



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held on 21 March 2013 at the Henrietta Barnet School Hall at 8 pm

Janet Elliott took the Chair and welcomed residents, visitors, Councillors and Honorary Life Members to the 101st Annual General Meeting.

She thanked Mr Oliver Blond, Head Teacher and the Henrietta Barnett School for allowing their hall to be used for this meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence - apologies were read out. These included Richard Wakefield, former RA Chairman, and continuing member of the RA Council, who was recovering from a major operation. She invited members to join her in wishing him a full recovery.

2. Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting dated 26 March 2012

A Motion to approve the minutes was proposed by John Freeborn, seconded by Pia Duran and carried nem con.

3. Approval of Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for 2012

Janet Elliott drew the attention of the meeting to the Annual Report and Accounts which this year, experimentally had been sent to all HGS households. She thanked all the several hundred residents who contribute to the work of the RA in a variety of capacities and drew attention to the detailed accounts of the work of RA committees and others as set out in the Annual Report. In 2012 residents of HGS had celebrated the Queen's Jubilee with street parties and many had volunteered in a variety of capacities for the London Olympics and Paralympics.

During the year the RA, had completed its review of the role of the RA in respect of the planning applications in 2008-9 for the Henrietta Barnett School extensions and thanked Professor Dr Margaret Harris for her expert and sensitive approach to carrying out the review which had been published in full in September. The implementation of her recommendations was an ongoing process

Also during the year the RA had continued its series of Open meetings which helped us to keep in touch with opinions of residents on topical issues and which clearly indicated that the Suburb did not on these occasions speak with one voice.

Jeremy Clynes presented the accounts for the year as set out in the Annual Report. Expenditure had been well within budget and the cancellation of the New Year Fireworks and Party had resulted in a higher than anticipated surplus. He drew attention to the presentation of the costs of the Harris report, as reported. The figure in the accounts was correct after the netting off of a generous donation for £1000 from the John S Cohen

Foundation. The Gallery had again had a very successful year, which has meant that money could be put aside to cover the costs of display panels showing with information about the Suburb to be on display in between temporary exhibitions. Jeremy thanked Paul Hartley, the RA Honorary accountant for examining the accounts and for all his help and advice throughout the year.

A motion to adopt the Annual Report and Statement of Account was proposed by Leonie Stephen, seconded by Jonathan Seres and carried nem con.

4. Elections of Officers and Council Members for 2013-14

Election of Officers The following had been nominated by the Council for re-election as Officers of the Association:

Janet Elliott – Chairman

Jonathan Seres – Vice Chairman

Jeremy Clynes – Treasurer

There was once again no nomination for the position of Hon Secretary.

A motion to elect the three officers was proposed by Claire Calman, seconded by Michael Milner, and carried nem con on a show a hands.

Election of members of the Council

Simon Abbott, Eva Jacobs and Judith Samson were standing down from the Council at this AGM and the Chairman thanked them for their invaluable contributions to the work of the RA over many years.

Nominations for election for 2013-14 included:

The following members of the Council who retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election:

Peter Beesley, Douglas Blausten, Alan Brudney, David Littaur, the Rev. Dr Ian Tutton and Richard Wiseman;

In addition, John Sells, currently Chair of Consam, who was co-opted to the Council in spring 2012, is standing election for the first time with the support of the Council,

A motion to election these nominees was proposed by Janet Elliott, seconded by Jeremy Clynes and passed nem con.

In addition to the above, Brian Ingram, had been nominated by Dr B J Paterson and seconded by Douglas Blausten, and offered himself for election to the Council. Members were invited to show their agreement

A motion to elect Brian Ingram was proposed by Jonathan Seres and seconded by Rosemary Goldstein and carried nem con.

Janet Elliott reminded those present that after these elections there would still be some vacancies on Council. There is a constant need for volunteers who can give their time and effort. Co-options to council and standing committees can be made throughout the year, and members interested should get in touch with her to discuss possibilities.

5. To consider the suggested annual subscription for Membership year 2014

The Council recommended that for 2014 there should be no change to the suggested annual subscription of £15 per household, which had been in place since 2007. The average annual voluntary subscription for 2012 had been £16.10 a small rise on the previous year. Over 800 families now pay by standing order.

6. To appoint an Honorary Accountant

The Chairman thanked Paul Hartley for acting as Honorary Accountant of the Association and for agreeing to continue for a further year.

A Motion to re-appoint Paul Hartley as the RA's Hon Accountant was proposed Tony Ghilchik and seconded by Max Petersen and passed nem con.

7, To appoint Honorary Life Members

The RA Council has recommended that Alan and Eva Jacobs who had each given many years of work to the RA, Alan as a member of Consam and the Trust PPC and

Eva as a member of the Council and of the Trees and Open Spaces Committee.

A Motion to appoint Alan and Eva Jacobs, was proposed by David Littaur, seconded by Pia Duran and passed nem con.

8. To present the Alexander Stuart Gray award for 2013

John Sells, Chair of Consam, reported that the award for 2013, was to Louise and Stephen Kalms of Denman Drive for work on an interesting linked extension to their home. The architect was Nick Brill of the Brill and Owen Architectural Partnership. Unfortunately neither Mr and Mrs Kalms nor the architect were able to be present this evening but that they would be presented with their awards shortly.

9. Any Other Business

The Chairman invited members present to ask questions or otherwise comment and the following matters were raised:

Community Library

Virginia Segal thanked Jonathan Seres, Jeremy Clynes and Jan Teteris for their work in setting up the new Community Library which she felt was providing an enhanced service to the community.

Fellowship

John Hewson, Chairman of Fellowship, thanked the RA for their support for Fellowship throughout the year.

Current CPZ issues

Several residents spoke expressing their differing feelings about the recent proposals from the LB of Barnet, viz:

Michael Milner, who explained that he and his wife were both opposed to the CPZ which they considered created displacement parking without addressing underlying problems;

Mark Sinden, whose view was that it was largely a money making exercise, but that the result of introducing the proposed extension would mean that residents of Hogarth Hill, like himself, would soon be forced into joining a/the CPZ, He favoured a suburb-wide CPZ.

Diane Iwi, who lives in the stretch of Meadway between Hampstead Way and Heathgate, welcomed the proposed CPZ, as she is currently unable to park outside her house at any time during the day and her access drive is also frequently blocked.

Peter Oliver, explained that the Suburb has been written about as being the nearest free parking area to the centre of London with the result that outsiders come for all day parking and local families are unable to park near their home.

RA announcements

Summer Funday – 23 June

Janet Elliott, announced details of the Summer Funday planned for Sunday, 23 June (first weekend of the Proms at St. Jude's) which she recommended . It will be an expanded version of the recent summer picnics with facilities for both picnicking and entertainment for young children and adults of all ages.

New home for the Institute

Janet Elliott, who is the RA representative on the Institute Council, informed members that as reported at the Institute's AGM the previous evening, the Institute has taken steps to secure its future on the edge of HGS>

She can members of the Institute's recent financial problems and the hard work that had gone on over the last few years to turn the finances round so that a surplus had been achieved in the year to summer 2012 for the first time in many years. She confirmed that the Institute would continue to run some day time courses at the Art Centre (by East Finchley Station) and a wider range of courses in the evening in that building for the year commencing September 2013.

However, there had also been an intensive hunt for a further, permanent home. Yesterday the Institute had announced a long-term link with Bishop Douglass School, Hamilton Road (off East End Road, N2), which would enable them to secure their future in a site close to HGS. Full details would be available shortly but for the present those plans included participation with Bishop Douglass in the building of a new arts building suitable for both the school's own use and Institute use as an adult education centre. The Institute's position would be secured via a long-term lease.

Community Library

Jeremy Clynes said that the new Suburb Community Library had been open for a year and 1050 users had loaned 10,000 books. It has been granted charitable status. There are also many activities at the Library including a Book Club, children's' activities and meetings with the Police Safer Neighbourhood Team. He thanked Jana Tetris and Hetty Colchester and the Barnet Councillors who made it possible. In reply to a question about whether the Library would like second hand books, Jeremy Clynes said that the Library is very small and

unfortunately cannot accept these with the exception of books recommended by the local schools. They receive an annual grant from LB Barnet to buy new books.

However, a second hand book sale will be organised in the autumn to raise funds, when donations of books would be much appreciated.

Susie Gregson said that during the last weekend in April there will be a book fair to raise money for St Jude's and any left-over books would be given to charity.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm for refreshments.