

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 3 March 2009
at Fellowship House at 8.00pm

Present: David B Lewis in the Chair

Simon Abbott, Tony Brand, John Boulter, Carol Boulter, Tony Brand , Janet Elliott, Nicole Gerber. Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council), Eva Jacobs, Rosalind Josephs, David Lewis, David Littaur, Selwyn Nakan, Max Petersen, Richard Kemp, Leonie Stephen, Gary Shaw, Will Sowerbutts,

Visitors: Joyce Littaur, Derek Epstein, César Rodriguez-Duran, Rosanne Blake, Linda Cook, Pia Duran, Calum Mitchell

1	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Peter Beesley, Douglas Blausten, Terry Brooks, Dave Brown, Colin Gregory, Steve Morris, Judith Samson, Richard Wakefield, Richard Wiseman</p>	
2	<p><u>Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting -3 February</u></p>	
3	<p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda</u></p> <p><u>Recycling Bins</u></p> <p>Rosalind Josephs had followed up the question of lids for the blue recycling bins with LB Barnet but it will not provide these and the netting will have to be used. David Bogush had been concerned that the private contents of residents' bins are on view for anyone to see.</p> <p><u>Banded Management Charge for the HGS Trust</u></p> <p>Douglas Blausten had requested that this item is discussed when he is able to attend a Council Meeting.</p> <p><u>Hampstead Heath Proposal</u></p> <p>The Vice Chairman had written a letter of support to the Heritage Lottery Fund in line with Councils' Motion.</p>	
4	<p><u>Question Time</u></p> <p><u>Pelican Crossings in Temple Fortune</u></p> <p>Pia Duran was concerned about the elderly and young who attempt to cross Finchley Road by Barclays Bank or by the Garden Suburb School. She thought that the timing of the traffic lights is too short. The Chairman agreed.</p> <p>Roads and Traffic will look into this.</p>	GS

5	<p><u>Membership Committee Report</u></p> <p>Janet Elliott reported that subscriptions for 2008 were up by £800 to £33,167. The money collected by Fellowship had also increased by £960 to £12,396. There are 50 fewer members of the RA this year but 520 members now pay by standing orders which mean that £9,000 of subscription money is already in the RA's bank account. 840 members have supplied their email addresses which will make communicating with them less expensive.</p> <p>There were four distributions to residents in 2008:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March -postal renewals • June -membership reps distribution with membership forms • October -postal reminders • November – postal request to members who had not renewed <p>The total cost of the Membership Committee is approximately £7,000. The cost of obtaining subscriptions for the first 1,800 members was £2.50 each and the last 300 members cost £8 each.</p> <p>The challenges for 2009 are: new Ward Organisers, a new Chairman and Membership Secretary; recruiting Membership Reps in some areas; and a need to stem the gradual reduction in the number of members</p> <p>Rosalind Josephs asked the position about the New Residents' Pack that used to be given to new residents. Carol Boulter said that at the publications meeting last night the leaflet was being revamped but Janet Elliott said that it had not been widely used and there had only been four people responding to it last year.</p> <p>Selwyn Nakan said that the Trust now send out their own pack and because it had become difficult for the RA to obtain information about new residents the issue of the RA's New Residents' Pack had fallen into abeyance.</p>	
6	<p><u>2008 Accounts</u></p> <p>John Boulter said that after last year's Suburb Centenary this year's accounts were straightforward and there was a small surplus of £2,278.</p> <p>Selwyn Nakan suggested that the notes attached to the accounts should also contain details of the 2007 accounts. He asked for, someone to look at the list of debtors, many of which may be over 90 days old and whether they should be written off. Richard Wakefield was asked to look into this as soon as possible. Simon Abbott asked whether the sum of £3,824 which had been collected for Fellowship, had been paid over.</p>	RW

	<p>John Boulter had a cheque ready which he gave to Pia Duran. He would like a separate statement in the accounts about the Centenary fund but John Boulter said that these have not yet been settled. The Chairman confirmed that all money collected for the Centenary appeal had been spent.</p> <p>Selwyn Nakan pointed out that the RA's tax situation has not been resolved and there should be a reserve in the accounts for this purpose. The Treasurer said that as it was not clear whether any tax was actually due nor what the amount might be, it was not appropriate to make such a reserve at the present time.</p>	
7	<p><u>Honorary Life Members</u></p> <p>The Chairman proposed a Motion which was seconded by David Littaur that Jean Barraclough be made an Honorary Life Member at the AGM. This was passed unanimously.</p>	
8	<p><u>Payment to HGS Trust</u></p> <p>The Chairman explained the position as set out in the Executive Committee Minutes. Because of the way that the Appeal had been made, the Inland Revenue had disallowed part of the amount that was expected to be gift aided. A repayment of the sum of £3,325 had been requested by the Trust including £245 interest. He said that the Trust could appeal but had decided not to. The Vice Chairman pointed out that the EC had recommended to the Council that the money should be paid back. The Chairman noted that he had been absent from the meeting and was surprised that the Trust had not defended the Inland Revenue's claim more vigorously.</p> <p>Eva Jacobs explained that the Trust collected the money and thought that it would be eligible for gift aid but the Inland Revenue had claimed it back on the grounds that it was not legitimate on the grounds that it was a joint appeal by the RA and the Trust and the RA is not a charity. The Trust had negotiated with the Inland Revenue and reached a compromise. The EC thought that the arrangement was conducted in good faith on both sides and there was a moral obligation to pay</p> <p>A Motion was proposed by Eva Jacobs and seconded by the Vice Chairman that the sum of £3,325 which had been ineligible for gift aid, for the Centenary Appeal and had been claimed back by the Inland Revenue should be repaid to the HGS Trust. This was passed Nem Con</p>	

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Report by Consam

Fruit and Vegetables on Market Place Pavement

Derek Epstein had been approached by Neville Silver who considered that the display of fruit and vegetables at the two shops in Market Place which extends on to the pavement is dangerous. It was claimed that the shops had exceeded the 1m area which is allowed by LB Barnet. Gary Shaw and Derek Epstein considered that the displays are useful and attractive.

Rosalind Josephs was concerned at the amount of litter which these two shops produced. Eva Jacobs thought that they should be encouraged to apply to LB Barnet for extra space on the pavement as they are violating the terms of their licence. Carol Boulter thought that there was a danger of creating a precedent. Gary Shaw said that the RA should not do anything which would make life difficult for them and the shops in Market Place should be given encouragement

Henrietta Barnett School Extension

Hopkins Architects had met with Michael Balla-Goddard, Chairman of the CAAC, and the School has now agreed to mount an exhibition of its proposals and exhibiting samples of materials. A presentation may also be given in the School Hall.

It was hoped that the exhibition would be held by the end of March 2009.

There was a discussion as to whether the representatives of the RA on PPC should give support to the Motion which had been passed by Council and their views regarding the bricks and widow treatment. There was a difference of views among members of Consam.

CAAC had been assured by LB Barnet that its views would be taken into account when making a decision. Simon Abbott said that the Motion that the Council had passed was specific to the bricks and windows and related to the plans which were then available. He considered that the public consultation was wholly inadequate. Planning permission had been given by the Trust and Barnet subject to further details which had not yet been submitted. However it is not clear whether the items complained about, the window design and brick colour, require additional consent.

A Motion was proposed by Simon Abbott and seconded by Max Petersen that the RA should send a letter asking for adequate time for the RA and residents to consider the detailed plans for the extension to the Henrietta Barnett School. This was passed Nem Con

Consam/Roads & Traffic and LB Barnet highways Department

Kirsty Elderton, a senior LBB official, had now interceded in this

	<p>matter. A meeting will be held next week between RA representatives and three highways officers to agree a way of working together.</p>	
10	<p><u>Report by Roads and Traffic</u></p> <p>Gary Shaw told Council about the results of last year's review of the CPZ in the area of Rotherwick/Corringham Road. LB Barnet proposed that Corringham Road/ Rotherwick Road be subdivided into a new parking area to be known as H2 Zone and had proposed an extra one hour restriction during the afternoon.</p> <p>The RA had objected to this and LB Barnet is now proposing a two hour restriction from 11am -1pm. This will stop residents from other parts of the Suburb from parking by the station. John Boulter said that he had received a communication about this and the new scheme should be in place by 30 March. Seven free bays will be converted into residents bays. The Chairman said it was essential that any new signage be on short poles without the LBB logo in accordance with the new guidance agreed with LBB and Derek Epstein will check.</p>	
11	<p><u>Report by Trees and Open Spaces</u></p> <p>Leonie Stephen was pleased to report that Tony Ghilchik had agreed to become Chairman and Eva Jacobs will become secretary.</p> <p>The Committee had divided the Suburb into areas and each member is checking and reporting on their area. There is not one bench in Bigwood that is usable</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Leonie Stephan who was retiring from Council after many years and who had contributed a great deal to the RA in her various roles including that of Chairman of the RA.</p>	
12	<p><u>Any Other Urgent Business</u></p> <p><u>Publications Committee: 100th edition of Suburb News.</u></p> <p>The Chairman reported that the Publications Committee would like to prepare a special issue and celebrate its 100th edition.</p> <p>A Motion was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Tony Brand that the sum of £100 is made available for celebrating the 100th edition of Suburb News. This was passed unanimously</p> <p><u>AGM</u></p> <p>Hire of HB School Hall for the AGM</p> <p>A Motion was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Carol Boulter to make the sum of £180 available for the hire of the H B School Hall for the AGM on 30th March. This was passed</p>	

	<p>unanimously</p> <p><u>Refreshments</u></p> <p>A Motion was proposed by David Littaur and seconded by Will Sowerbutts to make the sum of £250 available for supplying refreshments at the AGM. This was passed unanimously.</p> <p>Spam messages of HGS List:</p> <p>Gary Shaw said that he was receiving spam messages purporting to come from RA officers. When Steve Morris has more time available he will be asked to look into this.</p> <p><u>Chairman</u></p> <p>As this was his the last meeting as Chairman a vote was passed thanking David B Lewis for his four years as Chairman of the RA and all the work he had done for the RA over a number of years.</p>	
13	<p><u>To confirm the date of the Next meeting of the 7 April at 8pm at Fellowship House</u></p> <p>This was confirmed.</p>	