



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 6 March 2012
at Fellowship House at 8.00pm**

Present: Janet Elliott, in the Chair, Douglas Blausten, Tony Brand, Simon Abbott, Douglas Blausten, Jeremy Clynes, Charles Gale, Tony Ghilchik, Stephanie Hurst, Eva Jacobs, David Lewis, Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council), Rosalind Josephs, David Littaur, Judith Samson, Gary Shaw, Ian Tutton, Richard Wiseman.

Visitors: Joyce Littaur

1. **Apologies:** Alan Brudney, Terry Brooks, Colin Gregory, Jonathan Seres, Richard Wakefield.

2. **Questions notified in advance** - none.

3. **Questions from visiting residents** - none.

4. **Council and EC Minutes**

4a Approval of Minutes of January Council Meeting - approved.

4b To receive the Minutes of the Executive Committee of 17 January and 21 February. These were received.

5. **Minutes of Special Council meeting 7 February 2012**

These were agreed subject to the following.

Following a discussion it was agreed:

- a) that Min 7.3 be retained but that the wording be amended to indicate that this took place subsequent to the meeting, and
- b) that the minutes and the Strategy Working Group Report be posted on the RA website as one document with a brief explanation, the wording of which would be decided agreed by the Chairman.

6. **Financial Report and Budget**

JC reported that Nedret McKinley had retired. Council members expressed their thanks for all the work she had done for the RA since her appointment. Audrey McLean-Roberts has now been appointed bookkeeper and she will shortly be taking up her responsibilities. There were no management accounts this month as a result of to this change over.

The year end accounts which were circulated to Council will appear in the Annual Report.

The Budget which had been amended to include income from Suburb News and was agreed nem con.

Since the Budget had been prepared Rosalind Josephs had requested funds to run an event to thank the Suburb's litter pickers which she hoped to hold at Fellowship House. This was welcomed and agreed by Council.

A vote was taken by Council to approve the 2012 Annual Accounts which was passed unanimously with 15 votes in favour.

7. AGM – 26 March at 8.00pm

DLt said that he needs volunteers to help at the AGM and, with the exception of Stephanie Hurst and Gary Shaw, all Council members present agreed to assist on the night. DLt will contact them by email and tell them how they can help. **DLt**

The Annual Report is currently being printed. The AGM mailing is in progress and will include both the Annual Report and a first reminder re membership. .

New active Council members who can contribute to the work of the RA are required.

There will be no new Honorary Life Members this year.

8. Market Place Library Update

JC told Council that a Report had been prepared by Jonathan Seres and circulated to Council members on 3 March. LB Barnet had been diverted from progressing the application due to the further late protest about the closure of Friern Barnet library. LB Barnet is considering the request for an increase to the proposed annual grant of £10,000 to cover certain contingencies. It is understood that LBB do want the HGS bid to succeed.

JC said that it was not thought that volunteers would require a great deal of training as the computer system will be running and the software is easy to understand. In reply to a question from EJ, JC said that there is no change in the core of financial responsibility and no financial obligation will fall on the RA. The grant of £10,000 should cover all the running expenses.

RWi confirmed that any financial liability will fall on the company and not on the volunteers or the RA itself. JC confirmed that it is intended to apply for charitable status.

JE thought that any opening ceremony should be at the discretion of the new company but any handing over ceremony by LB Barnet would be different. JC pointed out that the RA would not be able to control the content of press releases issued by LBB and that it was too soon to be considering details of the opening ceremony

Jonathan Seres proposed (sent to the Council in advance) and Janet Elliott seconded the following motion:

'That the revised basis of operation by the new library company, described in the note of 3rd March 2012, be approved and that LB Barnet be urged to ensure that the library remains open without hiatus.'

This was passed by 16 votes in favour with 1 abstention.

9. Independent Enquiry

SA reported that Dr Harris had prepared her first rough draft which she is now working on. It had been a larger task than had been anticipated. It is planned to hold a Council meeting in April to discuss and approve this and Dr Harris will deliver hard copies of the Report to Council members a week before the meeting, which will all be delivered on the same day. She may need to make changes dependent on the decisions of the Council at its special Meeting. The revised version will be published on the RA web site, and via the RA's email list. Hard copies will also be provided for those without access to a computer.

JE emphasised that in line with the instructions agreed by the Council for the conduct of the Enquiry, the Draft Report must be regarded as strictly confidential to Council members.

It was agreed that the special (closed) meeting to discuss the draft Report will take place on Monday 16th April at the Free Church at 8.00pm,

The RA will have to decide what, if any, further action they should take as a result of the Report as well as point out minor grammatical errors and inaccuracies and ensure that the questions raised have been answered and that the RA understand what has been said.

10. Reports from RA Committee

a Consam

TG said that Consam is continuing to work on the Energy Saving report and looking at recommendations for the Alexander Stuart Gray award.

b Events

Hustings Meeting

DLt reported that the Hustings meeting will be held on Thursday 19th April at 8.00pm at the Free Church Hall. Prior to this date he will have a demonstration of the sound system.

Brian Coleman had declined the RA's invitation to attend and it was agreed that he should be asked to provide a deputy. There will be representatives from the Labour, Lib Dems and Green Parties. DLt will find out the names of parties of any other candidates standing.

The Council thanked Richard Wiseman for agreeing to chair the meeting.

DLt
RWi

New Residents' Party Noted that JS offered to organise this during May.

JS

Michael Rowley Memorial Lecture

This will be held on May 12 at 2.00pm at the Friends Meeting House. Professor Jane Ridley will talk about her great grandfather Edward Lutyens. It was agreed that the voluntary donation of £5 should not be increased, despite this not covering the costs of the event. JE said that the RA should look into how much longer we should hold this event. SA suggested that instead the RA might offer an annual Henrietta Barnet Lecture.

Jubilee and Suburb Weekend

It was agreed by Council that a formal letter which had been prepared by Colin Gregory will be sent to the Queen on the occasion of her Jubilee. It will be written by a calligrapher.

"The Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association, on behalf of the residents of Hampstead Garden Suburb, offers loyal and heartfelt congratulations to Your Majesty on the occasion of Your Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

Your Majesty's unswerving dedication has set an example to us all throughout Your Reign. In a fast-changing world your renewed pledge reminds us, young and old, of the values that do not change.

Your Majesty has spoken often of the importance of voluntary service. Dame Henrietta Barnett, the founder of Hampstead Garden Suburb, whose ideals we seek to uphold, also believed strongly that voluntary service was key to solving social ills. As we search for ways to keep alive the sense of community she fostered and adapt to the twenty-first century, we are encouraged by the support the Suburb has received from the Royal Family, most recently from His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester.

We look forward to the Diamond Jubilee celebrations in June and the shared sense of enjoyment that these will bring to the Nation.

We wish Your Majesty good health and a long Reign: sentiments felt by communities throughout the Commonwealth and beyond."

Jubilee Street Parties

The RA would like to encourage street parties and it was noted that LB Barnet will offer free insurance cover for any party on any of the three days of the Jubilee Weekend. Details of this will be included in the next edition of Suburb News. **DLt/RW**

Suburb Weekend Summer - be held on Saturday and Sunday 14/15th July.

Exhibition on Cultural Diversity - held in the Free Church throughout the weekend

Suburb Picnic - will take place on Central Square on Sunday July 15th from 12.30pm. Dlt will organize conjurors, face painting, a band and tables and chairs will be provided. Early arrivals will receive a free drink. The Council stressed its wish to have a high level of local publicity for this event.

Noted: that there will also be an event in Golders Hill Park on Jubilee Monday.

c Publications

The next edition of Suburb News will be published on 28th April. Other editions of Suburb e.News will be produced and distributed as needed.

d Roads and Traffic

GS reported that the East Finchley action group had lost their High Court appeal against the increased parking charges levied by LB Barnet. GS is still working on residents' parking tickets.

RJ said that scratch cards for parking vouchers can be purchased from the Market Place library.

e Trees and Open Spaces

EJ reported that a Diamond Jubilee tree had been planted at the corner of Finchley Road and Temple Fortune Lane but it still needs a suitable plaque.

The Horticultural Society are also planting a Jubilee tree and are looking for a suitable site.

Oak Tree at 39 Willifield Way

EJ also reported that at the hearing on 5 March, LB Barnet refused to give the permission applied for to fell this oak tree.

Bigwood Action Day

TG said that this will be held on March 10 with a further one planned on April 21. He hoped that there would be a good response from Council members.

HGS Trust Tree Survey

In recognition of this need to have a policy for managing tree, the Trust is carrying out an extensive survey to identify important trees on the land they own on the Suburb plus those in private gardens. They are trying to identify further suitable volunteers to help with this survey. The Trees committee have offered to help with this project.

11. To note future programme of Council and Open Meeting

Tuesday 3 April – This will be a short Council meeting to confirm the Committees and RA Representatives.

Tuesday 1 May

Tuesday 7 July

Tuesday 4 September

It was agreed that there should be no meeting on Tuesday 5 June as it is a Bank Holiday, but an open meeting may be held if a suitable subject is identified.

Hustings Open Meeting on 19 April at 8pm at Free Church Hall.