

**Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 6 September 2011**  
**at Fellowship House at 8.00pm**

Present: Janet Elliott in the Chair, Simon Abbott, Terry Brooks, Tony Brand, Douglas Blausten, Jeremy Clynes, Charles Gale, Tony Ghilchik, Colin Gregory, Stephanie Hurst, Eva Jacobs, David Lewis, David Littaur, Max Petersen, Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council), David Littaur, Judith Samson, Jonathan Seres, Gary Shaw, Geoffrey Spyer, Ian Tutton, Richard Wakefield.

Visitors: Joyce Littaur, Pia Duran and Brian Ingram

1. **Apologies:** Alan Brudney, Rosalind Josephs and Richard Wiseman.
2. **Questions notified in advance** - none
3. **Questions & Issues raised by visiting residents**

Signage around Brookland Rise School

Brian Ingram told Council about his ongoing concerns about traffic in the roads around Brooklands School and the need for improvement. He informed the Council of an accident, involving three cars, that morning in Hill Top. He also considered that signage on the north of the suburb was inferior to that on the south side. His immediate proposals were for increased signage and he hoped the RA Council would support him in his views. It was explained that the RA was against unnecessary signage and street clutter. However, cases for new signage had to be considered on their individual merits. BI agreed to provide a map showing where he would like to have these signs which he will give to Gary Shaw for consideration by Roads and Traffic. Agreed the RA could not give advance agreement on whether to support these proposals.

4. **Confirmation of Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting 5 July 2011**  
- agreed.

**5. Financial Report**

Jeremy Clynes had circulated financial statements ahead of the meeting to Council members.

He informed Council that the RA's bank account has been changed to HSBC and the signatories changed for both the new HSBC accounts and the remaining Barclays Bank account. Future financial statements will include the membership numbers. Council members expressed their appreciation at receiving these monthly accounts.

Trust Finance Committee

Janet Elliott had been approached informally by the HGS Trust regarding a possible RA nominee to sit on their finance committee. Council nominated Hon Treasurer, Jeremy Clynes, who agreed to do this. When the formal nomination was received, Richard Wakefield assured Council that the Finance committee is separate from the administration of the Scheme of Management so there would be no political implications with the involvement by the RA on this Committee.

**6. Independent Enquiry**

Simon Abbott reported that he, Gary Shaw and Richard Wiseman had met and selected an academic who is **Professor Emeritas of Voluntary Organisations at Aston University and Visiting Professor at Birkbeck College, University of London** whom they thought would be a suitable candidate to lead the enquiry. She lives on the

Suburb but has no connection with any **relevant** Suburb Organisation other than being a member of the RA. The Terms of Reference would be as agreed at the June Council meeting.

A Motion was proposed by Ian Tutton and seconded by Max Peterson, that Simon Abbott be authorised to approach this candidate and negotiate an appointment within the agreed budget. This was passed by 13 votes in favour and 5 against. **SA**

## **7. Matters Relating to the Trust AGM**

The following recent developments were reported:

- An article had been included in the latest edition of Suburb News inviting residents to join the Trust Company;
- The 'Concerned residents' had sent a letter to residents inviting them to join the Trust Company and to send their application form to the Concerned Residents to enable them to be submitted together;
- 3 nominations for the vacant seat on the Trust Council. They are: Carol Boulter, Claire Calman, and Dr Saul Zadka;
- The latest edition of the Trust Gazette had been sent to all residents and the Annual Report had been posted to members of the Trust Company.
- Members were encouraged to attend the Trust AGM on 14 September.

## **8. Autumn Programme for Council and Open Meetings**

It was agreed that, at the next open Meeting in October, there should be a discussion about basements which should allow residents to air their views. It was agreed that Janet Elliott will open the meeting and Richard Wiseman be asked to chair. Publicity will be organised promptly. Janet Elliott will ask Hilda Williams to arrange the chairs in theatre style and for microphones to be available. **JE/ RW**

A further meeting with **technical** (formal) speakers on the subject of basements would also be considered for a later date. Consam was proposing a meeting on the possible impact of the **Localism** bill on HGS when more hard information was available. **GS**

Events Committee will plan a hustings meeting for the GLA elections & begin negotiations promptly. A question and answer session with local MP, Mike Freer could also be considered. **DLit**

## **9. Open House 17-18 September**

Booklets for this weekend are available for residents in the Gallery. The RA is helping with the provision of organised 'open house' walks around the Suburb.

A discussion took place about **whether to seek a financial contribution from** (the contribution of) HBS School as they are **participating** (involved) in Open House this year.

A Motion was proposed by Jonathan Seres and seconded by Stephanie Hurst that next year the RA should ask HB School if they wish to participate in the Open House weekend and, if so, whether they would like to contribute toward the costs. This was rejected by 6 votes in favour, 7 votes against and 8 abstentions.

Janet Elliott will talk to Alan Jacobs to establish which institutions have contributed financially this year's participation in Open House weekend.

## **10. Market Place Library**

Jonathan Seres spoke to the paper which he and Jeremy Clynes had previously circulated. He amplified the information in it particularly regarding the access to the LB Barnet Libraries computer and proposed the following Motion which was seconded by Richard Wakefield:

That Jonathan Seres and Jeremy Clynes be authorised to continue to assess Library continuation possibilities and, if in their opinion feasible, to prepare a draft 'bid' or 'bids' for circulation to RA Council.

This was passed by 18 votes in favour and with 1 abstention.

**JS/ JC**

Janet Elliott thanked Jonathan Seres and Jeremy Clynes for the work they have done.

## **11. Committee Reports**

### Executive Committee

The draft minutes of the Executive Meeting held on July 21 were noted.

### Consam

#### Community Involvement in Planning

Geoffrey Spyer reported a letter from the GLA who are conducting a review of community involvement in London and seeking a response from local groups. The response had been circulated to the Council which he had prepared and circulated to Council. It said that the RA would like to participate in future discussions. The Trust had also sent a response along similar lines.

Consam will organise a meeting with the recently appointed Chair of the LBB planning committee to discuss basements and see whether they can be persuaded to adopt the approach used Camden Council.

### Willifield Green

Charles Gale said that there had been no disturbances during the summer months

Roads and Traffic - Gary Shaw said that the committee had met.

### Trees

Tony Ghilchik informed Council that the next Bigwood Work Day will be held on 24 September and he encouraged Council members to attend.

## **12. To confirm the dates of the next two meetings**

Tuesday 4th October - Open meeting – Basements .

Tuesday 2nd November - Council Meeting

Both meetings will be held at Fellowship House at 8.00pm