



**Minutes of a Meeting of the RA Council held on
Tuesday 25th January 2022, at 8pm via Zoom video-conferencing**

Present: Emma Howard (Chair), Peter McCluskie (Hon Secretary), Steve Morris (Hon Treasurer), Tony Ghilchik (T&OS), Colin Gregory (Consam & T&OS), Helen Leiser (Consam), Simon Sackman (Consam), Jonathan Waxman (EnComm), Gren Manuel (EnComm), Adrian Hodgson (Events), Shelley-Anne Salisbury (Publications), Marie-Christine O'Callaghan (Publications), Maria Schlatter (T&OS), Phillip Harlow (Allotments), Phillip Okrent (Pavements), Selena Amado (RA Membership Secretary).

Visitor: Brian Ingram

1. Apologies and absences

Apologies from Judy Smith. Also absent were Tony Brand and Alan Brudney.

2. New members of Council and EC

2.1 Jonathan Waxman and Gren Manuel, who had been provisionally appointed as Chair and Secretary respectively for the proposed Environment Committee were both welcomed to the RA Council and made their formal introductions.

2.2 *Proposals to join RA Council were as follows:*

- The Chair proposed Jonathan Waxman, seconded by Simon Sackman, for appointment to Council. Council voted unanimously in favour.
- The Hon Secretary proposed Jonathan Waxman, seconded by the Hon Treasurer, for appointment to the Executive Committee. Council voted unanimously in favour.
- Hon Secretary proposed Gren Manuel, seconded by Hon Treasurer, for appointment to Council. Council voted unanimously in favour.

3. Any questions from residents (submitted in advance)

None.

4. RA finances and membership

4.1 The Hon Treasurer summarised 2021 year-end Management Accounts which had been circulated to Council members. The Treasurer reported that the year ended with a deficit of £2,000 which was far less than originally budgeted at £17,000.

4.2 Membership: Numbers were down slightly from last year, entering this year with 1,812, in comparison to 1,860 last year. However, net membership income had increased by £1,000 for the year.

4.3 Membership costs had been reduced by £1,500 with more focused mailings.

4.4 Publications: In 2020 there was a £4,000 deficit, a £2,000 deficit was budgeted for 2021 but the out-turn was a £7,000 as new arrangements for production and printing Suburb News had resulted in lower costs. Increases in advertising revenue has added a surplus of c. £1,700 per edition.

4.6 Events: £6,000 was originally budgeted last year but nothing was spent.

4.7 Trees: £6,000 was spent on 15 new trees. 4 residents paid £250 each for the Sponsor A Tree Scheme and the RA subsidised an extra £150 per tree. There was no expenditure on tree maintenance.

4.8 RA Running costs: £1,500 below original budget due to the release of the office at the Free Church and the use of cheaper storage in the cellar.

4.9 The Treasurer mentioned that in 2022, running costs are likely to increase as AGM costs will be needed this year.

4.10 Grants: NGO, Proms and Chamber Concerts received their usual grants for the year. In addition, the RA paid £911 for a bench for NGO, and a second bench will be paid for in 2022.

4.11 Other expenditure and income: expenditure for scanning for SN was completed and 50 have so far been uploaded to the HGS Virtual Museum.

4.12 Income on interest has reduced slightly; hiring of gazebos had brought in extra income.

4.13 Exceptional Items: £10,000 was paid though match funding for Noah's Ark Children's Hospice and £10,000 contribution to St Jude's towards their repairs and a further £1,000 was spent on the Community Orchard.

4.15 2022 Budget: The Treasurer mentioned some ballpark figures for this year. An expected £34,000 in income between Publications and Membership income is forecast.

5. Grants and donations incl. HHE playground

5.1 The Chair said that there is no specific fundraising this year apart from the proposed Heath Extension playground.

5.2 Feedback was provided on the meeting that took place in December with the City of London Project Board which was attended by Colin Gregory, local residents behind the initiative, City officers and the consultant designer. Comments had been considered regarding the design, with a majority in favour.

5.3 The design consultant will look into comments and revise designs. Thereafter, a planning application will be submitted to LB Barnet, hopefully in time for construction to commence before summer. CoL Project Board are to meet again in February.

5.4 The RA had applied for £15,000 to CoL Central Grants, which provides grants for open spaces. The Treasurer confirmed there's been no response yet but the expectation is for an outcome by end January 2022.

5.5 Gift Aid issue: This has not been resolved by the CoL and involves more of a quasi-legal issue than an IT one. To claim Gift Aid a charity must be registered with HMRC. This will be addressed and hopefully resolved by the autumn.

6. Proposed Environment Committee (EnComm)

- 6.1 Terms of Reference for the new Committee had been circulated to Council.
- 6.2 Concern was raised regarding potential conflict of interests in working with the HGS Trust. It was agreed that a meeting should be organised between EnComm and Consam.
Action Peter
- 6.3 Point 7 of the Terms of Reference was clarified by Jonathan Waxman: 2040 is an ambitious but achievable goal to reach Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions in the Suburb. 2040 being some 10 years ahead of the UK government current planning. Ways of measuring this still have to be determined.
- 6.4 The EnComm Chair continued to explain a how to achieve Net Zero emission including windows, heating, insulation, measuring carbon emissions and how these will be removed. A strategy will be set before any specific projects commence.
Action Jonathan
- 6.5 The Chair proposed, and the Hon Secretary seconded, the creation of the Environment Committee. Council voted unanimously in favour.
- 6.6 The Chair proposed, and the Hon Treasurer seconded, the adoption of the Environment Committee's Terms of Reference. Council voted unanimously in favour.

7. Events

- 7.1 AGM (28 March): Depending on government guidance prevailing at the time, a hall at HBS has been booked for the AGM. A risk assessment will be carried out as usual. Video streaming the event will be explored.
Action Adrian
- 7.2 Platinum Jubilee weekend (June): The Events Committee are to meet and discuss a possible event albeit not necessarily that week as it is half term week and lots of people will be away.
Action Adrian
- 7.3 A congratulatory message to the Queen will be drafted and circulated to Council for comment. It will be published in Suburb News in due course.
Action Colin

8. Publication matters

- 8.1 Suburb News Issue 149: February 1st is the deadline for submissions.
- 8.2 The Henrietta Community Orchard will be featured, probably in the RA section. Jonathan Waxman will write a short piece for the same section on EnComm.

9. Trees & Open Spaces matters

- 9.1 Henrietta Community Orchard: trees will be delivered towards end of February and other materials needed. Planting is set to take place at 10am on Saturday 5th March and is open to volunteers to help.
- 9.2 Local Councillors have been invited to attend along with photographers and the event

will be covered in Suburb News 150.

9.3 The Bowls Club have been supportive and will provide a water supply.

9.4 Street Trees: the customary Suburb-wide survey will be carried out in due course.

Action Tony

10. Allotment matters

10.1 There was little to report at this time of year, however, new rental notices have been issued to plot holders.

10.2 It was reported that the flooding issue at Addison Way is still ongoing. Thames Water were still investigating the source of the problem.

10.3 It has been confirmed that the HGS Trust have decided that no gate will be erected at the Addison Way entrance. This is not proving a popular decision and will be followed up.

Action Philip H

11. Consam matters

Once a meeting has taken place with EnComm and Consam, the future purpose of Consam can be better defined.

Action Peter

12. Pavements

12.1 All reports received from residents are reported to Councillors.

12.2 There had been delays in LB Barnet addressing the issues promptly but appropriate pressure will continue to be applied.

Action Phillip O

13. Any other business

LB Barnet are still looking at the outcomes of the resident survey on parking and CPZ. A meeting has now been scheduled for 22nd February with Ben Jackson, LBB together with the schools on North End Road..

Action Emma

14. Next scheduled meeting –12 April 2022 at 8pm via Zoom

(Note: AGM is on 28 March)