

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8 January 2008
at Fellowship House at 8.00pm

Present: David B Lewis in the Chair

John Boulter (Hon Treasurer), Simon Abbott, Peter Beesley, Douglas Blausten, Dave Brown, Alan Brudney, Carol Boulter, Francois Crompton-Roberts, Janet Elliott, Derek Epstein, Colin Gregory, Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council), Eva Jacobs, Rosalind Josephs, David Littaur, Selwyn Nakan, Max Petersen, Richard Kemp, Gary Shaw, Richard Wakefield.

Visitors: Joyce Littaur, Patricie Leonard

The chairman congratulated Council on a successful Centenary Year and wished them a Happy New Year.

1	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> Jean Barraclough, Derek Chandler, David Lewis, Steve Morris, Leonie Stephen, Terry Brooks, Alan Walker.	
2	<u>Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting</u>	
3	<p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda</u></p> <p><u>Incorporation of the RA</u> Peter Beesley and Colin Gregory are considering the new draft Memorandum and Articles of Association.</p> <p><u>Report on the Membership Mailing</u> Janet Elliott said that as at 22 December there were 2,160 members with 6 applications not included. The percentage of members of the RA is 40.6% of Suburb residents. She reported that £32,218 had been raised in subscriptions for the RA and £11,402 for Fellowship for 2007. It was noted that against some expectations, the amount collected for Fellowship had risen rather than fallen as a result of the rise in the RA minimum suggested subscription.</p> <p>There are some corrections that need to be made to the database e.g. to Queen's Court where there are now fewer flats and regarding the renewal rates relating to associate members.</p> <p>Some 50 subscriptions have been made on-line or by standing order. Steve Morris wishes to retire as chairman of membership at the AGM and a replacement Chairman is sought. His work is much appreciated by Council. He has kindly agreed to continue to run the RA's computer systems.</p>	PB CG

<p>A motion was proposed by Janet Elliott and seconded by Selwyn Nakan 'That David B Lewis should join the Membership Committee.'</p> <p>This was passed Nem Con</p> <p><u>Centenary Expenditure</u></p> <p><u>Plaque to commemorate the visit by the Duke of Gloucester</u> The Chairman is obtaining estimates for an additional plaque, the Benefactor's board, which will name all donors who gave at least £1,000 towards the Centenary celebrations. This will probably be situated in the lobby of the Henrietta Barnett School Hall.</p> <p>The plaque to commemorate the visit by the Duke of Gloucester had been installed.</p> <p><u>Institute Notice Board by Garden Centre in Finchley Road</u> David Littaur is in communication with the Executive Director of Resources at LB Barnet regarding this. It is hoped that this Notice Board will be transferred to the RA on the understanding that the RA will be responsible for its maintenance.</p> <p><u>Blood Test</u> The Chairman had received papers from London NHS containing policy proposals which were all to be commended and he hoped that they would be implemented.</p> <p><u>Market Place Parking</u> Gary Shaw is dealing with some 150 residents who had received tickets for parking in Market place and on the loading bay by the Library. Most of the claims about these tickets which had been accompanied by a letter had been rejected although one had been allowed and it had been acknowledged that the signage is inadequate. In another ticket given outside the library the address was incorrect and therefore the ticket is invalid.</p> <p>There are a number of adjudications being considered and a single decision will be given on 14 January. Gary Shaw will write an article for Suburb News</p> <p><u>Income and expenditure projections for 2008</u> Simon Abbott said that where a specific grant has been made for the Suburb Centenary and it is used for a loan which had subsequently been repaid, it should be spent on Centenary purpose.</p>	<p>GS</p>
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	<p><u>Annual General Meeting</u> Richard Wakefield asked for all the Committee reports as soon as possible as these are to be included in the next edition of Suburb News to be published on 26 January. So far he had only received one report.</p> <p><u>New Year's Eve</u> Only £271.79 had been collected towards the cost of the fireworks, mainly because there were no collections points at the exit doors. It was agreed that this should be re-thought in future years. It was only at the last minute that the fireworks company were concerned that residents may be standing too near to the fireworks and they did not wish residents to exit from the main door and a large queue then formed from the side door.</p> <p>The fireworks were a great success and the Chairman said that unfortunately as a public address system could not be obtained without charge the proposed music had to be cancelled.</p> <p>Richard Wakefield said that a vote of thanks should be made to Dave Brown, David and Joyce Littaur, Alan Brudney, Derek Epstein and Rosalind Josephs and her litter pickers for all their work on the New Years Eve celebration which was unanimously endorsed by Council.</p>	
4	<p><u>Question Time</u> A representative from the Corringham Road Squares, Patricie Leonard attended and said that no one from the Squares were members of the RA. She said that she had never received any invitation to join nor had received the yellow directory. She wished to complain about various matters: the state of the gardens in the Squares which should be maintained by the Trust;, the state of the hedges; the plague of rats; the possible danger from slipping on the York stone steps; the litter by the hedge which is the responsibility of LB Barnet if on the street side; the speed of traffic in Temple Fortune and crime on the suburb.</p> <p>Alan Brudney on behalf of the Trees & Open Spaces committee agreed to look at the gardens and the matter of maintenance of the steps and paths should be referred to the HGS Trust. It was suggested that she and her fellow residents should join the RA if they wished the RA to take the matter further.</p>	
5	<p><u>Motion of Goodwill for the Garden Suburb Theatre which will celebrate its 100th Anniversary in 2008</u></p> <p>A motion was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Douglas Blausten that</p> <p>'The HGS Residents Association wishes the Garden Suburb</p>	

	<p>Theatre hearty congratulations on 100 years of drama on the Suburb.'</p> <p>This was passed Nem Con. Colin Gregory thanked the RA on behalf of the Garden Suburb Theatre. He said that the GST continues to attract new members and that there is a very active season ahead commencing with a musical version of 'Around the World in 80 days'.</p>	
6	<p><u>Visit of Boris Johnson to Market place</u> Boris Johnson had accepted an invitation to visit Market Place but no details of the visit had yet been agreed.</p>	
7	<p><u>Any Other Urgent Business</u></p> <p><u>Suburb Film</u> It was reported that Norman Saville has made a film about Centenary Celebrations on the Suburb which will be available in early April. It was hoped to have a Gala Premier at the Phoenix Cinema. The film will not be edited in time for the AGM. The possibility of a DVD being made and circulated to all RA members who want a copy is being considered.</p> <p><u>Cyclists on Hampstead Heath</u> Colin Gregory reported that that when the Management Plan for Hampstead Heath was reviewed cycling was one of the most controversial items. There was an undertaking to carry out a further review and employ consultants. A presentation had been made in December and a further one had been made on 7 January and the recommendations will go to the management committee for a decision. The Trees & Open Spaces committee will also be making their comments. Among the routes to be considered is an application for a cycling route through the lit path across the Heath extension but no data had yet been collected on this particular route. Colin Gregory asked Council members who wish to, to make any representations by 1 February</p> <p>Simon Abbott told Council about a colleague of his wife who was knocked down by a bicycle and broke her hip. He considered that it should be well regulated. He had seen cyclists on Sandy Heath where it is dangerous to cycle. Cycling must be controlled with clear routes for bicycles only.</p> <p>Carol Boulter told Council that she regularly walks on the Heath. She does not consider that the Heath should be used for cycling and was concerned about groups of youths cycling down the hill by the Pavilion at great speed and who do not use cycling paths. Rosalind Josephs said that her husband would have been delighted to have been able to cycle across the Heath on the lit path when he worked in Golders Green and she was in favour of it</p>	

	<p>Alan Brudney would be happy to have cycling routes subject to restrictions and controls.</p> <p>Richard Kemp pointed out that there are two kinds of cyclists; the recreational cyclists and the commuters. The latter create the problems and are sometimes reckless and dangerous.</p> <p>Colin Gregory said that the consultants will prepare proposals and decide on the criteria for cycle routes. He will pass on the views made by Council members</p>	
8	<p><u>To confirm the date of the next Meeting on Tuesday 5 February 2008 at 8pm at Fellowship House</u> This was confirmed.</p>	