



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26 March 2019
at the Henrietta Barnet School Hall at 8.00pm

1. RA Chair's welcome and announcements

1.1 Emma Howard welcomed everyone present to the 107th Annual General Meeting of the Residents Association, including the Garden Suburb Ward Councillors Rohit Grover, John Marshall and Gabriel Rozenberg; also Raymond Taylor, a trustee from HGS Trust.

1.2 She thanked all RA volunteers for their work over the past year and, in particular, Hella Schrader and her Events team for helping to organise the meeting including providing the refreshments.

1.3 A ballot paper, AGM pack and a green voting card had been supplied to each member household present.

1.4 A risk assessment had been carried out in accordance with the agreed format.

2. Apologies for absence

These were received from Jeremy & Anna Clynes, Andrew Dismore AM, Eva & Alan Jacobs, Cllr Arjun Mittra, Cllr Alison Moore, Nick Packard, David & Jane Rapson, Jenny & Brian Stonhold, David White and Richard Wiseman.

3. Special General Meeting to consider recommended changes to the Constitution

3.1 The meeting convened as a Special General Meeting.

3.2 Paper copies of the proposed changes to the Constitution, with an explanatory note, had been made available as part of the AGM pack and had been posted on the HGS web site

3.3 The Hon Secretary explained the changes which had been divided into four groups. After the explanation had been given, for each group, the Meeting was given an opportunity to ask questions and to approve the changes by a show of green cards.

3.4 All the proposed changes to the Constitution were approved Nem Con.

4. To approve the minutes of the last AGM

Paper copies of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26 March 2018 had been made available as part of the AGM pack and had been posted on the HGS web site. The minutes were approved Nem Con by a show of green cards.

5. To receive and approve the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2018

5.1 Paper copies of the annual accounts for the twelve months to 31st December 2018 had been made available as part of the AGM pack and had been posted on the HGS web site.

5.2 The Hon Treasurer explained that a projected deficit of £6,000 had been turned into a surplus of £9,000. This had been achieved after cost cuttings and increases in subscription, advertising and sponsorship income

5.3 A proposal to receive and approve the Annual Report and Accounts was passed Nem Con by a show of green cards.

6. To consider the annual subscription for the membership year 2019

The RA Council had recommended that there be no change to the suggested minimum annual subscription of £15 per household. This was approved Nem Con by a show of green cards.

7. To Appoint an Honorary Accountant

The Chair thanked Paul Hartley for acting as Hon. Accountant of the Association for many years and for agreeing to continue for a further year. A proposal to appoint Paul Hartley as Hon. Accountant was passed Nem Con by a show of green cards

8. To Elect Officers and Council Members for 2019/20.

8.1 The following candidates had been nominated for election as officers of the RA Council:

Chair – Emma Howard
Hon. Secretary – Peter McCluskie
Hon. Treasurer – Steve Morris

8.2 The following candidates had been nominated for election as members of RA Council, including four members who had retired by rotation:

Terry Brooks
Alan Brudney
Helen Leiser
Hella Schrader
Harry Simmonds

8.3 Helen Leiser who was facing election for the first time, having been appointed to Council during 2018, gave the Meeting information about her background and experience, and work she had done for the RA and the Trust.

8.4 The following members of Council had stepped down since the previous AGM and were not standing for election:

Barbara Bliss
Max Petersen
Jonathan Seres

8.5 A presentation was made to Tony Ghilchik to thank him for his work as he was retiring as Chair of Trees & Open Spaces after ten years.

8.6 Terry Brooks who has been editing the Suburb News for many years is retiring at the end of 2019 and a volunteer is required to replace him.

8.7 Volunteers are needed to help with the Summer Fair which will be held on 16th June, and other events.

8.8 Public meetings will be held on 25th April with elected representatives and on 24th September on road safety awareness with the police.

8.9 Members of the RA were invited to complete their ballot papers which were counted and all the candidates were elected to the positions for which they had been nominated.

9. Any Other Business and questions from the floor

9.1 The Chair invited members and associate members to ask questions.

9.2 Among the issues raised were:

- the new planning application for Henrietta Barnett School especially the impact on traffic
- concern about future development of the Denman Drive garages and allotments
- concern about the bad state of the former Tea House in Northway
- the nuisance caused by parked vans and cars on Suburb roads and the wish by some members for there to be a CPZ in the entire Suburb
- concern about LB Barnet's new proposals for bin collections in a section of Temple Fortune Lane and in Waterlow Court
- difficulties in reporting issues by phone or via the website to LB Barnet
- theft and vandalism of numerous cars around Middleway/Litchfield Way
- street robbery of school children in recent weeks
- speeding in Temple Fortune Lane
- the need for double yellow lines at the Heathgate/Meadway junction where there is a restricted view
- the possibility of a scheme to monitor the use by gardeners of noisy equipment and the need for them to use quieter electric cordless hedge cutters
- providing digital copies of Suburb News in place of paper ones; and
- the need to increase RA membership.

9.3 These concerns raised by residents were noted by the RA and the Councillors present.

9.4 The meeting adjourned at 9.10pm.

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