

Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association  
 Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on July 6th 2010  
 at Fellowship House at 8.00pm

Present: Janet Elliott, in the Chair  
 Simon Abbott, John Boulter, Carol Boulter, Tony Brand, Terry Brooks, Alan Brudney,  
 Louise Felder, Charles Gale, Tony Ghilchik, Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the  
 Council), David Littaur, Max Petersen, Judith Samson, Jonathan Seres, Geoffrey  
 Spyer, Ian Tutton, Richard Wakefield, Richard Wiseman.

Visitors: Joyce Littaur, Cllr David Seal

Janet Elliott reported that Tony McGuire had resigned from the Council due to illness.  
 She will write to him and thank him for the work he has done for the RA and send him  
 the Council's warm wishes for a speedy return to good health.

Janet Elliott welcomed Cllr Danny Seal to the Council and he reciprocated.

1	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> Peter Beesley, Bridget Cox, Colin Gregory, Eva Jacobs, Rosalind Josephs, David Lewis and Steve Morris.	
2	<u>Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting 1 June</u> The minutes were approved	
3	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda</u> There were none.	
4	<u>To receive the draft minutes of the Executive Meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> June &amp; matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda</u> <u>HGS Trust Issues</u> Page 2 Paragraph 2 - Substitute LMA for MLA. <u>25 Ingram Avenue</u> There was no further news. <u>Archives and Heritage Centre</u> Simon Abbott said that the question of moving the Archives currently stored on the Henrietta Barnett School premises to the garages behind the Trust offices had been discussed by the Archives Trust. Either they would be stored there on a temporary basis or the garages would be redeveloped to provide a Heritage Centre. A survey of all possible premises on the Suburb which might be used or adapted will be undertaken as the Trust offices are on the edge of the Suburb and not particularly well located for these usages. The next meeting of the Heritage Centre Working Group will be held on 19 <sup>th</sup> July Richard Wakefield spoke about the possibility of using part of the Gallery space in Fellowship House for the Archives so that expenses and	RWa

	<p>possibly volunteers could be shared. He was asked to make a formal proposal as to what this idea might involve.</p> <p>In answer to a question, Simon Abbott said that there are no plans to bring the archives now stored at the LMA back to the Suburb.</p> <p>Carol Boulter asked whether a report from Chris Kellerman which she had seen, could be circulated as she thought it should be seen by Council but Simon Abbott said that it had been sent to him as Chair of the Working Party and not for general circulation.</p>	
5	<p><u>Financial Report</u></p> <p><u>Taxation</u></p> <p>John Boulter reported that the tax payable by the RA for 2006 was £52.62; no tax was payable in 2007 and £112.47 was payable for 2008. He had yet to make a return for 2009.</p> <p>These amounts have been paid and HMRC had, as is usual, reserved the right to investigate further if they decided they needed to so.</p> <p><u>Open House</u></p> <p>Janet Elliott reported that Alan Jacobs had continued to negotiate with the Open House organisers on behalf of the RA. As the LB of Barnet was maintaining their previous position of not paying for an entry for Barnet properties, Open House had agreed in principle to accept a lesser amount of money from several organisations in Barnet, which they would contribute as donors not sponsors so that VAT would not be payable.</p> <p>Under the agreement proposed, the Open House Weekend Booklet would include an additional section, after Westminster, listing alphabetically the areas from which donations would be coming. Funding has been offered by Phoenix Cinema and Wrotham House, in Hadley Wood, but there was still a gap of £1600. HGS Trust had since agreed to provide £800 and the RA Council was asked to make £800 available. Open House booklets would be available free to Suburb residents on request. Richard Wakefield confirmed that Central Square buildings would be open under the scheme</p> <p>Ian Tutton said that every London Borough, other than Barnet and Kingston, had contributed and there would be indirect benefits to Barnet overall. He suggested that an approach is made by the RA to those Suburb buildings which would be open and included in the booklet, to ask them for a contribution. On behalf of the Free Church, Ian Tutton confirmed they would make a contribution.</p> <p>Tony Ghilchik was sorry that LB Barnet would not put any money in and Carol Boulter said that the RA should write a polite letter to LB Barnet setting out our concerns and commenting that it had to be recognised that it may not be possible to obtain funding from alternative sources every year.</p> <p>A Motion was passed that the RA Council agreed to contribute a maximum of £800 in order to include Suburb buildings in the Open House Weekend Booklet. However, our contribution would be reduced by the amounts which other Suburb organisations agreed to contribute.</p> <p>This was passed Nem Con.</p>	JB

	<p><u>Trees &amp; Open Spaces</u></p> <p>LBBarnet have agreed to spend up to £3000 in the current financial year on replacing 15 to 20 trees. Trees &amp; Open Spaces are preparing the list of replacement trees for planting this winter and the RA have agreed in principle to provide matched funding.</p> <p>Jonathan Seres asked whether the RA distinguished between trees in adopted and trees in unadopted roads. Tony Ghilchik said that only trees in adopted roads are involved.</p> <p>Janet Elliott asked the Trees &amp; Open Spaces Committee to clarify what LB Barnet's obligation is regarding replacing trees.</p> <p>Richard Wakefield explained that in 1997 Georgina Malcolm prepared a trees survey showing that 30 to 40 trees needed to be replaced. At the time LB Barnet would only agree to replace 10 trees and the RA agreed to make a contribution so that work could go ahead at a reasonable level. Since that time there has been a regular ongoing tree programme with matching funding from both the RA and the LB Barnet.</p> <p>John Boulter proposed a Motion that a sum up to £3000 is made available to match the funding by LB Barnet on street trees in HGS for the 2010-2011 year. This the Council passed unanimously.</p>	JB
6.	<p><u>Question Time</u></p> <p>There were no questions</p>	
7.	<p><u>Committee Reports</u></p> <p><u>Publications</u></p> <p>A promised at the previous meeting, Terry Brooks had circulated a report on various Publications Committee decisions, together with the minutes of the last four meetings</p> <p>Alan Brudney said that the New Directory had been very well received</p> <p>Carol Boulter asked whether there had been any response from the appeal for volunteers to help with Suburb News and Terry Brooks said that there had been two offers of help. Residents are particularly needed to take over the advertising brief and the editorship of Suburb News.</p> <p>Janet Elliott said that the RA's new vertical banners had been used at the Proms and there had been favourable comments.</p> <p><u>Events Committee</u></p> <p><u>Summer Picnic in the Square</u></p> <p>David Littaur reported that there had been a Jazz band, a children's entertainer, face painter and an RA display table. Eight tables and 80 chairs had been hired. These had not been fully taken up but would have been invaluable had the weather been cooler or the grass other than very dry! Representatives from St John Ambulance had been present. A temporary Events Licence had been obtained, an indemnity provided and a risk assessment had been carried out. David L thanked the volunteers who helped on the day but stressed that more were really needed. He stressed that the RA needed to be able to count on Council members,</p>	

	<p>and their families, as well as other residents for support in this way if the RA wishes to continue to put on events.</p> <p>About 200 residents attended including many children. Those attending seemed very pleased with the picnic idea and what was provided. Simon Abbot pointed out that, if this becomes a regular annual event, participation will build up.</p> <p>The EC had questioned the need for an RA table at RA/Suburb events. It was thought to be a good idea but a wider range of publications are needed to display on the table.</p> <p>Carol Boulter commented that more publicity for events is needed and posters could be put through doors. A new approach to publicity and advertising by the RA is required.</p> <p>Richard Wakefield pointed out that the picnic was free to attendees but had nevertheless cost approximately £1000 and if the Suburb was leafleted it would have cost a further £6/700.</p> <p><u>Free Church Flower Festival</u></p> <p>This will take place on 10/11 July. Although the Free Church had agreed to contribute £30 to each participating organisation towards their exhibit, the RA via the Events Committee had agreed that a further £50 would be added to this sum to provide a more impressive display.</p> <p><u>Fireworks</u></p> <p>These will take place on New Year's Eve. More volunteers are required to help with this event on the day and the morning after.</p> <p><u>Consam</u></p> <p>Geoffrey Spyer said that the next committee meeting will take place on 7 July.</p> <p>Tony Ghilchik added that Consam is continuing with the new street lights issues which will be ongoing for some time.</p> <p><u>Allotments</u></p> <p>The latest minutes have been circulated.</p>	
8	<p><u>Strategy Plans</u></p> <p>Richard Wiseman reported that:</p> <p>a) )the new Strategy Working Group had met on 5 July. Ian Tutton, Louise Felder, Terry Brooks, Johnny Seres and Douglas Blausten are members. Douglas Blausten was unable to attend.</p> <p>b) members had looked at the strategy paper accepted at the June Council meeting, to help them decide what they could do, to set priorities and to put together a working plan, They were suggesting that the highest priority would go to reviewing the RA's relationship with both the HGS Trust and the LB Barnet, as well as ways of communicating more effectively with suburb residents, both members and non-members of the RA.</p> <p>c) they noted that the main contact with the Trust is through Consam, but</p>	

	<p>had asked whether more frequent attendance of Trust officers and the elected Trustees at RA Council meeting would be helpful.</p> <p>d) they suggested that the LB Barnet Suburb Ward Councillors should be encouraged to attend RA Council meeting more regularly, both to provide information and so that the Council could update them of its concerns. It was thought that with the current economic situation there may be an opportunity to work more effectively together.</p> <p>e) communication between the RA and residents is patchy and best use has not been made of the bulletin boards. Residents cannot be expected to keep looking at the web site. More use of targeted emails should be looked into.</p> <p>A further meeting of the Working Party will be held on 9 August and there will be a further interim report back to Council in September.</p> <p>Terry Brooks said that he had emailed Steve Morris and had discussed the improvement in the Suburb web site to make it more interactive and useful. In particular the setting up of small email groups, for residents having specific areas of common interest could be set up within the overall Suburb Web site to facilitate an exchange of information and views. An example were allotment holders who already have their own email group, was facilitated by the RA from autumn 2009. The happened on the initiative of the Allotments Committee. Steve Morris would welcome any ideas from Council members.</p> <p><u>Roads and Traffic</u></p> <p>This committee has not met for some considerable time but Will Sowerbutts had told Janet Elliott that he would organise a meeting by the end of July. Some members present thought that as LB Barnet may be short of money they may try to extend the CPZ. Janet Elliott said that she had been assured that LB Barnet are not allowed to raise money this way, other than for parking controls and associated traffic matters.</p> <p>David Littaur asked how to deal with the apathy of residents and Richard Wakefield said that when there is an important issue on the Suburb the membership increases.</p> <p>Richard Wiseman raised the question of whether the Council membership is geographically representative of the area. For example only three members live in the N2 postcode area.</p> <p>Carol Boulter said that we should advertise in a lively way. It was pointed out that there had been an exchange on the HGS list about street lighting and no one seemed to know that the RA are already dealing with this.</p>	i
9	<p><u>Henrietta Barnett Walk Proposals</u></p> <p>Richard Wakefield had circulated a paper setting out his proposals to mark out the Henrietta Barnett Walk. This walk had been designated during the centenary year but there is no signage.</p> <p>Jonathan Seres said that he did not think that roundels in the pavement were appropriate for the Suburb as they were not in keeping with the Arts and Crafts movement. Perhaps wooden posts could be used instead.</p> <p>Richard Wakefield said that the original idea was to have finger posts but LB Barnet would not agree to this.</p> <p>Tony Ghilchik said that whether we have posts or roundels the</p>	

	<p>acceptability of their appearance would depend on the skill of the designer.</p> <p>Louise Felder suggested that suburb buildings might have plaques with the history of the building inscribed. She had seen these in Leeds. Jonathan Seres thought that something of this kind might be appropriate on the gateposts at the Hampstead Way and Rotherwick Road entrances to the Suburb.</p> <p>Simon Abbott did not think that the Henrietta Barnett Walk had any historical significance as it could not be identified with Dame Henrietta Barnett. This proposal is to mark the Centenary of the Suburb and he would like to investigate other options. He suggested a blue plaque scheme for the Suburb.</p> <p>A Motion was proposed that a sum of money should be made available to design a roundel or roundels for the Council to consider at its September or October meetings. This was passed Nem. Con.</p>	RWa
10	<p><u>Any Other Urgent Business</u></p> <p><u>Benefactors' Board</u></p> <p>Richard Wakefield circulated the Benefactors' Board which had been completed and is ready for hanging in Fellowship House. He is in negotiation about a date for an official unveiling.</p> <p><u>Litter in Central Square</u></p> <p>Charles Gale said that there is a need for more rubbish bins on Central Square as there is only one bin opposite the School which overflows.</p> <p>Ian Tutton said that many contractors from the school eat their lunch on Central Square. Council thought that HB School could provide bins for their contractors. More bins were certainly needed when there is special event such as the Picnic on 5 July.</p> <p>Louise Felder said that when she had requested a bin in the pathway between Church Mount and Winnington Road, LB Barnet had quickly provided this.</p> <p>Rosalind Josephs and Tony Ghilchik were asked to look into obtaining more bins and the procedures of emptying them.</p>	RWa       RJ/T G
11	<p><u>To confirm the date of the next Meeting on Tuesday 7 September at 8.00pm at Fellowship House</u></p> <p>This was confirmed</p>	