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Hon. Sec.:  
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## **NORTHWOOD HILLS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

### **Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on WEDNESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014, at 7.30 PM**

#### **Present**

Andrew Riley (ARly)	Chairman
Leo Mindel (LM) (part)	Deputy Chairman
Maxine Goswell (MG)	Minutes Secretary
Fiona Morgan (FM)	Treasurer
Christine Bushell (CB) (part)	Health & Events
Trevor Dixon (TD)	Secretary
Paul Bushell (PB)	Resident
Jane Clayfield (JC)	Road Steward
Cllr Andrew Retter (AR)	Ward Councillor
Tony Lane (TL)	President
Cllr Jonathan Bianco (JB)	Ward Councillor
Cllr John Morgan (JM)	Ward Councillor

#### **1. Apologies for Absence received from:**

Lucy Hall (LHI)	Committee Member
Alan Lester (AL)	Editor, Hills Echo
Joan Butfield (JB)	Co-opted Committee Member
Anila Hashim (AL)	Planning
Lynne Halse (LH)	Events Organiser

**2. Minutes of Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2014: Approved.**

#### **3. Matters Arising (not tabled as Agenda Items):**

**Salisbury Rd:** TD reported that the budget for the provision of a fence and secure gate appears to have been approved and will now be going ahead.

**HARA:** a representative is still sought.

**Local Hero Award:** The Friends of EHG had nominated Lesley Crowcroft for a Local Hero award and she had been shortlisted, as reported in the Uxbridge Gazette. Our very own Andrew Riley had also been nominated and short listed. Winners to be announced in June.

#### 4. Chairman's Report

- The Chairman reminded everyone that with the local and European elections tomorrow we are still in a period of 'Purdah'. There are 16 candidates standing for three seats at the local election. Full details were posted on the NHRA website shortly after the Declarations were announced.
- He reported that he had concerns regarding the announcement of the funding to rebuild Northwood School but hoped local parking issues would be addressed within the plans. The current understanding of the timetable of the development of the school, which is subject to alteration, is:  
May 2014 - Appointment of the Consultant Team and their Briefing  
June-August 2014 - Appraisal & Feasibility Options.  
Sept/Oct 2014 - Public Consultation. - indicative 6 weeks.  
Oct/Nov 2014 - Application Submission.  
February/March 2015 - Planning Committee Hearing.  
May/June 2015 - Start on site.  
August-Nov 2016 - School occupation.

This work is separate from the current ongoing build of the UTC on the same site. It is expected that the work will be at the southern end of the site. The school will have more pupil places than currently so there is an expectation of more staff and therefore, potentially more cars.

- With regard to the regeneration works in Joel Street, the Chairman has learnt that LBH are now dealing directly with the O'Hara team rather than through Enterprise Mouchel, which should simplify and speed up the works. It was pointed out that despite the publicity, many residents do see the work as very disruptive and not beneficial to Northwood Hills. On completion, work will be needed to improve resident's perception, pointing out that the design won a competition to obtain the Major of London funding, it was not all financed by Hillingdon Borough. It was reported that the shop occupancy has already increased from 75% to 90%.

There are a few snagging issues along Joel St and the footpath, but these will be addressed before project handover.

The Namaste Lounge refurbishment is nearing completion and will be opened later this month. On the pub's opening and the completion of the Joel St works, the Christmas Tree border adjacent to the pub's car park needs to be reviewed. The Council Green Spaces team has never had the responsibility of maintaining this small area. Its ongoing maintenance needs to be confirmed.

- With some sadness, the Chairman advised that due to family circumstances it is likely that he will need to move to be nearer to his parents in the coming months. Some discussion took place on how to ensure that NHRA continues to build on the reputation that ARly has so professionally developed. A Chair Elect was considered, but it was unclear who might be able to move into this role. The demands of the Chairman were recognised as substantial, and a breakdown of all the tasks/roles may be required to perhaps split the role.

## 5. Events

**The Big Lunch:** Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June - **CB** reported that leaflets had been delivered to local residents, the Bouncy Castle and Laser Tag game had been booked. The event is run jointly with Fairfield church, who have kindly agreed to provide some food and offer hot drinks and Pimms.

Expenditure so far:

Bouncy Castle: £110 (in future the Ruislip Round Table may be able to loan theirs out).

Laser Tag: £275

Leaflet printing: £110.

**CB** agreed to send invoices to **FM** for payment.

**TD** to request use of electricity from the Newsagents on Salisbury Road.

**AGM:** Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June - **ARly** has had confirmation from Ian Cantley and Stuart Hunt who will speak on Ruislip Woods. The other proposed speakers had not responded to his request. Nick Hurd has confirmed his attendance and **ARly** will invite the new councillors to sit on the Q&A panel once the election results are known. **ARly** will invite the Gazette to the AGM and the Big Lunch. The committee reviewed the existing committee posts and agreed the recommendations to be put forward at the AGM. **FM** agreed to help serve hot drinks on the night and **ARly** agreed to collect the key from 3pm.

Discussion took place as to how to increase the level of engagement with the NHRA by the residents. A Forum to 'brainstorm' NHRA: the Future may be a way forward, either as a part of the AGM, or as a follow-up. If a late September date was confirmed, then a Forum event could be publicised on a flyer at the Independents Day, building on the completion

of the Joel St refurbishment. Perhaps local businesses could be encouraged to sponsor different activities put on by the NHRA and a Business Membership could be promoted.

Involvement of younger residents was discussed, possibly through the Poindextor Explorer Scout Unit, via the leader, Christine Bennett and through **JB** to contact the Ruislip Young Peoples Centre. Helping on a sub group to organise an event may be a way of getting them involved, it could be done as part of the Volunteering section of their Duke of Edinburgh awards. Help with the NHRA website could also be a part of the DoFE scheme.

**Independents' Day:** Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September - ARly & TD have visited most shops to inform them of the change of date. TD has followed this up with written flyer giving contact details, plus advance notice of Christmas Lights event. TD to send flyer to **MG** for inclusion in the minutes. (Attached). The restaurants have not yet been approached, as this has to be done in the evening, and it was suggested that on the day they could offer snacks/samples outside their premises. The Mayor has been pencilled in for both events. A new shopkeeper's representative for the organisation of the event would be of benefit. TD to consider approaching Celsa of 7Sins, Muna, hairdressers and the Moroccan Café. **MG** was happy to attend an evening meeting to help organise the event. **MG** agreed that she & her daughter would approach Stomp Box.

**Christmas Lights Switch-On:** Saturday November 15<sup>th</sup> - LH has emailed the schools to give advance notice of the date.

## 6. Planning and Environment

**Joel Street Farm** - nothing happening.

**Woodman/Arens Bar** - Andrew Riley had filed a freedom of information request, but it appears the planning applications have now all been approved.

**10, Hillside Gardens** is being investigated, latest info below.

"From the Enforcement Officer LBH.

.....I refer to your complaint concerning the above site.

I visited the site yesterday and noted a partially erected rear extension. Following my visit I called the owner and he advised me that he is meeting Mark Jones, the officer who refused application 69754/APP/2014/466, to discuss what would be acceptable before submitting a new application. I will update you again following the meeting on 12 May. ...."

It was agreed it would be useful to find out, if possible, the usage of the public toilets opposite the station at Northwood Hills.

## **7. Health**

No update.

## **8. Transport**

The TfL request for elongated bus stops for the H13 had been received badly by many residents, feeling that the extra length for disabled access was barely ever used. **AR** reported that he was compiling a list of replies, to forward to TfL after the election.

## **9. Police**

HL & TD had attended the Police Ward Panel on 19<sup>th</sup> May and **TD** agreed to formally report back to the committee in future, and to allow the NHRA, through this meeting, to forward suggestions to the Police. Sample random checks run by the police on Joel St had uncovered a variety of issues, such as a lack of car insurance. This check will be repeated again in 3 months as it had been worthwhile. The Panel had suggested that the police try to be more visible to the residents i.e. Police surgeries held outside the library, rather than inside. **TD** has booked the Police bus for Independents Day.

Unfortunately, no Officers had been available on the day of the Scout Jumble Sale, although they had been requested, but they were needed for other duties in Central London.

## **10. Secretary**

a) A further suggestion has been made by a resident for local improvement, viz. a community clock for The Broadway.

b) Also a suggestion by Andrew Riley for new gates for the Highland Road entrance to Northwood Recreation Ground. However, it had been found out that budget has been put aside for this already, so perhaps an improvement to the park on the Northwood Hills side could be funded by the NHRA.

## **11. Councillors Report**

No update.

## **12. The Hills Echo**

The last issue had made a healthy profit, with thanks to **AL**.

**AL** was to be asked to get a quote for the possible printing of new membership cards.

## **13. Web Masters Report**

No update.

#### **14. Treasurer's Report**

The newly acquired event equipment would need careful logging in/out and **Paul Bushell** kindly agreed to take on a new role of Quarter master, as well as ensuring agreements were signed by each user regarding damage/repair/replacement and a list of approved users etc..

#### **15. Any Other Business**

**Closure of Civic Amenity Site:** this had been recently reported to be closing on 31 May. Hillingdon Council were concerned that other local councils whose residents also use it were not contributing to the running costs sufficiently. Concern was expressed though that the clean-up costs of increased fly-tipping might be as expensive as an increase in the management costs.

#### **14. Dates for Future Meetings:**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June - The Big Lunch

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June - AGM

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July** (NB 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of Month)

August - No Meeting - School holidays

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September - Independents' Day

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September - Hills Echo Cut Off Date

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September**

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September - Northwood Hills Clean Up Day

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** (half term is 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> Oct).

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November - Christmas Lights Switch On Event

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November**

Sunday xx December - Evening of Community Carols

December - No Meeting

**Meeting closed at 9:30 pm**