

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 4 March 2008
at Fellowship House at 8.00pm

Present: David B Lewis in the Chair

John Boulter (Hon Treasurer), Simon Abbott, Carol Boulter, Francois Crompton-Roberts, Derek Epstein, Janet Elliott, Colin Gregory, Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council), Eva Jacobs, Rosalind Josephs, David Lewis (Vice-Chairman), David Littaur, Steve Morris, Selwyn Nakan Max Petersen, Will Sowerbutts, Leonie Stephen, Richard Wakefield,

Visitors: Joyce Littaur, Charles McNicoll

1	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u> Jean Barraclough, Douglas Blausten, Terry Brooks, Dave Brown, Alan Brudney, Derek Chandler, Nicole Gerber Richard Kemp, Gary Shaw, Alan Walker</p>	
2	<p><u>Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></p>	
3	<p><u>Matters Arising not on the Agenda</u></p> <p><u>Suburb Film</u> The Chairman said that this will be shown after the AGM. It will last 40min. There has been no response from the Phoenix cinema</p> <p><u>Centenary Museum</u> Derek Epstein said that he and Marjorie Harris are talking about a sub-committee. He was unsure whether they are to look at the implementation of a small archive museum or to prepare a list of suitable projects. The Chairman thought that enthusiasts should generate their own projects for consideration.</p> <p>Carol Boulter said that the various proposals should be presented to Council possibly at a public meeting and she agreed to prepare a specification which sets out the details required. This could be inserted in the Suburb News.</p> <p><u>St Jude's Proms</u> It had been agreed that the RA can sponsor the last night and the Chairman will a short speech, preferably on that night. It was suggested that an RA stand might be manned on that night subject to the approval of the Proms Committee but the person suggesting the idea was unprepared to volunteer.</p> <p><u>Approval of Draft Accounts for 2007</u> John Boulter said that the accounts are available and suggestions had been made as to their layout. They have not yet been cleared by the Auditors. The report and accounts will be sent out with the membership renewal.</p> <p>SM said that the account should be received by the end of this week to enable it to be sent out by March 14th to give adequate notice for the AGM.</p>	CB

	<p>Derek Epstein suggested that the accounts should give an indication of the net revenue from the Centenary.</p> <p>The Treasurer said that in 2006 there had been an overall deficit of £327 and in 2007 there had been a surplus of £41,884. Membership subscriptions had risen by £12,677 with the balance of the increase, £29,207, attributable to Centenary transactions.</p> <p>A separate Centenary Account will be produced when all the figures are in and published in Suburb News.</p> <p>Eva Jacobs would like a formal thank you to be given to all those who had worked for the Centenary at the AGM. The Chairman said that 600 members of the RA had made an individual financial contribution to the Centenary Appeal.</p> <p><u>Nomination of Officers for 2008</u> Jean Barraclough is retiring from Council and the Events Committee although the Chairman was pleased that she had agreed to remain on Publications Committee. She was thanked for her wise contribution to the RA over many years which were very much appreciated by all the members of the Council.</p> <p><u>Implementation of the 6 Year Rule</u> The Chairman had written to all Standing Committee Chairmen regarding the membership of their committees. He reported that there had been a significant turnover in members this year.</p> <p><u>Suburb Gallery</u> Richard Wakefield said that there is an exhibition of botanical etchings at the Gallery. He hoped that there would be another Arts and Crafts furniture show at HB School during this summer.</p> <p><u>Honorary Life Membership</u> Joan Laurance and Eddie Caplin had agreed to become Honorary life Members.</p>	
5	<p><u>Question Time</u> Mr McNicoll who lives in Ossulton Way sought the assistance of the RA to fight the proposal of LB Barnet to remove the traffic light at the top of Ossulton Way and to erect a pedestrian crossing in East End Road with an island. Before these traffic lights were installed there was an additional pedestrian crossing in Ossulton Way. The reason that had been given for this proposal was that it would help deal with the traffic delays in East End Road. The notices had been posted on the traffic lights with no end date for any objections.</p> <p>Mr McNicoll pointed out that there has been an increase in traffic along Ossulton Way and there are two schools in the vicinity. Carol Boulter thought that if there were no traffic light there would be a build up of traffic along Ossulton Way.</p> <p>Simon Abbott considered that some of the traffic delays in East End Road were due to the heavy parking along this section of the road. Richard Wakefield thought that this may be an opportunity for the</p>	

	enhancement of the entrance to the suburb. Colin Gregory pointed out that English Heritage had previously prepared a design for this entrance. Will Sowerbutts will refer this to the Roads & Traffic Committee.	WS
6	<p><u>Proposal to amend Standing Order 13</u> It was proposed to amend this Standing order as follows: 'Members with a personal financial or formal interest in a decision shall declare their interest prior to the decision and shall not vote on the matter'.</p> <p>This discussion will be deferred to a future meeting when more Council members are present.</p> <p>Colin Gregory and Simon Abbott would like some clarification of the proposed wording and in particular the words 'formal interest'.</p>	
7	<p><u>Nomination of a Chairman for the RA when the present Chairman steps down</u></p> <p>David B Lewis reminded Council that he will retire next year and Council should consider well in advance who should take his place and ideally that should be someone who will serve on the Executive Committee during 2008. The Treasurer and Vice-chairman may also be retiring at the end of the 2008 membership year.</p>	
8	<p><u>Authorisation of Expenditure</u></p> <p><u>Finchley Filmmakers (formerly the Finchley Cinevideo Society)</u> The Chairman said that there had been 24 hours of filming which had been condensed into 40 minutes. The cost was £350 for expenses.</p> <p>A motion to make the sum of £350 available to the Finchley Filmmakers was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Francois Crompton-Roberts. This was passed Nem Con.</p> <p><u>Donation to St Jude's Church and St John Ambulance re: New Year's Eve event</u> A motion to make the sum of £100 available to both St Jude's Church and St John Ambulance was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Eva Jacobs. This was passed Nem Con.</p> <p><u>Cost of Public Address equipment and operative for the AGM</u> A Motion to make the sum of £222 plus vat available for the public address system at the AGM was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Max Petersen. This was passed Nem Con.</p> <p><u>Cost of March 2008 postal mailing to members for renewal of subscriptions and distribution of RA Accounts including the cost of printing , posting, design and typesetting</u></p> <p>Steve Morris said that this sum included £300 for mailing 500 members who had joined within the last three years but had not renewed their membership. The aim of this mailing is to encourage residents to set up</p>	

	<p>standing orders which will save on the costs of collecting annual subscriptions in the long term.</p> <p>A Motion was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Steve Morris to make the sum of £2,250 available for the purposes explained above. This was passed Nem Con.</p>	
8	<p><u>Other matters arising from the draft Executive Committee Minutes Benefactors Board</u></p> <p>The Chairman said that here were two options for siting this Board; either the lobby of HB School or in Fellowship House. The School would like the new Board to match an existing board in the main hall and the Chairman had received an estimate for £929 plus vat for this. He suggested that if the board was put up in Fellowship House, a perspex board would be much less expensive. There are only 12 names to be engraved.</p> <p>Carol Boulter and Simon Abbott both preferred the Fellowship House option as the RA have a close association with Fellowship. The Chairman will obtain an alternative estimate and bring the matter back to Council.</p> <p><u>Suggestion from Mark Sinden</u></p> <p>Eva Jacobs said that Consam should discuss this suggestion for 'no hawkers' etc signs to place on Suburb front doors with the Suburb logo. Perhaps 'no circulars' could be added ,although Colin Gregory thought that this may be a little unfriendly and it may include Suburb News</p> <p><u>AGM</u></p> <p>David Littaur asked for a budget for refreshments at the AGM.</p> <p>A Motion was proposed by David Littaur and seconded by Carol Boulter that the sum of £200 is made available for the purchase of wine and crisps for the AGM. This was passed Nem Con. David Littaur will ask for the maximum number of chairs to be available.</p>	<p>DB L</p> <p>Dit</p>
9	<p><u>Any Other Urgent Business</u></p> <p><u>Youth Club Paper</u></p> <p>Simon Abbott had drafted a paper which the EC will consider. It will be discussed at the April or May Council meeting.</p> <p><u>Institute Accounts</u></p> <p>The Chairman pointed out that the Institute had made a deficit of £1.7m this year and its reserves were now £4 million. It reported it had put in place a four year plan to improve the situation.</p> <p>Janet Elliott, the RA nominee on the Institute Council, pointed out the RA Council must look at the history of the Institute and the HB School. The Government withdrew nearly all its funding and now only contributes 15% of its income through the Learning and Skills council and it is no longer from LB Barnet. The Thomas Moore Building in East end Road is for sale. Carol Boulter said that in her opinion the Institute had been overambitious and had made some wrong decisions. It had</p>	

	<p>received compensation of £9m when the School were given ownership of the site. The RA should maintain close links with the Institute.</p> <p>Simon Abbott thought that the RA should not make things any more difficult for the Institute and we should keep a watch on what facilities are being provided on the Suburb.</p> <p>Colin Gregory suggested that Janet Elliott be asked to inform the Institute that the RA will help them in any way they can. Richard Wakefield said that the next issue of Insight will tell residents how they can assist.</p> <p><u>Notice Board In Temple Fortune</u> David Littaur had sent the draft licence from LB Barnet to the Chairman to approve. He will then show this to Colin Gregory/Peter Beesley.</p> <p><u>Building Work on the Suburb</u> Simon Abbott told the Council that he and residents of Hill Close have been suffering from extensive building work. Toilets and skips have been left on the road. There had been refuse, dust, and rats from food being left out. When he had complained he had been the victim of verbal abuse from the builders who seem to be subcontractors. He proposed that the Trust should produce regulations which could be incorporated in the planning consent which builders agree to abide by. Rosalind Josephs suggested asking the Safer Neighbourhood Team to help. Simon Abbott will prepare a draft. Colin Gregory referred to the Westminster building scheme regulations which may help</p> <p><u>Michael Rowley Memorial</u> Eva Jacobs said that it had been agreed that there would be a mention of this proposal at the AGM but she and Simon Abbott were no longer involved and Alan Walker is dealing with it.</p>	SA
10	<p><u>To confirm the date of the next Meeting on Tuesday April 1 at 8.00pmn at Fellowship House</u> This was confirmed.</p>	