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NORTHWOOD HILLS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

**MINUTES of the Committee Meeting held on
WEDNESDAY 21st October 2015 at 7.30 pm**

Present

Andrew Riley	Chairman
Leo Mindel	Vice-Chairman
Trevor Dixon	Secretary
Maxine Goswell	Minutes Secretary
Herbert Levinger	Transport
Joan Butfield	Health & EHG
Jane Clayfield	Committee member
Lynne Halse	Events
Alison Judd	Schools Liaison
Fiona Morgan	Treasurer
Alan Lester	The Echo
Graham Mann	Police Rep
Andrew Retter	Committee member
Sue Allen	Road Steward Co-ordinator
Jan Choopani	Committee member
Jo Crockford	Resident
John Morgan	Councillor

If your initials appear in **BOLD** in the minutes, you have an action to report back to the next meeting with please.

It was with regret that Steve Tysoe, Advertising had had to stand down due to ill health after only recently joining the committee and he was thanked for the good work he had done in the short time he had helped.

- 1. Apologies for Absence received from**
Tony Lane, Anila Hashim & Duncan Flynn.
- 2. Minutes of Meeting held on 16th September 2015:** agreed.
- 3. Matters Arising** (not tabled as Agenda Items): none

4. Chairman's Report:

The Chairman welcomed everyone and reported that as many of things he had been involved in since the last meeting are on the agenda his report would be short. He thanked AL for producing the latest, excellent copy, of the Hills Echo and ST for liaising with the advertisers. He also thanked everyone involved in the very quick distribution of the newsletter to Road Stewards and made particular mention of the sterling work done by TD and MG.

He also thanked everyone involved in the Clean Up Day and commented that it was pleasing to see an increase in the number of helpers.

The Chairman reported that NHRA had never been stronger, or busier, yet the tasks were all falling to a very limited number of people. **ALL** those present were urged to bring along one new person each to the next meeting, or ask someone to come forward to help, perhaps as a road steward. We simply cannot continue working at the current level of commitment, without more people to share the load.

Allen Bros was closing, to be replaced by an Indian Wedding shop.

5. Northwood & Pinner Hospital:

Copies of the petition have been placed in several local shops. It has also been flagged on the website and by email. A brief history outlining the raising of the initial funds and the on-going costs being covered by the community, for the community was given. When it was handed over to the NHS no payment to the community was received and it would only be right to ensure the site remained in use for the community and not sold off as an asset from which the NHS would benefit. Although the existing doctors surgery then may well be likely to be sold off by the NHS for flats by a developer, if the hospital site was sold that would almost certainly be the outcome and the community would have no say at all in the timescale for a revamped doctors surgery at the existing site (probably a very long time). Hence the need to petition now as this was to be put to the Secretary of State before the Christmas Parliamentary Recess, so was to be completed by end of November. All the other local residents associations were also raising signatures.

Discussion took place about linking the petition signing to the need to gain new NHRA members, as a real example of what the NHRA does. It was agreed to have the petition available at the Christmas lights event and to arrange a rota to request signatures at the station for one or two days in evening rush hour and on a Saturday at Tesco. It could also be done if door knocking on roads to gain new members. Wearing of the NHRA tabards would be useful. **TD/AR** to publish a rota for signature collections.

6. Planning and Environment:

48 Harlyn Drive: Letter sent objecting to large basement extension, with potential to become a separate dwelling.

CAMRA, on behalf of the users of the pub had applied to have the **The William Jolle** registered as an Asset of community value so it could not be sold to developers to convert the site into flats. This appears to have been agreed by the council.

Land or buildings are of community value if:

- the main use of the land or building furthers the social well-being or social interests of the local community and it is realistic to think that the main use can continue.

7. Regeneration:

The Council officers are still to report, giving timescales, particularly with regard to items that do not appear to have a large budget implication, such as the repainting of lines for lanes on the road to the roundabout. **DF** was asked to chase in his absence.

The drainage problem and the pavement outside the Namaste Lounge are currently being repaired.

The floor tiles outside the station were recently tested by TfL and appear to have been sprayed with something.

8. Membership Growth:

Current recorded membership stands at just over 1000, but several Road Stewards collect in the autumn and have not yet sent in returns.

Copies of The Echo were distributed to Road Stewards within a few days of publication. Many thanks were recorded to all concerned.

It is proposed to do a "blitz" on Rochester Road, where there is currently no Road Steward.

Membership drive is still needed: while we ensure current membership list is up to date The Facebook page had been set up, and the new bank account will now allow this to progress to electronic membership.

Any current member wanting to join the Facebook page to email:

maxine.goswell@tesco.net

A target for membership increase of numbers would be useful.

9. Events:

Robert Symes Commemoration Tree Planting - confirmed by ARet as Saturday 7th November, Hillside Crescent entrance to the Hogs Back. **LM** to arrange for matting from the Scout hut if wet underfoot. **ARet** to continue to liaise with Erica.

Remembrance Sunday - Sunday 8th November - at the recommendation of Northwood Live at Home, local resident Glynn Poole, who is in his 90s, has agreed to lay the wreath at the Remembrance Sunday service on behalf of NHRA.

Christmas Lights - Saturday 14th November

The task list was discussed and LH agreed to re-issue to the committee after the meeting.

Other actions:

8 gazebos needed, may need to purchase if too many Scout ones are broken.

LM to purchase baubles from Costco.

FM to decide type of Christmas presents to be bought, perhaps more up market than last year.

ARly to get display racks from Richard Plume for the tombola.

ARly to confirm size of cup needed for mulled cider to **FM**, for purchase.

Provide old fairy lights for the Grotto that wouldn't be missed if they were damaged.

ALL

Any tombola presents to **JC** during afternoons or evenings at 159 Northwood Way.

ALL

JC to confirm sponsors of tombola prizes once known, to **AL**.

AL to arrange flyer and programme printing.

AL to check if any children's activities will be provided on the day in the library.

JM was thanked for arranging for the application for the banner to be hung and for 2 parking bays outside the Namaste lounge to be suspended for the day.

Regarding the budget for the event, as the Council grant will match any donations/monies up to the value of 1000 pounds, the event should hopefully be self-financing.

Previously it had been agreed that some tombola prizes/other activities that encouraged people on the day to move to shops not just by the Namaste Lounge would be useful.

Q90 Picnic in the Park - Sunday 12th June

This is to be organised jointly with the Northwood Residents' Association on Northwood Recreation ground. Food will be provided by the Northwood Football club, the bowls club will be open to all and 4 or 5 quality musical acts are to be sought to perform music through the ages, i.e. the 9 decades.

10. Treasurer's Report:

FM was able to report that **HSBC** have now opened a free Community Account for the **NHRA**. The signatories are **ARly**, **FM**, **TD** and **AL**. There are no limits on the amounts (although in practice we are unlikely to use the cheque books much).

11. Transport:

No major updates to report.

12. Secretary's Report:

A number of local issues have been reported by members:

Grant & Stone: concern over the increasing numbers of lorries parked in Joel Street waiting for entry, and on occasions unloading in the road.

Litter bins: Recreation Ground/Highland Road (bin removed and not replaced); Tolcarne Drive/Tesco Express (bin constantly filled with domestic waste).

JC to provide details of problems with Hogs Back litter bin to **JM**.

Further discussion from last meeting regarding problems with trees took place. Once again, it was agreed that **ALL** should submit locations involved to **LM** prior to the next meeting as he was happy to annotate a map with all the locations affected, so

that the Council can be presented with a project of work, rather than just odd complaints.

The committee was informed that the 2 CPZ petitions will be heard at a meeting in the Council Offices at 7pm on 11th November. Anyone can attend, but only prior agreed petitioners can speak.

13. Neighbourhood Watch:

GM reported that he and JC had started one for Highland Road. If residents want to start one in their road, then just contact Ruislip Police station. Various crime deterrent devices were discussed, that were available through the Police, some free of charge. One was a small item that emits a visual flicker, such as that of a TV set, to be used if you are out. Another was the Smart water property identifier.

14 Hills Echo:

Most distribution had occurred promptly for the autumn edition.
Friday 11th March - Spring edition Hills Echo Cut Off Date

15. Councillors' Report:

No major updates to report.

16. Dates for Next Meetings:

Sunday 8th November - Remembrance Sunday

Saturday 14th November - Christmas Lights Switch-On

Wednesday 25th November

December - no meeting

2016

Wednesday 27th January

Wednesday 24th February

Tuesday 1st March - Thank You Supper

Friday 11th March - Hills Echo Cut Off Date

Wednesday 16th March

Wednesday 27th April

Wednesday 25th May - AGM

Sunday 12th June - Proposed Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration

Wednesday 22nd June

Wednesday 27th July? (tbc)

August - No Meeting - School holidays

The meeting closed at 9.40.