



Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday
2 May 2017 at Fellowship House Willifield Way at 8 pm

Present: David B Lewis - in the Chair, Barbara Bliss, Tony Brand, Terry Brooks, Alan Brudney, Tony Ghilchik, Colin Gregory, Adrian Hodgson, Emma Howard, David Littaur, Peter McCluskie, Max Petersen, Gary Shaw, Jonathan Seres (at 9.15pm), Simon Sackman, Harry Simmonds, Ann Spencer, Ian Tutton, Rosemary Goldstein (Secretary to the Council).

Visitors: Joyce Littaur,

1. Apologies for Absence

Received from Jeremy Hershkorn and Peter Spaul

2. Question Time

There were none.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 4th April 2017

These were approved subject to the following amendments:

8 Composition of RA Sub-committees and representatives on other committees

A full list of RA standing committees should be inserted in the Minutes.
Ian Tutton should be not be referred to as 'Rev'

4. Matters Arising

Litter Team

Barbara Bliss had located the list of litter pickers and she will make an appeal on the HGS list for someone to co-ordinate these volunteers. Litter pickers should be asked to report any fly tipping and should be given the relevant information and telephone numbers.

An article will also be placed in Suburb News.

Action BB

Bigwood and Littlewood Management Group

The entry for this Group was included in the Suburb Directory for this year. Tony Ghilchik said that the newly formed Friends are taking over some of this group's responsibilities. He will clarify the position in due course

Action AB

Federation of RAs

Alan Brudney will clarify the position.

Action AB

Orchard Housing Society

Alan Brudney said that he attends meeting of the Society.

Emma Howard agreed to replace Diana Berger as the second RA representative.

Action EH

The late Norma Milner and Leonie Stephan

Ian Tutton informed Council that Norma Milner and Leonie Stephan had recently died. They were both Honorary Life Members of the RA.

The funeral of Leonie Stephan will be held on 5th May at 2.00pm at Golders Green Crematorium

Both had made a large contribution to the Suburb and will be sadly missed.

Colin Gregory told Council that Norma Milner had done a great deal for the Suburb and Leonie Stephan had been the RA Chair. Council should pay tribute to her and send their condolences to her family.

Memorial Benches

Ian Tutton suggested that there could be Memorial Benches for Norma Milner and Leonie Stephan. It may be a little too soon to consider these as the benches for Richard Wakefield and Charles Gale have not yet been dedicated.

Harry Simmonds kindly agreed to take over the responsibility as coordinator for Memorial Benches on the Suburb.

The Chairman proposed and Peter McCluskie seconded a Motion

That Harry Simmonds should be appointed as coordinator for Memorial Benches on the Suburb

This was passed unanimously

Action HS

Harry Simmonds asked Council members to let him have details of any Memorial benches that they are aware of together with a note about their condition.

Colin Gregory pointed out that Georgina Malcolm had photographed all the plaques on the benches some years ago when she was on the RA Council. and had responsibility for this

David Littaur told Council that unfortunately Angela is unable to attend on 11th June therefore the dedication of the benches to Richard Wakefield and Charles Gale could not be held on the day of the summer picnic as had been planned. He will organise another date. **Action DLt**

Summer Picnic

David Littaur said that volunteers are required to help with various tasks at the Summer Picnic. Events committee will circulate a list of these to Council and also to the HGS list asking for volunteers. **Action Dlt**

Golders Green Redevelopment Proposals

Emma Howard told Council that a draft planning brief had been prepared by LB Barnet in response to TfL who wish to develop the site due to an expected growth in population. The draft suggests that the proposal will help rejuvenate the Golders Green Town Centre

The total number of flats could be 1400 with 4000 extra residents. No plans were mentioned for an increase in school places or GP surgeries

The planning Brief has been put out for consultation and responses should be made by 11th May although this date has been informally extended to 18th May.

An Action Group had been set up by local residents who are fighting the proposals. They have asked residents to submit their individual responses.

There will be an explanatory article in the next edition of Suburb News.

The Planning Brief divides the area into two sites:

Site A

Redevelopment of the bus station, kiosks and turning area with approx 500 flats and 40% social housing to be built above the bus depot, and without parking facilities. There would be an impact on the Clock Tower War Memorial which is a grade two listed building and it may have to be relocated.

Site B

Comprises the underground station, railway depot, shunting sheds and sidings. The Alstom engineering building would be kept but the sidings behind would be developed over a 10/15 year plan. There would be a development of houses and flats and it was thought that there could be 800 flats with some houses. 40% of these would be affordable housing and there may be scope for a tall building. There are no parking provisions.

It was important that this site should not be in the planning brief as it could cause a blight on the properties in the area.

The site would not be easily accessible and the Brief talks about removing houses in Rotherwick and Corringham to create an access and possibly vehicular access through Corringham Court.

Peter McCluskie is in contact with Ronnie Jaffa from the action group. He used to be a member of Consam, and they are compiling a detailed response.

The removal of phase B should be a priority.

This is supported by the ward councillors and Mike Freer has been involved

There are also reservations about aspects of Phase A

Emma Howard thought that the document is long and confusing.

Harry Simmonds suggested that a list of bullet points is provided to enable residents to write their own letters. Peter McCluskie will prepare this and circulate it to Council. Amongst other issues there were concerns about the proposed height of any building, provision for bicycle storage, extra traffic and parking. **Action PM**

It seems that TfL have to be self sufficient by 2020 and they are the owners of the land so the proposals appear to be treasury driven.

Ian Tutton thought that the Memorial is not in the correct place as it is not easily accessible but other members of Council did not agree with him.

Simon Sackman said that by writing as individuals we would not be confined to issues directly affecting the Suburb.

The Trust have said that any development should not affect the view from the Heath extension

Emma Howard was thanked for her work on this

A Motion was proposed by Peter McCluskie and seconded by Tony Brand

That RA Council instruct the Chairman to send a letter expressing serious reservations about LB Barnet's draft planning brief regarding the proposed Golders Green Station development

This was passed unanimously

6. Matters Raised by Members

(a) Treasurership

David Epstein had resigned as Hon Treasurer and the EC will discuss this at their meeting next week.

The Chairman said that he wishes to have a qualified accountant as Hon Treasurer and any suggestions for a replacement should be forwarded to him.

(b) Proposes pruning of Trees on Central Square

Tony Ghilchik reported that some small peripheral branches would be removed from trees at Central Square. Although the LB Barnet tree officer will decide on the amount to be removed the steering group thought that 4m is sufficient rather than 6m which had been proposed

It was hoped that the Trust will eventually take over the management of Central Square

(c) Road Safety

A response is still awaited from TfL regarding the fatal accident that took place at the Kingsley Way/Ossulton Way junction of Market Place. GS will chase TfL.

Emma Howard pointed out that the Chairman had told the AGM that a public meeting would be arranged and she would like to work towards this.

Simon Sackman agreed that the public meeting should not be delayed any further.

Gary Shaw said that it is difficult to talk about the accident until we know the circumstances surrounding it.

Ian Tutton asked whether we should have a general road safety meeting or a meeting to discuss a specific problem.

Jonathan Seres agreed and suggested that we concentrate on the Market Place crossing as that is the immediate safety concern. The Chairman pointed out that there are two different highways authorities involved with these two issues: TfL and LB Barnet. He thought that we should hold a public meeting on each issue.

It was suggested that we hold a meeting on Pedestrian Safety and referred the matter back to Roads and Traffic.

6 July was a suggested date and it was hoped that the Meeting could be held in the Free Church. An Enews will be sent out and posters will be required. **Action GS**

(d) Venue for Future meetings

Ian Tutton told Council that the RA pays £65 for the use of Fellowship House for each Council meeting and Fellowship have said that they will no longer be able to provide someone to put out and replace the chairs and tables.

Jonathan Seres and Adrian Hodgson volunteered to undertake this task at the next meeting and Ian Tutton agreed to arrive at 7.30 to open up the building.

It was suggested that the RA Council consider another venue but unfortunately the Free Church is unavailable on Tuesday nights.

It was agreed that the situation should be monitored.

(e) Publicity- distribution of posters on RA Boards

Harry Simmonds showed Council his proposals for a notice for shop keepers to place in their windows advertising a discount for RA members. He will circulate these and Publications will then discuss them. **Action HS**

The Chairman will ask for a new volunteer co-ordinator on the HGS list for the distribution of posters to notice board holders. **Action DBL**

7. Financial Matters

Hustings Meeting

David Littaur reported that this will be held on Monday June 5th at the Free Church. Alan Walker had agreed to Chair the meeting.

A sound system will be required and David Littaur asked Council to make a grant to cover the cost of this and the hire of the Free Church. The actual cost of the sound system was not yet known as it will depend on the number of candidates who attend and the microphones that are required

It was agreed that Council would make the sum of up to £1000 available to Events Committee to organise this event and they will try to keep the costs down.

The Bookkeeper will be meeting with the Chairman shortly. He has agreed to produce monthly management accounts, although there were none available for this month.

Application for Grant for Chamber Concerts

An application had been received for a grant of £500 to enable a series of 6 chamber concerts to take place at Fellowship House in the winter months. The grant would help to keep the ticket price of the concerts at £10 and the maximum number of people attending at 75. The total cost of organising the concerts is £5750 and ticket sales are estimated at £3900. Grants have been obtained from the John S Cohen Foundation for £750 and £600 from the Trust.

The concerts have taken place over the last 4 years and this is the first time that a grant has been requested from the RA.

Ian Tutton was concerned that only 75 people are able to attend each of the concerts. He would prefer that the organisers find a larger venue which would enable more people to attend and more money to be taken in ticket sales. Ann Spencer agreed and thought that this application was elitist

Harry Simmonds suggested that the ticket price is increased and that the RA gave a smaller grant.

Tony Ghilchik proposed and Emma Howard seconded a Motion

That the RA makes the sum of £500 available to the organisers of the chamber concerts in Fellowship House in accordance with their application for support

Harry Simmonds proposed and the Chairman seconded an amendment to the Motion

That the RA makes the sum of £250 available to the organisers of the chamber concerts in Fellowship House in accordance with their application for support

This amendment was defeated by 7 votes in favour and 9 against

The original Motion was then put and it was passed with 9 votes in favour, 6 votes against and 1 abstention.

8. Sub-Committee report

Events

David Littaur asked the Council to approve the purchase of two gazebos for use at the Summer Picnic. He said that they would be easier to erect than the existing ones which had been in use for several years.

Adrian Hodgson said that It may be possible to hire them out to other organisations on the Suburb which would justify the expenditure.

A Motion was proposed by David Lewis and seconded by Max Petersen

That the RA Council agrees to make the sum of £600 available for the Events Committee to purchase two gazebos

This was passed unanimously

Publications

Terry Brooks said that the next edition of Suburb News will be published this weekend and should be delivered to residents next week.

He circulated copies of the 2017 Suburb Directory which had just been published.

Trees and Open Spaces

Tony Ghilchik said that he wished to raise problems with a particular tree but this will be discussed at the May EC meeting due to time pressure at this meeting.

9. Report from representatives on outside bodies

Orchard Housing Society

Alan Brudney reported that he had attended committee meetings and two new managers had been appointed. Everything seems to be working well

10. Any Other Business

There was none.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

This will be held on Tuesday 6th June at 8.00pm at Fellowship House