

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 6 January 2009  
at Fellowship House at 8.00pm

*Present:* David Lewis in the Chair

Simon Abbott, Peter Beesley, Douglas Blausten, Tony Brand, John Boulter, , Carol Boulter, Terry Brooks, Dave Brown, Janet Elliott, Colin Gregory Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council), Eva Jacobs, Rosalind Josephs, David Littaur, Tony McGuire, Steve Morris, Selwyn Nakan, Richard Kemp, Alan Walker, Richard Wakefield,

Visitors: Joyce Littaur, Derek Epstein, Carol Kemp, Marjorie Harris, Richard Wiseman

1	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Terry Brooks, David B Lewis, Gary Shaw, Nicole Gerber, Max Petersen, Brian Rivett, Judith Sampson, Leonie Stephen</p>	
2	<p><u>Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting December 3</u></p>	
3	<p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda</u></p> <p><u>Public Notice Boards</u></p> <p>Simon Abbott reported that the information on the notice boards had not been received and it was agreed that the names of the owners of the land should be provided. The Events committee should re-approach them.</p> <p><u>New Year's Eve</u></p> <p>The fireworks were a great success and Richard Wakefield reported that £261 had been collected. All those who had helped were thanked for the work they had done and in particular Dave Brown.</p> <p><u>Henrietta Barnett School</u></p> <p>Notes of the meeting on 17 December between representatives of the School. RA, Hopkins, Alan Baxter &amp; Associates and Suburb residents and co-ordinated by Jonathan Seres, had been circulated to Council. Carol Boulter said that no progress had been made and the EC should consider what steps should be taken by the RA</p> <p><u>Report by Consam/Roads and Traffic.</u></p> <p>Derek Epstein reported that Kirsty Elderton had spoken to Cllr Harper before Christmas. She has not had the opportunity to speak to Ian Counce but will do so after her return from leave on the 9th. Mike Freestone has resigned as Director of Environment and Transport. An Acting Director, who does not have a Highways background, has been appointed for an interim period of 6 months, during which time LBB is believed to be contemplating outsourcing the majority of Highways functions.</p>	

	<p><u>Consam New Issues</u></p> <p><u>Telephone Boxes</u></p> <p>Philip Davies of English Heritage had advised Derek Epstein that he has been negotiating a national strategy with BT. As part of their national service agreement BT has made a public commitment to retain all listed red kiosks in operational use. This covers all the K6 boxes in the Suburb. There is therefore no need to pursue either adoption or sponsorship for the kiosks</p> <p><u>Loss of £27 Million in Icelandic banks by LB Barnet</u></p> <p>Colin Gregory had drafted a letter which he had sent to the Chairman.</p> <p><u>Photocopier</u></p> <p>The EC will discuss this at their next meeting.</p> <p><u>Sale of Tea House</u></p> <p>The Council agreed that there was nothing they could do as the sale had been completed.</p>	
4	<p><u>Question Time</u></p> <p><u>Horticultural Society</u></p> <p>Carol Kemp and Marjorie Harris came to Council to represent the Horticultural Society. They explained that due to their good housekeeping they now had reserves of £10,000 but they would like a decision as soon as possible as to whether the RA are prepared to make a grant of £1,000 for the flower bed in Willifield Green. It is proposed to place a permanent plaque on the site. John Boulter explained that he had received the application form after the last Council meeting but there had not been an EC meeting in December. David Littaur agreed to scan the application form and it will be discussed at the January EC.</p>	DLt
5	<p><u>Co-option of New members to RA Council, Caesar Duran and Richard Wiseman</u></p> <p>Cesar Duran was not present at the meeting.</p> <p>Richard Wiseman told Council a little about himself.</p> <p>John Boulter proposed and Carol Boulter seconded a motion that Richard Wiseman be co-opted to the RA Council.</p> <p>This was passed unanimously.</p>	

6	<p><u>HGS Trust Management Charge</u></p> <p>Richard Wakefield said during the argument about the management charge that the RA pressed the then Trustees to survey the whole Suburb to find out what the majority view was.</p> <p>The then Trustees, except for one, insisted that larger properties should not subsidize smaller ones even though the extra likely to be paid by band H properties was only £20 on a £100 management charge. The Trust proposed running a survey in the next Suburb News to find out once and for all what the Suburb wants.</p> <p>Richard Wakefield said the survey will be the Trust's but if the progressive charge, which the RA supported, is to come about then it is only with some effort from the RA and our team of volunteers that it can. For a new application to succeed a minimum of 1050 freeholders must sign in favour. The Trust Council remains neutral as the same amount of money is collected whether or not there is banding.</p> <p>Carol Boulter did not consider that Suburb News was an appropriate vehicle and there should be a separate questionnaire. Simon Abbott agreed. He did not agree that the Trust must remain neutral and asked them to look at this again.</p> <p>Colin Gregory said that if the Trust considers that it is in the interest of the Suburb to have a banded charge they can take a stand and say so; if the Trust is neutral he did not understand why the RA was being asked to canvass on this. He would like a paper from the Trust setting out the pros and cons and a full discussion by the RA before they form an opinion on this. Douglas Blausten agreed and said that it is only if the Trust makes a proposal for banding that they should ask the RA to mount a campaign. There must be a proper discussion.</p> <p>John Boulter said that the RA had asked the Trust to find out what residents want. Janet Elliott agreed that a formal paper should be prepared for consideration. It was agreed by Council that it was too early to make a decision. The Trust should be asked to think about it further and come forward with a proposal for a proper survey.'</p>	
7	<p><u>Michael Rowley Memorial</u></p> <p>Richard Wakefield told Council that Alan Walker and the Events Committee wish to organise a further seminar in May 2009. This year it is proposed that Philip Davies, Ptolemy Dean, an authority on conservation and an academic from Kingston University should participate.</p> <p>He asked the RA to agree to a grant of £750 for this event.</p> <p>Douglas Blausten suggested charging and he thought that £10 per head would cover the costs of the seminar.</p> <p>John Boulter said that this is a modest sum and it had been agreed in</p>	

	<p>principle that the RA would pay.</p> <p>Richard Wakefield proposed and Carol Boulter seconded a proposal that the sum of £750 is made available to hold a seminar in May 2009 in memory of Michael Rowley.</p> <p>This was passed Nem Con</p>	
8	<p><u>Any Other Urgent Business</u></p> <p><u>Hilda Williams</u></p> <p>Hilda Williams had written a letter thanking the RA for her Gift.</p> <p><u>RA Office</u></p> <p>John Boulter told the RA that the Free Church wished to increase the rental for the RA office to £2000pa.</p> <p>The insurance brokers used by the RA had now merged and are now called Blue Fin. Insurance is effected through AXA. Selwyn Nakan said that the RA must ensure that the RA is with reputable insurers.</p> <p><u>Garden Suburb Gallery</u></p> <p>Richard Wakefield reported on the latest figures for the Gallery:</p> <p>Turnover     £12,765</p> <p>Surplus       £423</p> <p>The RA will receive a further £546 for the sale of Centenary goods in addition to the earlier payments of £5685 making a total of £6231.</p>	
9	<p><u>To confirm the date of the next Meeting on Tuesday 3 February at 8.00pm at Fellowship House</u></p> <p>This was confirmed</p>	