

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 7 October 2008
at Fellowship House at 8 pm

Present: Vice-Chairman in the Chair

Simon Abbott, Tony Brand, John Boulter, Terry Brooks, Dave Brown, Alan Brudney, Janet Elliott, Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council), Eva Jacobs, Rosalind Josephs, David Littaur, Selwyn Nakan, Max Petersen, Richard Kemp, Judith Sampson, Will Sowerbutts, Leonie Stephen, Richard Wakefield,

Visitors: Joyce Littaur, Derek Epstein, Sally Lewis, Gillian van Gelder

The Chairman welcomed Judith Sampson to Council

1	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> Peter Beesley, Douglas Blausten, Carol Boulter, Colin Gregory, Gary Shaw, David B Lewis, Steve Morris, Nicole Gerber, Alan Walker.	
2	<u>Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting 2nd September</u>	
3	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda</u> <u>Centenary Funds</u> Richard Wakefield said that the Trust had no further news about Gift Aid. Alan Brudney, Richard Kemp and Richard Wakefield had all attended this meeting but came away with different views on the position regarding the roundabout in Asmunds Hill. It had been confirmed that LB Barnet does not intend changing rubbish collection to a fortnightly service and re-cycling of plastic and cardboard will soon commence. <u>Membership Mailing</u> Janet Elliott said that this mailing had been delayed and will be sent out very shortly. <u>Letter of Support for the New Building at HB School</u> Derek Epstein apologised for not advising Council of this application sooner but the plans were not seen by Consam until July 29 and there was no August Council Meeting. LB Barnet responded that they had consulted widely, not only with residents but they also named 15 bodies including the Lutyens Trust. They said that they had received strong support and they would not delay consideration of the application. Derek Epstein pointed out the seeming lack of interest shown on the HGS Discussion group about this proposal compared with the	

	<p>proposed planning application in Hoop Lane.</p> <p>The Barnet Planning Officer's Report on the HB School proposal referred to the fact that much detail and further annotation is required to demonstrate the quality of the scheme together with the selection of material the design of windows, provision of a brick plinth, balustrade and columns, design of canopies and the finish for the ventilation louvers of the roof. These details are imposed on the planning consent which was granted by LB Barnet on 22 September.</p> <p>It was stated that it is common for a design to evolve following the grant of planning permission. Derek Epstein understands the Trust's consent will be conditional.</p> <p>A Suburb resident Jonathan Seres had taken an interest in this Scheme and entered into dialogue with the HGS Trust, Barnet and the School. He made a formal objection suggesting changes to the colour of the bricks and the windows and he will be meeting with Oliver Blond.</p> <p>'David Littaur informed Council that, in a subsequent conversation with Jonathan Seres, Mr Seres told him that he would withdraw the objection if he was satisfied that the changes he had recommended would be implemented.'</p> <p>LB Barnet has confirmed that CAAC will be consulted on the reserved matters and the Architects have agreed to keep Consam briefed. Perhaps they should be invited to attend an RA Council Meeting.</p> <p><u>Parking Notices</u> Richard Wakefield produced a draft parking notice which reinstated the RA's logo. Council approved this and various members asked for copies. It seems that the Police are taking action against residents who park on verges/pavements.</p>	
4	<p><u>Question Time</u> There were none.</p>	
5	<p><u>New Year's Eve Fireworks</u> David Littaur told Council that the Committee had looked into the possibility of holding a party at the HB School but had decided to continue with the existing format this year and to hold it at St Jude's. They suggested that £2,000 plus vat is made available which will include all the costs for the evening.</p> <p>The Events Committee would like to move the fireworks to the far tennis courts and the HB School's permission will be obtained. Max Petersen was concerned that the RA were intending to</p>	

	<p>spend the same amount which had been spent for the special fireworks for the Centenary celebration year and he wondered whether it would be possible to spend less. He asked whether anyone else could set off the fireworks to save money. Simon Abbott pointed out that the actual cost of the fireworks will be less due to the bucket collection. Last year £500 was collected. John Boulter considered that the RA can afford this sum.</p> <p>Simon Abbott proposed that the RA Council approve the expenditure of £2,000 +vat for the New Year's Eve Party. The Events Committee was asked to produce plans for discussion by RA Council for next year's New Year's Eve Party earlier in the year. This was seconded by Janet Elliott and passed Nem Con</p> <p>Richard Wakefield was asked to discuss the possibility of the HGS Trust contributing towards the cost of the champagne.</p>	RW
6	<p><u>Report by Trees and Open Spaces Committee on Hampstead Heath and other issues</u> Colin Gregory will report on developments relating to Hampstead Heath in December.</p> <p><u>Hogarth Hill/Wordsworth Walk</u> Leonie Stephen said that she was inundated with letters and phone call regarding the problem of the four trees on each corner of Hogarth Hill and Wordsworth Walk. The house owners say that they are located on the street but LB Barnet considers that they are on the owner's property. In the past LB Barnet had looked after the trees but they will no longer do so. This is a continuing dispute.</p> <p><u>Street Trees</u> It was reported that LB Barnet had not paid for its share of the trees which were ordered for 2007/8 for planting in 2009 and the RA's contribution of £3,000 in November 2007 seems to have been the only money paid out.</p> <p>Terry Brooks suggested that we find out from LB Barnet exactly what its position is and whether it is prepared to pay for planting any new trees in the future. In past years the Trust had paid for 10 trees through its Grants Committee, and the RA and LB Barnet paid for 20 each. Richard Wakefield said that LB Barnet do not have a budget to enable them to replace these trees. LB Barnet has a legal obligation to ensure that the trees are safe. Leonie Stephen will find out LB Barnet's position before the RA Council consider the position regarding further grants.</p>	LS

	<p><u>Responsibilities of Trees Committee</u> Alan Brudney raised the question of whether members of the Trees committee should spend their time dealing with other spaces managed by the Heath Management committee outside the Suburb. Suburb residents are heavy users of the Heath and Eva Jacobs said that if time and effort is not spent on this, the RA's representation will be removed and it will have no voice. This will be discussed in December when Colin Gregory whose work is much appreciated, will be present.</p>	
7	<p><u>Report by Roads and Traffic Committee</u> This will be postponed to the November meeting.</p>	
8	<p><u>Report by Consam</u></p> <p><u>Design Guidelines</u> Derek Epstein reported that these Guidelines have at last been finalised with the Highways Department but the final document is accompanied by a paper setting out the RA's position on matters of contention, the most serious one being the abandonment of the practice of using short posts at the back pavements for parking control sign. This is also deplored by English Heritage and the HGS Trust.</p> <p><u>Street Clutter</u> There had been no progress with LB Barnet, despite several reminders, since May. Most of the work had been agreed leaving a handful of items to be costed.</p> <p><u>Local Development Framework</u> LB Barnet had carried out a consultation on its core strategies and Tony McGuire attended a public meeting and commented. The document does not contain anything detrimental to Suburb interests.</p> <p><u>General Development Order</u> This is being widened by the Government and it will remove from planning control, home extensions up to a certain size. The Suburb will now have to rely more on the HGS Trust</p> <p><u>HGS Trust</u> Consam are concerned about certain developments which seem to have slipped past the Trust's control and it is planning a meeting with them to discuss these.</p>	
9	<p><u>Any Other Urgent Business</u></p> <p><u>Notice Boards outside Suburb Houses</u> Simon Abbot told Council that these were introduced five years ago and many boards are now in need or renovation. The varnish</p>	

	<p>has blistered and the RA's logo needs replacing. It was suggested that 12 new boards are ordered and others are renovated.</p> <p>Simon Abbott proposed that the sum of £500 is approved by Council for renovation of the Notice Boards. This was seconded by Richard Wakefield and passed Nem Con.</p> <p><u>Public Notice Boards</u></p> <p>Simon Abbott said that there are a further 5 notice boards and. Council agreed that the Events Committee should agree how these should be used.</p> <p>There may also be some additional costs for renovating these David Littaur pointed out that LB Barnet had been very helpful over this matter and it should be thanked. Richard Wakefield said that Events Committee should also take over the Notice Board in the HGS Library.</p> <p><u>Volunteers Party</u></p> <p>Terry Brooks said that the date for this party had not been fixed. There will be a larger party than in the past and will include Suburb News Distributors, Litter pickers and Membership Volunteers.</p> <p>John Boulter proposed that the Council approve the expenditure of £500 for the volunteer's party and leave the date and venue to the Events Committee and Publications Committee to organise. Max Petersen seconded this and it was passed Nem Con</p> <p><u>Planning Application for the building in Hoop Lane</u></p> <p>Although this building is outside the Suburb the proposal does affect St Edmunds Church which is the local Catholic Church together with the adjoining cemetery. Alan Brudney pointed out that the stained glass windows of the church would be affected by the application to build a five storey building.</p> <p>The Council agreed that the Chairman should write a letter of objection to LB Barnet and send a copy to St Edmunds Church.</p>	
10	<p><u>To confirm the date of the next meeting on Tuesday November 4 at 8 pm at Fellowship House</u></p> <p>This was confirmed</p>	