### Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association

# Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 5 June 2007 at Fellowship House at 8.00pm

Present: David B Lewis in the Chair
John Boulter (Hon Treasurer), Denis Baron, Terry Brooks, Dave Brown, Alan
Brudney, Jean Barraclough, Carol Boulter, Derek Chandler, Francois
Crompton-Roberts, Jane Elliott, Derek Epstein, Nicole Gerber, Rosemary
Goldstein (Secretary to the Council), Rosalind Josephs, David Lewis (Vice-Chairman), David Littaur, Georgina Malcolm, Steve Morris, Selwyn Nakan
Max Petersen, Brian Rivett, Gary Shaw, Will Sowerbutts, Leonie Stephen,
Richard Wakefield.

Visitors: Joyce Littaur, Constance Benson, Peter Falk, Paul O'Leary

1	Apologies for Absence Received from Simon Abbott, Peter Beesley, Colin Gregory, Eva Jacobs, Richard Kemp, and Alan Walker.	
2	Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting	
3	Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda  RA Nominee for the Institute Carol Boulter had spoken to a resident who said it is difficult to become a member of the Institute Society and to effect any change. Richard Wakefield thought that it is now easier. Alan Brudney encouraged Council members to join and to attend the AGM.	
	Jean Barraclough will give a membership form to Rosemary Goldstein to photocopy and bring to the next meeting.	JB
	Banding of HGS Trust Management Charge Carol Boulter said that Richard Wakefield should be commended for resigning from the Trust Council on a matter of principle and if he decided to stand again for the Trust the RA Council should support him. GM asked Council members to join the Trust Company.	DBL
	The RA Council asked the Chairman to write to the Chairman of the Trust asking whether the Trust were intending to ballot residents in accordance with the resolution passed by the RA Council.	
	The EC will discuss whether the RA should put forward another candidate for the forthcoming Trust Council elections.	

## Incorporation of the RA Selwyn Nakan said that he and Derek Chandler had spent time looking into this and are nearly ready to produce the first draft of the necessary documentation. Fireworks on 24 June Alan Brudney said that the fireworks will be delivered next week and he would like some help during the afternoon of 24 June. The HBS School bursar had been asked whether the tennis courts next to St Jude's can be used. **Kenwood Concerts** A report had been received from Tony Ghilchik regarding the meeting. There were two proposals on the table: to keep a floating stage but to conceal it after each concert or to move to a new location near to the Henry Moore sculpture. There would be 8 concerts in a period of 7 weeks but there would be no deck chairs available. The concerts have not been making any money and the old style concerts will not be replaced. The amplification will be reduced. 4 **Question Time** Henrietta Barnett Memorial Joyce Littaur asked the position regarding the refurbishment of the Henrietta Barnett Memorial. It has now been made safe and the fencing has gone. Georgina Malcolm said that John Finney will be inspecting it as she was unhappy with the way it was looking. She said that two employees had left the Parks and Open Spaces Department and will not be replaced immediately. Richard Wakefield said that the planting on Central Square is poor GM and that the lawn is covered with grass cuttings. Georgina Malcolm will draft a letter for the Chairman to send to LB Barnet as it is important to have the square looking good for 17 June. Rosalind Josephs said that she had written to the litter pickers asking them to help clear up after the party on 17 June. 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the laying of the Foundation Stones of the first 5 two cottages on 5th June 1907 This was noted. 6 Further discussion over the new premises for the Gallery at Fellowship House Richard Wakefield said that the Suburb Gallery had now been in existence for 12 years with varied success. It is difficult to run with a team of volunteer helpers and the Gallery really needs to be manned all the time. Talks had begun about moving the Gallery to Fellowship House. The volunteers would not be alone and there

are kitchen and toilet facilities and a constant stream of people including the Garden Suburb School parents. The Trust has asked for a decision to be made before 20 June in order that it can give notice to Freshwaters. Carol Boulter asked what Fellowship thinks about this. Peter Falk who has recently become the Treasurer of Fellowship said that he would like to improve what he considers the 'appalling' relationship between the RA and the Fellowship and he would be very happy to work with Richard Wakefield on appropriate alterations. Fellowship will send out a letter to all their members asking for their opinion on this. Leonie Stephen was concerned that Fellowship is off the beaten track and that the Gallery may interfere with Fellowship activities. There was some urgency as Fellowship is closed during August and this is the time when any work would have to be carried out.

Fellowship and the RA would have to have some exchange of letter/contract to agree the terms agreed.

A motion was proposed by Max Peterson and seconded by Steve Morris: "That the EC is authorised to enter into negotiations with Fellowship and to agree favourable terms with them for operating the Gallery"

This was passed Nem.Con.

On a separate issue Janet Elliott pointed out that many residents gave a donation to Fellowship with their RA membership and as the annual subscription is £1 they may think that they are entitled to become a member, if they are over 60. The position should be clarified.

Reconsideration of the Marching Band at the Big Birthday Party on 17 June in view of the extra costs (approximately another £675 bringing the total to £3,700) plus the possibility of severe adverse weather.

The Chairman explained that the proposed band had increased their charges by £675. If it rains they will not be able to march as this may damage their uniform. The question of insurance against rain had been looked into and it would cost £200 but may not cover the exact circumstances required.

The Treasurer was against this and said that we have donated £3,500 to St Judes Proms but this is for a whole evening concert and he did not think that it is worth paying £4,000 for under an hour's entertainment. It is not on the RA's scale of activities Brian Rivett agreed to look into the scope of any insurance if this became necessary. Alan Brudney suggested that the Salvation Army band may be prepared to come which Carol Boulter endorsed and thought that it was in keeping with what the Suburb stands for. She considered that the cost was out of proportion.

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A motion was proposed by David Lewis and seconded by David Littaur

"That an additional £675 is made available for the Marching band for the big birthday party on 17 June"

There were 6 votes in favour and 12 against.

A further motion was proposed by John Boulter and seconded by Jean Barraclough

"That the RA do not accept the offer of contract for the marching band but the Birthday Party Committee is authorised to try to find a substitute for the Big Birthday party and spend up to £1,000. There were 14 votes in favour and 4 against

It was suggested that the dancers from May 1 celebrations could be invited to come again.

## 8 Approval of Centenary and other Expenditure

Re-imbursement of fees for four members of Consam to attend the Architectural conference

This application was withdrawn.

Authorisation of a provisional budget of £10,000 to be used to reduce street clutter on the Suburb provided it is matched by the same sum from Barnet

This would fulfil our pledge in the HGS Centenary appeal that some of the money would be used for permanent improvements to the Suburb.

Derek Epstein said that he had been trying to negotiate the removal of street clutter and unnecessary signs with LB Barnet for two years. He had agreed a formula with the Head of Highways that we would match the amount of money they spend and that we would have discretion on what it is spent on. Selwyn Nakan was concerned that this would only be a temporary improvement for the Suburb and it could easily revert. Consam had been preparing a handbook laying down policy which Barnet would need to agree to conform to if we made a grant.

Steve Morris said that this is only one of several worthwhile projects and there should be a wider discussion about which one is chosen. This view was supported by Richard Wakefield and Terry Brooks.

The Chairman said that £49,000 had been spent and this amount had been collected. He hoped that a further £22,000 would be raised from the Souvenir Brochure and from the sale of souvenir items.

John Boulter would prefer to wait and see how much is collected and then ascertain what the financial position is.

William Sowerbutts asked why the RA is carrying out work which should be done by LB Barnet. Perhaps we should obtain the consent of LB Barnet to carry out the work and then get our own contractors to do this. Terry Brooks said that unfortunately the precedent for this had been set some time ago.

Brian Rivett said that this is a purely pragmatic approach and LB Barnet will not do anything unless they are given money. It would be a shame not to seize this opportunity.

After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that this money should be taken out of the RA's ordinary funds which should be substantially larger with the increase in the RA subscription this year and should cover this expenditure.

Derek Epstein proposed and Brian Rivett seconded a resolution 'That the sum of £5,000 is made available for the reduction of street clutter on the Suburb in agreement with LB Barnet ,provided that LB Barnet match this sum of money'

David Littaur proposed and Brian Rivett seconded an amendment to the resolution: 'That the sum of £10,000 instead of £5,000 is made available for this purpose'

The amendment was passed by 10 votes in favour and 8 against.

The substantive resolution as amended was passed, with 12 votes in favour and 5 against.

#### Plague to the late Harold Wilson

The Chairman proposed a Motion which David Littaur seconded 'That the sum of £218 should be made available for refreshments after the ceremony on 21 June is completed'. This was passed Nem. Con.

Lady Wilson had agreed to attend with her son vProfessor Robin Wilson. Peter Mandelson had originally agreed but subsequently cancelled because he was needed at an EU summit.

#### 1 July Event

The RA had understood that Fellowship and the Garden Suburb were organising this event but Fellowship had not appreciated this and would not pay for the road closures (£300) and extra liability insurance (£200). The event was under threat of cancellation and a motion was proposed by David Lewis and seconded by Dave Brown

	'That the sum of £300 should be made available for the road closures and £200 for the extra liability insurance on 1 July' This was passed Nem Con.	
9	RA nominations to the Centenary Committee. Proposal that two additional members from Consam be nominated.  The Chairman wished to nominate Carol Boulter and Derek Epstein Eddie Caplin had said that he would be happy to welcome Carol Boulter and Derek Epstein to the Centenary Committee but had said that this committee will shortly be dissolved. Richard Wakefield is the Trust's nominee at the present.	
	A Motion was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by David Lewis	
	'That Carol Boulter and Derek Epstein be nominated to the Centenary Committee' It was passed Nem. Con.	
	It was also noted that Georgina Malcolm, as Trust employee, would become a Trust rather than an RA nominee on the committee.	
10	Any other urgent Business	
	Big Birthday Party 17 June David Littaur requested help with stewarding and council members should inform Dave Brown if they are able to help.	
	Royal Visit The Duke of Gloucester had agreed to attend the architectural conference on 12 July and may unveil a plaque. It is not known whether the Centenary Committee will be applying for a grant from the HGS Centenary Appeal to cover the cost.	
11	To confirm the date of the next Meeting on Tuesday 3 July preceded by a visit to the allotments starting from Fellowship House at 7 pm The Meeting will take place at 8 pm at Fellowship House	