

Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association
Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 7 April 2009
at Fellowship House at 8.00pm

Present: Janet Elliott, in the Chair

Simon Abbott, Carol Boulter, John Boulter (Hon Treasurer), Tony Brand.
 Dave Brown, Charles Gale, Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council),
 Eva Jacobs, Rosalind Josephs, Richard Kemp, David Lewis (Vice Chairman),
 David Littaur, Max Petersen, Judith Samson, Richard Wakefield, Richard
 Wiseman

Visitors: Andrew Botterill, Pia Duran, Derek Epstein, Sally Lewis, Joyce
 Littaur, Jonathan Seres

1.	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> Peter Beesley, Douglas Blausten, Nicole Gerber, Colin Gregory, Selwyn Nakan, Gary Shaw (Hon Secretary).	
2.	<u>Welcome to newly elected Council members and officers and brief statement from the Chairman</u> Janet Elliott welcomed Council members to her first meeting as Chairman.	
3.	<u>Proposal for Co-option of two further new Council members</u> Council members agreed that Janet Elliott should ask Bridget Cox and Rev Ian Tutton whether they would like to be co-opted to Council.	
4.	<u>Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting - 3 March</u>	
5. 5a.	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes not elsewhere on the Agenda</u> <u>Min 9 – paragraph 3 - Henrietta Barnett School Extension</u> There was an extensive debate on this issue both on the way the matter had been handled when the issue had first been raised in the spring and summer of 2008 and relating to the Exhibition and Meeting with the Architects and School, held at HB School on March 24. Exceptionally, members attending the Council Meeting to ask Questions on this issue were invited to put their questions at relevant points in the discussion. Carol Boulter (CB) asked whether a letter setting out the terms of the Motion passed by Council had been sent to the School. This was confirmed but there had not been a positive result. Charles Gale suggested that liaising with Jo Velleman could be helpful.	

<p>5b</p>	<p>Simon Abbott (SA) said that having seen the presentation by Hopkins he thought the School would be reluctant to agree to changes to the plans. He considered that the proposed new buildings would disrupt the character of the Square.</p> <p>Trees were discussed. SA believed it was important to retain the existing trees which would provide some cover and also possibly plant additional trees. Andrew Botterill made a request that the species of trees planted should take into account the particular circumstances so as to provide year round cover.</p> <p>Opportunities for further viewing and discussion before the details of the plans were finalised were discussed: CB suggested a letter be sent to the Trust asking for the RA to be notified when the final details are submitted for planning permission.</p> <p>Richard Wakefield pointed out that the plans will go before the PPC where there is RA representation. Residents will be able to look at the plans at the Trust's offices.</p> <p>Derek Epstein had asked the Trust to inform residents when the plans are submitted to them.</p> <p>Jonathan Seres asked the Chairmen of the RA to request the Trust to notify the RA when the final detailed plans are submitted, which could then be posted on the Website.</p> <p>CB thought that this matter is of the utmost importance and that the public presentation of the plans, organised at short notice had drawn a remarkable response.</p> <p>Discussion on levels of early consultation and related matters:</p> <p>Andrew Botterill asked whether the RA had learnt lessons from 'its poor performance in this affair'. He then asked 'Does the RA accept the important task of making sure that the Trust acts in the interests of residents?', and, ' was it right that a year ago there was an exchange of emails between the RA, the Trust and LB Barnet which restricted discussion by residents?'</p> <p>Summing up Janet Elliott agreed that there were various things that might have been done differently and possibly more effectively but that the RA Council should now look forward.</p> <p><u>Proposed Banding of Management Charge</u></p> <p>Andrew Botterill asked what the RA is doing to support the views expressed by Bill Asprey at the AGM.</p> <p>Janet Elliott said that the RA had not yet considered these and this whole matter will be discussed by Council at a later date.</p> <p><u>Publication of Minutes on HGS Web site</u></p>	<p>JE</p>
<p>5c</p>	<p>Andrew Botterill asked why it recently had taken so long for minutes of RA Council to be published on the Website.</p>	

5d	<p>Janet Elliott said that there had been particular reasons which were being addressed.</p> <p>Pia Duran would also like the Council Agenda published in advance. Janet Elliott agreed to look into this but it may not be practicable.</p> <p><u>Min 5 - Membership Committee Report</u></p> <p>Janet Elliott will give Richard Wakefield further details of the membership numbers.</p> <p><u>Min 6 - 2008 Accounts</u></p>	JE
5e	<p>Richard Wakefield wanted to know when the full Centenary accounts will be ready. John Boulter said that he is waiting for items such as the Benefactors' Board, payment of Tax and the Henrietta Barnett Walk to be finalised</p> <p>Simon Abbott said that it is usual to insert estimates for such costs into the accounts to cover uncertainties and it would be helpful to know more than we know now. Some money has been donated on the basis that it would be spent in a particular way.</p>	JE
5f	<p>Janet Elliott said that the EC is actively looking at the question of possible tax liabilities..</p> <p>Carol Boulter had asked residents via Suburb News for ideas on how any residual money might be spent but she had only received two responses. Eva Jacobs had also provided a paper.</p> <p><u>Min 9 - Market Place Supermarkets</u></p> <p>The Council was asked to consider the Motion specified in the Agenda on which Gary Shaw and Derek Epstein had worked together. After discussion Eva Jacobs proposed an amendment to the Motion which was seconded by Carol Boulter.</p> <p>'The Council of the HGSRA asks Transport for London to reconsider its decision to enforce an unnecessarily narrow pavement display limit on two supermarkets in Market Place and in accordance with policy elsewhere in LB Barnet to permit displays of up to 10ft deep outside the shops in question. The RA also calls upon our GLA member to support that position in this time of great economic difficulty for small businesses'</p> <p>This was carried by 11 votes in favour and 2 against.</p>	JE
6. 6a.	<p><u>Election to the Executive Committee and other RA Committees for 2009</u></p> <p>Janet Elliott proposed and Eva Jacobs seconded a Motion</p>	

'That the 6 year rule be suspended for a further year'.

This was passed Nem Con.

Executive Committee

Max Petersen proposed and Richard Kemp seconded a Motion to elect the following to the EC

Janet Elliott
David Lewis
Gary Shaw
John Boulter
Eva Jacobs
David Littaur
Selwyn Nakan
Richard Wakefield

This was passed Nem Con

The following changes to the Standing Committees were agreed

Allotments Committee

There are no changes.

Council discussed whether this is really an RA Standing Committee. Simon Abbott said that this committee does not operate like other committees and it is the Trust that agrees the work to be carried out on the allotments and how money is spent. This issue will be re-considered but no changes will be proposed for the coming year.

Conservation and Amenities

Delete

David B Lewis and Brian Rivett
Delete telephone number for Tony McGuire

Events

Delete

Chris Kellerman

Add

Richard Wakefield
Tricia Dibb (phone number to be provided)
César Rodriguez-Duran
David Littaur asked for another volunteer to become Secretary of this committee

Membership

Delete

Nicole Gerber
David B Lewis
Richard Wakefield

Janet Elliott would like a volunteer to take over as Membership

<p>Secretary</p> <p><u>Publications</u></p> <p><i>Delete</i> Jean Barraclough Francois Crompton Roberts</p> <p><i>Add</i> Judith Samson</p> <p><u>Roads and Traffic</u></p> <p><i>Delete</i> Derek Chandler</p> <p><i>Add</i> Alan Armstrong-Wright Richard Wiseman</p> <p><u>Trees and Open Spaces</u></p> <p><i>Delete</i> Leonie Stephen Prue Beard Judith Samson</p> <p>Tony Ghilchik will become Chairman</p> <p><u>Other RA Committees and Working Groups</u></p> <p><u>Club House and Museum Working Group</u></p> <p>Agreed the name of this group be changed to "Community Centre and Museum Working group"</p> <p><i>Add</i> Ian Tutton Simon Abbott Dave Brown David Littaur</p> <p><u>Garden Suburb LA 21 Committee</u></p> <p><i>Delete</i> Nancy Boucicault Leonie Stephen</p> <p><i>Add</i> Richard Wiseman</p> <p><u>Litter Team</u></p> <p>Rosalind Josephs will confirm the number of volunteers</p> <p><u>Suburb Website</u></p> <p>No change</p> <p><u>New Committee</u></p> <p><u>Subsidence Committee</u></p> <p>Judith Samson Chairman</p>	
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	<p>Simon Blausten Helen Garner Richard Wiseman Judith Samson to confirm the telephone numbers of co-opted members</p>	
6b.	<p><u>To Review the RA representatives on other Bodies</u></p> <p><u>Barnet Voluntary Services Council</u> Janet Elliott will speak to Derek Chandler</p> <p><u>Bigwood and Littlewood Management Group</u> Delete Leonie Stephen Add Sally Lewis Colin Gregory Georgina Malcolm (to be confirmed)</p> <p><u>FORAB</u> Janet Elliott will speak to Derek Chandler</p> <p><u>HGS Trust Grant Committee</u> The name will be changed to HGS Trust Grant and Amenities Committee.</p> <p><i>Delete</i> Leonie Stephan <i>Add</i> Simon Abbott Simon Abbott said that this committee is in the process of change and it will include a social element.</p> <p><u>HGS Trust Property and Plans Committee</u> <i>Delete</i> Derek Epstein <i>Add</i> Geoffrey Spyer</p> <p><u>HGS CAAC</u> David Littaur is an alternate (To be confirmed)</p> <p><u>HGS Fellowship</u> Delete Leonie Stephen Add Carol Boulter</p>	<p>JE</p> <p>JE</p> <p>JE</p>

	<p><u>HGS Institute</u></p> <p>Janet Elliott to continue in the short term but asked for a volunteer to take over in due course.</p> <p><u>HB School Governors Observer</u></p> <p><i>Delete</i></p> <p>Max Petersen Janet Elliott will talk to Oliver Blond about the status of this representation.</p> <p><u>Kenwood Landscape Forum</u></p> <p><i>Delete</i></p> <p>Leonie Stephen</p> <p><u>London Forum of Greater London Amenity Societies</u></p> <p>Janet Elliott will speak to Derek Chandler</p> <p><u>Safer Neighbourhood Team</u></p> <p>This will go into a different category in the Yellow Directory as the volunteers are not appointed by the RA</p> <p><u>Representation</u></p> <p>The Council held a short discussion on whether the same representative should sit on both CAAC and the HGS Trust's Property and Plans Committee. Derek Epstein thought that if there was always a consensus of opinion this would not matter but there is not always unanimity and there must be checks and balances. The question of whether the members of CAAC and PPC represent the views of Consam and/or the Council must also be clarified.</p> <p>Carol Boulter said that if there is any disagreement among the members of the CAAC it is always noted and that members appointed to the CAAC do not sit as representatives of the RA.</p> <p>Janet Elliott will talk to Alan Jacobs.</p> <p>Council agreed that the status quo should continue for the time being but they will hold a full discussion about dual representation and whether and when our appointed representatives should speak for themselves or on behalf of the RA.</p>	<p>JE</p> <p>JE</p>
7.	<p><u>Reports from RA Committees on Urgent Issues</u></p> <p><u>Consam</u></p> <p>Derek Epstein will circulate a report on his meeting with the LB Barnet Highways department.</p>	<p>JE/ DE</p>

8.	<p><u>Matters Arising from the Executive Committee Minutes</u></p> <p><u>Proposal to ask KPMG if it will give pro bono advice on the taxation position of the RA</u></p> <p>The EC are attempting to clarify the position regarding taxation and are obtaining advice.</p> <p><u>The future of the Henrietta Barnett Fund</u></p> <p>The HGS Trust and Toynbee Hall have both offered to take over the Fund but the EC would like the fund to remain on the Suburb</p> <p><u>Conversion to Limited Liability: formulation of a recommendation to Council following Peter Beesley's letter</u></p> <p>Janet Elliott is taking this matter forward and there will be further discussion before meeting with Peter Beesley. Simon Abbott requested that Council be consulted further before any decisions are reached.</p> <p>Eva Jacobs pointed out that there has recently been new regulations from the Charity Commission which may simplify this procedure and suggested details be circulated to the EC.</p>	
9.	<p><u>To confirm the date of the next meeting on Tuesday 5 May at 8.00 pm at Fellowship House</u></p> <p>This was confirmed.</p>	