2005 accounts the Gallery showed a deficit of £1,178 to the RA.

The Chairman was also concerned at the possibility of dilapidations and legal and surveyors fees which the RA may be required to pay to Freshwaters under the terms of a new lease to the Trust.

A preliminary meeting had been held between RA and Fellowship representatives. There were many benefits having the Gallery in Fellowship House. It is close to the Garden Suburb School; many residents attend Fellowship for various activities and there are toilets, and a kitchen which volunteers could use.

Georgina Malcolm pointed out that Fellowship might have to apply to the Trust for a change of use to sell paintings etc. Alan Brudney said that security for Fellowship House may need to be increased. Discussions will continue.

Hampstead Heath Strategic Management Plan

Colin Gregory had prepared a Report in response to the consultation on the draft Management Plan for Hampstead Heath, which had been circulated to Council. The Consultation period closes on 19 May.

Georgina Malcolm proposed and Richard Wakefield seconded a proposal that Council adopt the Report. This was passed Nem Con
Colin Gregory was thanked for all the work he had done on this.

Woodland at Rear of Creswick Walk/Willifield Way

Derek Epstein had met with Marc Sinden and it had been agreed that he would await a planning application before taking this matter further with the Trust.

Thornton Way/Meadway Junction

Roads and Traffic had written a letter regarding the signage at this junction.

Incorporation of the RA

Selwyn Nakan and Derek Chandler are looking into this and will report back with their recommendations in due course although it may take time to implement.

4 Question Time

There were no questions

5 Motion to Publish the draft AGM Minutes on the Web Site

A motion was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Dave Brown that the draft AGM minutes are published on the Suburb Web site. This was passed Nem Con.

6 Approval of Centenary Expenditure

Fireworks on 24 June

Alan Brudney told Council that he had looked into the cost of providing fireworks coordinated with music. He had received estimate from Kimbolton Fireworks. Their costs range from £1,500 to £2,000 and he is also talking to Fantastic Fireworks who will also give an estimate.

The Chairman expressed his view that he is against any further expenditure on grounds of cost. The 24 June is not an important date for the RA Centenary. It is the last night of the St Jude's Proms but the Proms will not agree to make a contribution towards the fireworks. It would not be practical to ask residents to contribute on the night as there would be a retiring collection at the Proms. In addition, when the fireworks are set off after the concert on 24 June the sky may not be completely dark. There will be fireworks on New Year's Eve to celebrate the end of the Centenary year.

Douglas Blausten said that there are so many good events planned for the Centenary and to spend more money on fireworks is unnecessary, Leonie Stephen and Eva Jacobs agreed and Janet Elliott said that it would mainly be the Proms audience who would attend the fireworks. The Chairman said that we may find that the RA has money available at the end of the year to spend on extra fireworks for New Year's Eve.

David Littaur proposed a motion which was seconded by Leonie Stephen that the traditional fireworks which Alan Brudney had previously organised should take place on 24 June at a cost of £900. There should be an additional fireworks display on 31st December and estimates should be obtained in good time.

This motion was carried by 18 votes in favour, one against and one abstention.

£1,175 for leaflets and posters advertising centenary events including

design and printing costs but not distribution.

£250 plus vat for outdoor music on 2 May 2007

£50 for extra caretakers costs to enable access to stored chairs and tables on 17 June

Street closure fees for 2 May and 17 June £400.96 and £320

John Boulter proposed a motion to approve this expenditure. It was seconded by Douglas Blausten and passed Nem Con

Military Band

The Chairman told the Council that the cost of a military band on 17 June would be £3,025. The performance would last for under an hour. John Boulter considered that this expenditure is out of scale. Georgina Malcolm agreed and Carol Boulter suggested a school/student band instead. David Littaur and the Vice Chairman thought that the military band would be appropriate and would enhance the Suburb Centenary Celebration.

A Motion was proposed by David Littaur and seconded by David Lewis that funding is made available for the military band at a cost of £3,025
There were 12 votes in favour and 5 against.

Liability Insurance for fireworks

A Motion was proposed by John Boulter and seconded by Max Petersen that £120 should be made available for liability insurance for 24 June and 31 December fireworks. This was passed Nem Con

Postcards

Terry Brooks circulated a note explaining why the cost of the postcards had been increased by £552. This was due to the lateness of ordering these and also to the inclusion of two extra designs.

Banners

The cost of banners had been increased by £170

A Motion was proposed by John Boulter and seconded by Francois Crompton Roberts that the funding should be made available for the extra cost of the Postcards of £552 and the extra cost of Banners of £170
This was passed Nem Con

7 Kenwood Concerts

Eva Jacobs told the Council that English Heritage was undertaking consultation with a view to reviving the open-air concerts next year. There will be a public meeting on 16 May in the Old Kitchen at Kenwood House from 6.30-8.30pm. This is open to everyone but as space is limited places must be reserved by email. Council agreed that Eva Jacobs should speak

on behalf of the RA and support the reinstatement of the concerts in the older style format.

8 Any other matters arising out of the Executive Committee Minutes or the AGM

Executive Committee Minutes 12 April

PA System for AGM

Richard Kemp had obtained the invoice and given it to John Boulter for payment.

Allotments

Pia Duran suggested leading a walk around some of the allotments before the July Council Meeting at 7.15pm at Fellowship House. This was agreed.

9 To confirm the date of the next meeting on Tuesday 5 June at 8pm at Fellowship house

This was confirmed.