



Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday
4th October 2016 at Fellowship House, Willifield Way at 8.00pm

Present: David B Lewis - in the Chair, Barbara Bliss, Tony Brand, Terry Brooks ,
Tony Ghilchik, Colin Gregory, Anita Harlow, Louise Hillman, David Littaur, Jonathan
Seres, Gary Shaw, Hella Shrader, Ann Spencer, Ian Tutton, Diane Walsh, Rosemary
Goldstein (Secretary to the Council).

Visitors: Brian Ingram, Joyce Littaur and Paul Spaul

1. Apologies for Absence

Received from Charles Gale. Alan Brudney, Lynda Cook, Jeremy Hershkorn, Harry
Simmonds, Max Petersen, Simon Sackman, Peter McCluskie

2. Question Time

Central Square

Brian Ingram asked why there is no mention of the RA's contribution to the
refurbishment of Central Square on the LB Barnet web site which refers to Central
Square Residents and HGS Trust. The funding provided by the RA so far amounts
to £8,750. He would like an article in Suburb News to inform residents about this.
Council agreed and Tony Ghilchik will ask for this to be amended on the web site. **TG**
Brian Ingram would also like the RA's contribution to be included on the Trust's web
site. Tony Ghilchik said that the planting will commence this month and 4/5 of the
planting will be completed by the end of October.

Diane Walsh asked when the official opening will be held but Tony Ghilchik said that
this has not yet been decided. The Chairman suggested that the Mayor of London
should be invited to open this. The Chairman also suggested that the steering group
should consider a plaque stating who has financed the project and Ian Tutton said
that the Free Church would be happy to host this. The Chairman confirmed that the
Trust has agreed to provide the maintenance for Central Square.

3. Approval of Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 6th September 2016
These were approved.

To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 27th
September 2016
These were received.

4. Committee Reports

Trees and Open Spaces

In response to a question Tony Ghilchik confirmed that one more application of weed killer had been carried out in Central Square.

Events

Memorial Seats

The Chairman confirmed that the refurbishment of the memorial seats are the responsibility of LB Barnet. Hella Schrader had prepared a list of seats needing refurbishment and Jonathan Seres agreed to take this up with LB Barnet as a one off project. **JS**

The Chairman explained that he would like to reinstate two Lutyens benches at the side of the Henrietta Barnet Memorial in Central Square: one in memory of Richard Wakefield and other for Raymond Unwin. This is subject to finance and costings

Events have agreed to take over this portfolio and David Littaur has written to LB Barnet.

Vote of Confidence

****Please see post-meeting note at the end of this section***

Peter McCluskie had written of his concern over the large amount of money spent on RA events like the Summer Picnic and the New Year Fireworks. He had quoted as follows in a private email to the Chairman and Treasurer: "I do realise that there are major vested interests – in the form of the Events Committee". David Littaur had seen a copy by chance, because it was at the end of an email regarding budgets. He drew Council's attention to this phrase, indicating that his committee took exception to the wording and looked for an explanation. He asked for support from Council for the Events Committee and the work it does in organising successful events on the Suburb.

Terry Brooks proposed a Motion seconded by Gary Shaw: *That the Council has confidence in the Events Committee.* This was passed unanimously.

Ian Tutton had made a distinction between the debate on finances and the reference to "vested interests" with its implication of perks for Events members.

During the course of the following debate on Events expenditure Anita Harlow walked out of the meeting.

Post-meeting note:

Peter McCluskie and David Littaur have agreed to issue a joint statement. They recently met to resolve the misunderstanding about the use of the term "vested interests". David Littaur now understands and accepts that Peter McCluskie never intended any sinister implications. He had merely tried to express the thought that if people assume a heavy commitment to their project for a long period of time, their actions are coloured by the fact that they tend to become emotionally involved.

Fireworks

There was a long discussion regarding the actual figures included in the budget for the fireworks. Hella Schrader explained that this year although the fireworks will cost £4,600 after projected revenue but there is no sponsor as yet and if it rains there could be few participants and a minimal collection. However, in the past expenditure has often been significantly less than budgeted.

It was stated that In 2015 the fireworks cost £4,825 and the income received was £1,900 which meant that the net cost was £3,000. The RA Chairman said he would like to see a realistic figure included in the Budget

The forecast for 2016 is £6,210 but it was agreed that this should be reduced due to the £600 refundable deposit payable to LB Barnet. The actual cost of the fireworks themselves his year was stated as £4,020 but that excluded extras such as insurance.

Publications

Terry Brooks reported on a friendly and successful party for the deliverers of Suburb News, which had cost less than the budgeted amount.

Litter

Ann Spencer reported on the accumulation of litter by Brookland Rise. She will report this to LB Barnet. **AS**

Tony Brand said that he had been informed that once there is a new Green Team (what is this?) LB Barnet will accept a request to provide more litter picker devices.

Roads and Traffic

Gary Shaw reported that LB Barnet had suggested a scheme to alleviate the congestion caused by footballers and other visitors parking on Sunday afternoons around KingsleyWay/Kingsley Close. Barbara Bliss would like some alterations to these proposals and she was asked to contact LB Barnet direct with her concerns.

BB

5. Finance

The Treasurer circulated a draft budget for 2017 where she had tried to provide a break even position. Council members were asked to look at this and email her with any concerns or comments. This will be discussed at the November Council meeting.

St Jude's Proms

The Chairman said that the actual amount of the RA's donation could be changed if there were any financial reasons to do so. He was asked why the Celebration Brochure prepared by the Proms Committee did not mention the RA. David Littaur thought that this may be an oversight. It was agreed that future grants by the RA should specify conditions.

Membership

Ann Spencer asked what the committee was doing to boost membership of the RA. Hella Schradrer would welcome any ideas from Council.

It was explained that the RA Constitution provides that residents can join the RA on moving to the Suburb and although they can be co-opted to a standing committee they must wait two years before applying to join the RA Council. This enables them to become familiar with the work of the RA.

6 Any Other Business

Trees

Diane Walsh was concerned that a tree had been cut down outside 61/63 Lyttelton Road. This is not the responsibility of LB Barnet, but Transport for London, and Ann Spencer will ask them to explain the reason for this. **AS**

A tree planted to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee was cut down by LB Barnet and must be replaced in Temple Fortune and Council agreed that the replacement tree should conform to the original tree planting scheme for the Suburb.

Road Sign

Diane Walsh said that a road sign at the corner of Widdicombe Way/ Vivien Way had fallen into disrepair. It was thought this may be awaiting repair. The Chairman will be report this to LBB.

New Constituency Boundary

Ian Tutton asked Council whether they wish to make any representations on the new proposals for boundary changes. This will be discussed at the October EC meeting and the November Council.

HGS Institute

Tony Brand asked whether the RA wishes to consider purchasing the name of the HGS Institute from the liquidator to stop it being used by any other organisation. Jonathan Seres suggested that the RA offer £250 to purchase this. He asked Ian Tutton whether he may wish to use this name for the adult education classes that he is trying to coordinate on the Suburb.

Ian Tutton said that he did not wish to use this name. His group is called 'HGS Learning' to distinguish itself from the Institute.

The EC will discuss this further at the October meeting.

7. To confirm the date of the next Meetings as 1st November and 6th December

These dates were confirmed and It was agreed that the September 2017 meeting will be held on 31st August.