



Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday  
29 August 2017 at the Free Church Hall at 8 pm

Present: David B Lewis - in the Chair, Barbara Bliss, Tony Brand, Terry Brooks ,  
Tony Ghilchik, Emma Howard, Peter McCluskie, Max Petersen, Jonathan Seres,  
Gary Shaw, Harry Simmonds, Ann Spencer, Peter Spaul ,Rosemary Goldstein  
(Secretary to the Council).

Visitors: Brian Ingram

**1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Jeremy Hershkorn, Colin Gregory, David Littaur.  
Adrian Hodgson, Simon Sackman, Alan Brudney and Ian Tutton

**2. Question Time**

Hedge in Kingsley Way

Brian Ingram raised the question of the broken hedge at the top of Kingsley Way  
where someone had driven through and destroyed part of it.

Emma Howard explained that she had spoken to the HGS Trust and LB Barnet and  
had ascertained that this hedge is the responsibility of LB Barnet. She had also  
involved Cllr Marshall

The hedge is showing signs of growing back but she will follow this up next week.

**Action EH**

Roundabout at Meadway/Litchfield Way

Brian Ingram also raised the question of the work to be carried out at the Meadway  
Litchfield Way roundabout where he had applied for a grant from the RA of £150 from  
Trees and Open Spaces Committee. Tony Ghilchik said that he had requested and  
still awaits a completed application form from Brian Ingram to replace the original  
'adopt a place' statement and specifying the new arrangements agreed with LB  
Barnet.

LB Barnet had said that it is too dangerous for volunteers to work on this roundabout  
due to its small size and exposure to traffic.

**3. To approve the minutes of the previous Council meeting held on  
Tuesday 4 July 2017 and to consider any matters arising not otherwise on the  
Agenda**

To approve Minutes of Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017

**7. Financial Matters**

This should be deleted

### Membership

David Lewis had asked for a volunteer on the HGS discussion group to assist Membership but no one had been forthcoming. He will send a further appeal in September. **Action DBL**

### Advertising for Suburb News and Directory

Terry Brooks said that despite what the EC had discussed he considered that a volunteer rather than a paid helper was the best way forward. He thought that the RA could lose more money that they make and the Suburb News already covers its costs.

Emma Howard had spent some time helping with selling advertising and she said that she is happy to continue to do this.

David Lewis said that all RA publications do not have to make a profit

Terry Brooks will follow up an approach to King Alfred School. Action **Terry B**

Emma Howard thought that advertisements in the Suburb Directory were inexpensive.

Peter Spaul suggested that tradesmen who are mentioned on the recommended list of the HGS Trust could be approached. Jonathan Seres agreed to obtain information from the Trust about any recommended building contractors including those dealing with widows and roofs. **Action JS**

## **4. To receive the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on Tuesday 18 July 2017 and to consider any matters arising not otherwise on the Agenda**

### 5. Financial matters

### Insurance policy

This should read

Emma Howard told the EC that the RA is paying £359pa for their insurance policy with Bluefin which is renewable on 1<sup>st</sup> April. This provides £50,000 cover for Directors and £5,000,000 for public liability as well as for other matters which are not relevant to the RA.

She had consulted the lawyers on the RA and had also spoken to an insurance broker. He confirmed that the RA would not be able to obtain terrorism insurance for a building which they do not own and Churches tend not to have this cover. If the Free Church chooses not to insure this risk, then they cannot hold the Council of the RA responsible should a terrorist event occur. Most terrorism events are not claimable and the RA must take all sensible precautions at all RA events.

The broker had recommended that the RA obtain £1,000,000 cover for Directors and £10,000,000 for public liability, albeit it was very unlikely that a claim against a Council member would be upheld.

Emma Howard has received an estimate from Zurich Insurance for £1,000,000 for Director cover and £10,000,000 for public liability cover. The premium would be £210.79pa. with no excess payable. The RA would need to provide and maintain a risk assessment for Public Events.

She said that she awaited a quote for similar cover from Blue Fin

Gary Shaw pointed out that the lengthy policy comprising 210 pages, from Zurich Insurance could contain much exclusion and we should ascertain why this policy is cheaper

At the end of this discussion Emma Howard received an email from Bluefin to say that they would increase the premium paid by the RA by £47.53 pa for the extra cover required for public liability but would not increase the directors' (Council) liability cover.

Therefore the EC recommended that the RA continue with Bluefin at the enhanced level. **Action EH**

Pedestrian Safety Meeting

Delete the second line

Refuse Collection

Delete the last sentence in italics

**5. Proposed Co-option of Hella Schrader to RA Council**

David Lewis proposed and Max Petersen seconded a Motion

*'That Hella Schrader be appointed to RA Council'*

This was passed unanimously

The HGSRA Standing Orders were suspended for the next Motion

David Lewis proposed and Max Petersen seconded a Motion

*'That Hella Schrader be appointed to the EC of the HGSRA'*

This was passed unanimously

**6. Treasurer's report and any other financial matters**

Insurance

Emma Howard told Council she had spoken to a senior insurance consultant who confirmed that it is common for churches not to insure against terrorism. The RA is unable to get terrorism insurance on buildings where they do have an interest He had recommended that the RA have public liability insurance for £10 million rather than £5 million and Directors insurance for £1 million instead of £50,000 although it was unlikely that a claim against a Council member would be upheld

Emma Howard had received a quote from the RA's existing insurers Bluefin who would charge an extra premium of £47.53 for increasing the public liability cover to £10 million but they could not increase the Directors liability cover under their basic cover and a quote for enhanced cover is awaited.

Zurich insurance had given an alternative quote for £210.77 which is far less than Bluefin and includes the increased public liability and directors cover but they require a risk assessment for every meeting

Peter McCluskie suggested that this could be an Agenda item at RA meetings Jonathan Seres offered to produce a draft risk assessment form for Tony Brand and Adrian Hodgson. **Action JS**

Emma Howard proposed and Max Petersen seconded a Motion

*'That the HGSRA change their insurance cover to Zurich insurance Group'*

This was passed unanimously

Jonathan Seres will liaise with Emma Howard, Tony Brand, and David Lewis regarding the actual policy document. **Action JS**

It was agreed that the insurance policy with Bluefin should not be cancelled until the RA is satisfied with the terms of Zurich policy

Emma Howard said that Bluefin had indicated that they would refund a proportion of the premium paid less an administrative fee of £50

Jonathan Seres told Council that unless the Free Church agrees to change their policy the RA may not use the Free Church unless we give them an indemnity against terrorism risk which the RA is unable to do

Emma Howard said that it is the Council of the elders who decide and the insurance broker said that it is common for churches not to insure against Terrorism

Jonathan Seres added that it is a condition of making the church available and therefore the RA would be accepting liability

David Lewis considered that if this is the case the RA should no longer use the Free Church for meetings.

Peter McCluskie said that the RA needs to ask the question and write to the Church elders to ask whether they do make it a condition to accept terrorism liability for the RA's use of the Free Church

Jonathan Seres thought that there should be a legal sub committee to pursue this and he pointed out that the RA must be very careful.

Peter Spaul asked what the other groups who use the Church are doing about this.

Jonathan Seres and Peter McCluskie will liaise with the Free Church regarding this issue and will report back **Action JS, PM**

## **7. Matters raised by Council members**

### (i) Traffic matters – A1 Road Safety

Gary Shaw said that there were four main issues arising out of the Pedestrian Safety Meeting on 6 July, namely Ossulton Way Junction, 30mph signage, the right turn out of Bute Mews west of Market Place and cyclists riding on the pavement of A1 hitting a pedestrian

On 13<sup>th</sup> July there a further meeting site meeting was held with the Councillors, Barnet Officers and TfL reps and Jonathan Seres and Gary Shaw, to discuss these issues.

Councillors agreed that something needed to be done but said there could be knock on problems and TfL are reluctant to make alterations that may disrupt the traffic flow. This needs political intervention and support of the residents.

A small survey with 75 leaflets were distributed to businesses and residents in the immediate area about the possible re-phasing of the traffic lights at the Ossulton Way junction to creating a longer all red phase.

Only 8 houses responded and no shops, with mixed views.

A draft response to Cllr Grover had been circulated with a small amendment indicating 8 rather than 6 responses and Gary Shaw sought the approval of Council to send it.

Jonathan Seres explained that the purpose is not to persuade the Councillors and TfL as they recognised the danger but to alleviate the concerns that there a rat run could be created and cars will back up in Ossulton Way.

Gary Shaw said that a week after the meeting TfL carried out speed checks at several locations along Falloden Way. He will check the results but thought that there had been a high level of compliance. TfL had agreed to carry out a further speed check once the Schools have started

Barbara Bliss thought that the speed cameras may not be working properly along Aylmer Road

A Motion was proposed by Peter McCluskie and seconded by Tony Ghilchik

*'That the draft note circulated to Council as slightly amended should be approved and forwarded to TfL'*

This was approved unanimously

(ii) Golders Green Development and associated matters

Peter McCluskie told the Council that this issue was not a matter for any particular Committee at this stage although it could become one.

This project was unrelated to the planning brief earlier in the year and is a separate issue

David Lewis, Ann Spencer and Peter McCluskie had attended a joint meeting with Golders Green Station Action Group and LB Barnet consultants Fluid and Soundings (two separate firms) on 14 August

The objective is a community led improvement of Golders Green town centre stretching from the Hippodrome to the Library and from the bridge at Finchley Road to Sainsbury

The consultants said that they have undertaken similar projects in Church End Finchley and Muswell Hill. They told the meeting that they have no fixed ideas plans or proposals but want to understand what residents want. They believe that there are opportunities to improve shops, traffic, leisure uses and the environment. They will set up a web site and undertake activities for data collection from businesses and residents and report back to LB Barnet by the end of December.

The RA agreed to publicise the exercise but challenge the contention that any change is necessary or desirable. The shopping area is a conservation area and the only possible change would be the reduction in signage and street clutter and the exercise seems to be unnecessary and a waste of public money

At this stage there does not seem to be any positive or negative impact on the Suburb

It was proposed that David Lewis, Ann Spencer and Peter McCluskie continue as an informal working group overseeing this project with Peter McCluskie as the main liaison person and that they report back to Council

David Lewis added that the consultants do not know the area and there already is a nice environment and it could look worse after they make changes.

Harry Simmonds told Council that the Hippodrome had been sold to an Islamic group who would use it as an Islamic centre and Mosque. The building is listed. There would be no change of use as it was already being used by a Christian organisation

Peter McCluskie proposed and Terry Brooks seconded a Motion that

*'Council resolves to create a temporary working group to monitor the Golders Green Strategy project and to liaise with the LB Barnet, their project consultants, the Golders Green Station Action Group, the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust and all other interested parties and report progress to Council.'*

*The initial membership of the group is to be David Lewis, Peter McCluskie and Ann Spencer. The working group may co-opt other member as necessary'*

This was passed unanimously

**8. To receive any reports from sub committees.**

Trees and Open Spaces

The Chairman thanked the committee for their work on the SPD on Green Infrastructure.

David = Was this what you thanked the committee for?

**9. To receive any reports from representatives on outside bodies**

Report on HGS Heritage Project

Jonathan Seres told the Council that the HGS Virtual Museum project will be launched on 29<sup>th</sup> October at Fellowship House

Terry Brooks will prepare an enews informing residents about it and hopefully there will be an article in the next edition of Suburb News.

This project started with a grant from the RA for £5000 when it was hoped that there would be an actual museum in the Tea House but this building was subsequently sold.

Simon Abbott with the help of Steve Morris and representatives from sixteen Suburb organisations had been working on a virtual museum for some time.

Jonathan Seres is the RA's representatives

Harry Simmonds suggested that before it is launched it is tested by ordinary residents to check it is user friendly and Jonathan Seres will raise this with the organisers **Action JS**

Memorial Bench

The two Memorial benches in Central Square will be installed and a date for the unveiling is awaited.

Harry Simmonds said that two replacement benches had been installed by the Health Centre and there are three more which need attention

David Lewis has the plaques which need to be screwed back on to the benches.

**Action HS**

Trees and Open Spaces

Jonathan Seres will liaise with Tony Ghilchik over improved litter bins **Action JS**

**10. To confirm the date and location of the next Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday 3 October 2017.**

This was confirmed and Max Petersen agreed to Chair the meeting in the absence of David Lewis

**11. Any other business notified to the Chairman in advance of the meeting and at the discretion of the Chairman.**

Bute Mews

Barbara Bliss had written to inform Council about group of youths who are using and possibly dealing drugs around the bench on the Northway Gardens path near the Kingsley Way entrance behind Bute Mews during afternoons and early evenings.

They leave a large amount of debris around the bench and in the last few weeks there have been a number of injection vials found. Barbara Bliss had left the meeting before this was discussed but Emma Howard agreed to take this matter to the local Police Ward Panel meeting next week to ascertain what can be done: **Action EH**