



Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on
Tuesday 5 February 2019
at Fellowship House, Willifield Way at 8 pm

Present: Emma Howard - in the Chair, Barbara Bliss, Tony Brand, Tony Ghilchik, Colin Gregory, Jeremy Hershkorn, Adrian Hodgson, Helen Leiser, Peter McCluskie, Steve Morris, Hella Schrader, Gary Shaw, Harry Simmonds, Ann Spencer and Rosemary Goldstein (Asst Secretary to the Council).

Visitor: Keith Ellis – Hon Treasurer of Fellowship

A risk assessment was carried out in accordance with the agreed format

1. Note apologies and absences

Terry Brooks, Alan Brudney and Simon Sackman.

2. Question Time for residents who are not members of Council

There were none.

3. Approve, as accurate, the minutes of Council meeting, held on 6 November 2018

These were approved.

4. Note minutes of EC meetings held on 6 December 2018 and 17 January 2019

These were noted.

5. Volunteers evening: feedback

5.1 This was well attended and produced some interesting ideas many relevant to the Events Committee. They were considered at the December EC meeting and were listed in the minutes.

5.2 The EC agreed that the RA should concentrate on the following initiatives:

5.2.1 A children's writing competition in Suburb News. **Action Terry B**

5.2.2 Outdoor all weather table tennis court and renovation of tennis courts in Lyttelton Playing Fields, Northway Gardens and Central Square alternatively changing them to other facilities.

This was raised at the RA Trust Liaison Meeting but the Trust did not wish to fund it.

Residents' views could be sought via an article in Suburb News

Action Terry B

Trees and Open Spaces Committee will discuss this and provide recommendations. **Action Tony G**

5.2.3 Creating a community orchard.

Although there had previously been unoccupied allotments the situation has recently changed and there are none available. The HGS Trust is now allowing friends and family of residents as well as people working in the Suburb to rent allotments. However, it may be possible for some tennis courts to be turned into a community orchard. It was agreed that T&OS should consider in conjunction with the HGS Trust, taking due account of maintenance and/or funding practicalities.

Action Tony G

6. Northway Gardens Organisation grant applications

6.1 Northway Gardens

An application for £1,075 had been made by NGO for the refurbishment and maintenance of 22 flower beds in Northway Gardens and was agreed to be paid in 2 instalments and on the condition that the numerous existing sponsorship signs will be replaced with 2 poster boards with all the posters on: RA boards have been offered to NGO; future contributions will be limited to a maximum of £1000, and grant applications will be typed rather than hand written. Once agreement to this has been received in writing, one half of the grant will be paid and the other half on completion of the work, which will be verified and on production of invoices and on satisfactory removal of the signs.

6.2 Tree work

An application for £1,350+VAT for work to trees in Northway Gardens behind Café Toulous based on a quote from a tree surgeon, was rejected on the grounds of concern as to the over-management of trees.

7. Proms sponsorship

It was agreed that the RA will make a grant of £3,000 to the St Jude's Proms to fund the free lunchtime concerts and that the RA will have the benefits of a silver sponsor.

8. Tree issues

8.1 Trees and Open Spaces have sent a list of trees they have prioritised to LB Barnet together with a list of substitutes if some of the trees are unavailable. There is also a list of 22 park trees for Northway Gardens and Lyttelton Playing Fields. Some of the trees are unavailable at present.

8.2 The list of street trees to have work carried out will be sent to Steve Morris and converted to a PDF and placed on the HGS website. **Action Ann S**

8.3 A major article on LB Barnet tree policy had been included in the latest Suburb News.

8.4 There was some confusion about two trees planted in Northway Gardens which will be clarified.

8.5 LB Barnet has been told that the RA will pay for 13 new trees this year.

8.6 LB Barnet had confirmed that the HGS RA is the only RA in Barnet contributing towards new trees.

9. A1 road safety: report

9.1 The Report had been finalised and circulated to Council.

9.2 Council discussed what action should be taken over the report and whether it should be sent to TFL to try to persuade them to take action regarding the Barclays Bank crossing which is the main concern, It was pointed out that unsuccessful approaches had already been made to TFL.

9.3 It was mentioned that one of the purposes of the Report was to demonstrate to residents that the RA was responding to their concerns and being pro-active. There remained particular concerns about the crossing of roads outside Barclays Bank (A1), Ossulton Way and Kingsley Way and that the phasing of lights here made crossing by pedestrians very difficult.

9.4 This issue can be considered for discussion at a future Public Meeting, possibly at the 25 April meeting.

9.5 It was suggested that the local schools should be involved and the Roads and Traffic Committee will liaise with their travel co-ordinators. **Action Gary S**

9.6 It was agreed that after certain local involved residents have seen the Report it should be placed on the web site and sent to the Councillors, MP, GLA representative and TFL. **Action Gary S**

10. Addison Way traffic calming

10.1 Members of the R&T Committee had attended an area forum meeting and raised the question of the width restriction, excessive speed and parking. It was agreed to improve the width restriction and possibly increase the kerb size. LB Barnet will be looking into this.

10.2 A petition was requested to be submitted to residents of Addison Way regarding the request for a CPZ. A draft of the petition should be forwarded to the EC before it is circulated. **Action Gary S**

10.3 It was noted that some local councils are lobbying for power to enforce a 20mph speed limit in certain areas and that penalties for non compliance may be introduced.

11. Open meetings

11.1 Andy Tipping (LB Barnet) does not wish to participate in a further meeting on trees having already spoken to the Friends of Bigwood

11.2 Open Meeting 25 April

11.2.1 Various elected representatives have agreed to attend the public meeting to discuss local issues.

11.2.2 There is a need for publicity for this event.

Action Hella S

11.3 Open meeting 24 September

Three members of Council had attended the police ward group meeting. A police representative from the group may be prepared to attend this open meeting. **Action Emma H**

12. Drinking fountain, Northway Gardens

Colin Gregory had spoken with LB Barnet officers and received a positive response and this is progressing. It will be discussed at a meeting with LB Barnet officers on 13 February.

Action Colin G

13. Future HGS photo shoots etc

13.1 It was agreed not to pursue this as it would involve a great deal of work.

13.2 The HGS Trust has said that they are not interested.

13.3 It was agreed that the RA should note its interest with LB Barnet.

Action Adrian H

14. Twittens

There was nothing further to report.

15. Chamber concerts grant

15.1 Fellowship has taken over the organisation of the chamber concerts from Peter Falk and had asked whether the RA would agree in principle to a grant of £500 available for this year. All concerts will be held in Fellowship House in future.

15.2 The EC had discussed this proposed grant and recommended it to Council who agreed that it should be paid. Emma H will let Andrew Botterill know. **Action Emma H**

16. Refuse collection and litter picking

16.1 Refuse Collection

16.1.1 The new system for refuse collection seems to have improved after initial problems.

16.1.2 Emma Howard had met with Cllr Marshall and objected to the proposal that, in future, residents in the crescents off Temple Fortune Lane should place their bins on the main road as LB Barnet will no longer collect them from inside crescents. The reason given was for health and safety. This would mean that 33 bins would be placed on Temple Fortune Lane every week and it was feared that this proposal would be extended to other narrow roads on the Suburb.

16.2 Litter pickers

No volunteer has come forward to organise litter pickers. It was agreed that no further substantive action will be taken for the time being (e.g. purchase of equipment). However a message to residents will be placed in Suburb News and a request for a volunteer will be made at the AGM. **Action Terry B**

17. RA finances

17.1 The accounts for the year ended 31.12.18 were being finalised. It was anticipated there will be a surplus of this year due to extra income from subscriptions, advertising, sponsorship and a photo shoot together with cost reductions in Suburb News, events and by no longer employing a book keeper.

17.2 A surplus of this magnitude was not anticipated for the year ended 31.12.19 as indications are it will be difficult to obtain sponsors in the current economic climate.

17.3 The accounts will be finalised for the next EC meeting and once they are approved they will be sent to Paul Hartley, the Hon. Accountant. The Annual Report will need to be prepared for the March AGM. **Action Steve M**

18. RA Constitution: revision

18.1 Proposed changes to the RA's Constitution had been circulated to Council for their comments and it was hoped that the changes could be adopted at a Special Meeting as part of the AGM

18.1 It was explained that the proposed amendments were to reflect reality and to modernise the administration of the RA.

18.2 Clause 11 Dissolution of the RA: it was agreed that this clause should be tightened up and Helen Leiser will help redraft this. **Action Helen L**

18.3 Clause 10 Amendment of Constitution: Council considered the proposal that power be transferred to Council but decided that it should remain with the RA membership at an SGM..

18.4 Council were asked to submit any comments to the Hon Secretary by the end of next week for discussion by the EC on 21 February. The revised draft Constitution can be approved by the Council on 5th March in time for the AGM on 26 March. (The SGM will be the first item on the AGM agenda). **Action Peter M**

19. RA Working Orders: revision

These will be further revised for discussion by the EC.

Action Peter M

20. Matters arising from standing committee reports submitted since previous Council meeting

20.1 Publications

20.1.1 Council were sorry to learn that Terry Brooks will retire from his role of producing Suburb News at the end of 2019 and appreciated the long period of notice he had given. His huge contribution to the work done by the RA over many years was noted.

20.1.2 His successor will be discussed at the March meeting of Publications Committee but if no one is forthcoming the RA may have to consider different way of producing and distributing Suburb News.

21. Any other urgent business

21.1 Brookland Schools

New school governors are required and Council members were asked to consider volunteering for this role.

21.2 Gritting Bins

It was suggested that bins should be supplied by LB Barnet in some Suburb roads which are not gritted by LB Barnet lorries and which become inaccessible in the event of snow and ice. Steep pavements are a particular issue.

Action Harry S

22. Next scheduled meeting of Council: Tuesday 5 March 2019 at 8pm in Fellowship House.

This was confirmed.