



**Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023, at 8pm  
via Zoom video-conferencing**

**Present:** Emma Howard (Chair), Peter McCluskie (Hon Secretary), Steve Morris (Hon Treasurer), Adrian Hodgson (Events), Maria Schlatter (T&OS), Steven Rowe (T&OS) Helena Benes (PPC, Trust), Jonathan Waxman, REACH)

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1. Apologies were received from Lynda Cook, Colin Gregory, Gren Manuel, Shelly-Anne Salisbury and Judy Smith. Marie-Christine O'Callaghan did not attend.
2. Council welcomed Shazia Riaz Ahmad, the new Minutes Secretary

**RA FINANCES, MEMBERSHIP AND THE WEBSITE**

3. **Status of Finances, end of June 2023**  
Finances, as at the end of the second quarter, are in a healthy position. The increased advertising income from Suburb News, which is now over £7000 per issue, had greatly helped. Income and expenditure are in line with expectations.
4. There is likely to be a net surplus of around £8000 by the end of the year.
5. **Membership**  
As at the end of June 2023, we currently have 1432 members. This membership figure is ahead of the previous 2 years at the same point.
6. The circulation of a membership reminder will take place within the next 1-2 weeks to 2500 people (2000 'cold calling' plus 500 people who have not yet renewed).
7. The Treasurer is currently reviewing the process of recruiting new members, together with the implementation of a streamlined mailing and payment processing systems. **(Action: Steve M)**

**GRANTS AND DONATIONS**

8. **Grants to Date**  
The RA had so far sponsored: (a) *The Proms at St Jude's - LitFest (£3000)* and (b) *Hampstead Garden Suburb Junior School (£6850)*: Council had taken an electronic vote to approve the grant to pay for the school trips for the children from the less well-off families.
9. **Grant Application from North London Festival of Music, Speech and Drama**  
Council discussed the proposal in detail and, based on the various funding options listed in the application, agreed to grant a total of £1000 for 2024 (£750 towards the first prize for the Piano Prize Competition, and £250 towards supporting the children who cannot afford to enter the competition). **(Action: Emma)**
10. Rosemary Cook had been asked to produce an article for Suburb News. **(Action: Emma)**

#### **11. Play Equipment for the Heath Extension Playground**

Council unanimously agreed to contribute £5000 (being the £2500 underspend plus a further £2500) towards previously planned play equipment which had not been installed due to increased costs. The rest of the money required for the equipment (about £5000) would be raised from residents.

*(Action: Colin)*

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

12. Everything is on track for the next publication of the Suburb News in September, and all articles must be submitted to the editors by 1 August.

#### **TREES & OPEN SPACES**

13. Maria Schlatter, Colin Gregory, and Peter Falk had met. Council was thanked for its approval of funds (£500) for taking forward the Legal Advice Strategy.

The following has been discussed:

- strengthening the approach to tree threats at the various levels
- to follow up on on-going national tree development policy developments
- to better understand their options and build momentum
- to improve the overall strategy and build momentum for positive change
- to have regular, seasonal meeting as appropriate, with the trust
- expand network of bio-culture and ecological experts, for the purpose of a second opinion if necessary

14. T&OS will get back to Council with details of a proposed consultation and the required funding support. There was a request to host a T&OS web page on the RA website.

*(Action: Steve M & Maria)*

15. Tom Matier will join T&OS as a Non-Committee Volunteer.

#### **ENVIRONMENT (REACH)**

16. The chair of the committee had been unable to attend the last Reach Committee Meeting and informed Council that the main focus of the meeting was to discuss the actions required in the lead up to the Summer Fair.

#### **17. Air Quality Monitoring Device**

The device has been installed at the Hampstead Way/Meadway roundabout junction; we are quite a long way below the UK and WHO guidelines. There are still peak times when the readings get quite high.

18. A link will be sent to Council members to enable them to see real time data.

*(Action: Jonathan)*

#### **19. HGS Trust: Consultancy with the Home Energy Concierge**

Trust has engaged in a consultancy to consider better retro-fit advice in installation and energy efficiency (Home Energy Concierge).

#### **20. Heat Monitoring Campaign this Winter**

REACH are considering running a heat monitoring campaign this winter to establish if people's homes are adequately warm, with a particular focus on the homes of the elderly.

## EVENTS

### 21. 2023 Summer Fair

The Summer Fair had been put together at a short notice, and the event was quite successful.

### 22. RA Events Committee

Emma Howard, Peter McCluskie, Steve Morris and Steven Rowe agreed to join the committee as additional members and were voted in unanimously. Revd Emily Kolltveit has already been co-opted.

### 23. 2024 Summer Fair

The date for the 2024 Summer Fair was agreed as Sunday, 2 June. A committee meeting will be arranged to nail down plans to ensure that the Fair is a success **(Action: Adrian)**

## OTHER MATTERS ARISING

24. The Revd Emily Kolltveit proposes to install a café in the garden at St Jude's Church and is in discussions with HGS Trust and Asher Budwig (Lola's).

### 25. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Council meeting is **17 October 2023 at 8pm**. This meeting will be attended in person at Fellowship House.