

Chairman:
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Secretary:
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NORTHWOOD HILLS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES of the Committee Meeting held on
Wednesday 23rd March 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present:

Andrew Riley	Chairman
Leo Mindel	Vice-Chairman
Trevor Dixon	Secretary
Maxine Goswell	Minutes Secretary
Tony Lane	President
Herbert Levinger	Transport
Jane Clayfield	Committee member
Fiona Morgan	Treasurer
Alan Lester	The Echo Editor
Graham Mann	Road Steward
Anila Hashim	Planning
Jan Choopani	Road Steward
Jo Crockford	Road Steward
Peter Young	NHW
Rob Bryan	Police Inspector
David Bishop	Resident
Ann Gossington	Resident
Jean Bartoli	Ward Police Panel

1. Apologies for Absence received from

Joan Butfield, Lesley Crowcroft, Lynne Halse, Paul Akers, Alison Fenton, Duncan Flynn, Jonathan Bianco & John Morgan.

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 24th February 2016: agreed with following amendment: item 5: Jan Choopani is not a WP member, but had attended one meeting as an observer. Ron Barnbrook was accidentally omitted.

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

- Tree guards: JCh/GM had provided these.
- Christmas Lights Project Manager Appointment: GM expressed a willingness to do this, event to be discussed at the April meeting.

Actions Outstanding Remaining:

Actions outstanding from previous meetings:	By:
Urged to bring one new person each to next meeting, or ask someone to come forward. (Nov 2015).	ALL
Provide annual schedule of Finance actions for each year. (Jan 2016).	FM
Provide annual schedule of actions for each committee role for the year to TD/MG. (Jan 2016).	ALL, not LC&TD
Flytipping by flats in Joel St reported but still occurring. (Jan 2016).	JM
Regeneration issues update from council, outstanding since Oct 2014. Traffic survey at roundabout is ongoing. Independent review on use of parking bays is to be undertaken.	JM/DF/JB
Current members wanting to join the Facebook page email: maxine.goswell@tesco.net (Feb 16)	ALL
Ensure all Zones have a zone leader (Feb 16)	MG
Check if flowers to be provided in Northwood Hills this year (Feb 16)	JM
Actions outstanding from this meeting:	
No update on future of William Joelle currently available.	
Confirm meeting dates of Police attendance.	RB
Email RB with detail of loitering by shops so police can target patrols.	JC
Ask if Terry Clayfield could start looking at some planning applications. AL also to start looking at some planning applications.	JC AL
AGM arrangements	ARly/MG
Review if Echo should be available on-line.	ARly, MG, AL, GM
Offer help for stewarding Q90 Picnic in the Park	ALL

4. Chairman's Report:

The Chairman welcomed everyone especially those members of The Police Ward Panel who have been co-opted to NHRA for the purpose of the trial.

He thanked everyone who generously contributed/helped at the Annual Northwood Hills Thank You Supper Party. Very positive feedback has been received about the evening and the Chairman was delighted with the impromptu performance of the singing group which was a great bonus!

He thanked AL for his work on the Spring Edition of the Hills Echo and specifically mentioned the good and detailed recent work of Lesley Crowcroft on Planning Issues and Environment issues.

Since the last Committee meeting the Chairman has attended the Topping Out Ceremony at the new Northwood School, met with the new Wetherspoons Area manager and new Manager of the William Jolle, attended a meeting at Northwood School and also a Ruislip Woods Management Advisory Group meeting.

Northwood & Pinner Cottage Hospital: Nick Hurd chaired a meeting last week at the Northwood Health Centre with various stakeholders. He requested the Doctors prepare an outline business case of fundable services that could be offered from the site, which he aims to present to a minister in the near future.

5. Ward Police Panel:

The team currently consists of:

Insp Rob Bryan

PS Alison Fanton

PC Max Christmas

PCSO Ricky Soler De Los Rios

A Ward Panel meeting was held on 25th February 2016 chaired by Herbert Levinger and was the last in its current format, making way for a pilot scheme whereby the Ward Panel form a sub-committee on the NHRA and an agenda item is raised each meeting for the police report to be discussed. PS Fanton will produce a police report prior to the NHRA committee meeting and members will have the opportunity to discuss and vote on the three ward promises. A representative from the Police will attend the committee meeting every 3 months to field queries or questions and take feedback. **RB** to confirm the dates of Police attendance.

The three promises are to be led by feedback from the committee and members of the ward panel who are representing the wider community in Northwood Hills. These should be specific problems that are causing concern for the public at large in Northwood Hills. Eg. Is there a particular park in which there are ASB (anti-social behaviour) problems? Is there a particular problem that is affecting residents in the ward? What would the residents like to see police doing to tackle ASB or crime?

The three promises agreed on at the last meeting were:

- 1) Tackle speeding and parking issues on the main roads and particularly near to schools.**
- 2) Tackle ASB in and around Salisbury Road, including Malmesbury Close.**
- 3) Drug dealing and use around Windsor Close.**

Agreed that as these promises had only just been set, it was pertinent to leave them at this for this period and consider changing them next time.

The team were kindly invited to attend the Annual Supper on Tuesday 1st March. It was a lovely evening and attended by Alison, Max and Ricky. It was a great opportunity to meet other community-minded individuals who all do their bit towards community cohesion and prevention of crime. Oh, and the food was fantastic!

MetTrace is being rolled out across the ward. Certain roads are being offered these property marking kits in order to deter burglars and re-unite property with its owners if it goes missing. So far, 1711 kits have been given out and 1033 are still left to do. It is worth having one if you are offered. They would normally cost £75. Neighbourhood Watch members can purchase them for £25. The chosen roads have been dictated to us and are a result of crime analysis.

Neighbourhood Watch is being re-invigorated. We have visited all of the current co-ordinators in order to establish if the scheme is still running. We are looking for new NHW groups. If you know anybody who would like to take part then pass their details to us and we will contact them.

There have been no serious crimes of note within Northwood Hills, however the team continue to tackle the low-level crime that can be a blight on people's lives. Eg. car crime, theft from shops and burglary. The crime figures are on the following link <https://www.police.uk/metropolitan/#neighbourhoods>

Inspector Bryan confirmed that if an obvious pattern of burglary is appearing, then warnings/advice are now issued on social media, clearly personal details of specific crimes are not going to be shared. GM suggested that more use of residents as the 'eyes and ears' of the police could be made if details of suspect vehicles/individuals could be shared.

PC Christmas investigated a matter of road-rage whereby a man in a van had an argument with a schoolboy on a bike whom he felt had got in his way in the road. The driver of the van had punched the young man in the face and intimidated him. Totally un-called for and thankfully the court thought so too. He was ordered to pay the boy compensation and was forced to take anger-management classes as a court order.

Councillor Morgan has been requesting that Police enforce the restricted turn on Watford Road into Elgood Avenue. It is apparently being breached on a regular basis. This moving traffic offence is enforceable by London Borough of Hillingdon traffic enforcement only and the Police team are working towards doing a joint operation with the council in order to assist them with this.

A map of burglaries over the previous 4 weeks was discussed. The councillors could perhaps request budget for the mobile number plate recognition unit to be used in the Ward.

All present were urged to pass on to the police any particular areas of concern they receive from residents. JC agreed to email RB with detail of loitering by shops so that the police can target patrols if required. If anybody would like to discuss matters of concern in Northwood Hills then please contact one of the team.

Alison.fanton@met.police.uk

0208 2461823

6. Planning and Environment:

ARly reported that LC was again tirelessly working on planning and environmental issues and the committee was very grateful. Help was needed to reduce the load. JC agreed to ask if Terry Clayfield could perhaps start looking at some applications and AL may also be able to do so. Perhaps looking at the applications submitted on a weekly rota basis.

Flood Risk Management Strategy:

The Flood Risk meeting 3rd March was cancelled, a proposed date in April is awaited.

Planning Applications update:

Comments have been made on the following applications:

- 163 Joel Street: over large side rear extension. Similar application refused in 2004. **Refused**. Resubmission of the application. NHRA objecting on the appearance of the extension, although the over-all size is smaller. **Refused**
- 51 Hilliard Road. Change from a single dwelling house into two flats. This was recommended refusal, the applicant then submitted more drawings. LBH withdrew the application from the North Planning Committee agenda as the new drawings were submitted too late to be properly considered before the meeting. NHRA have sent further comments upon the new drawings. This was approved at the planning meeting the day before this meeting.
- 2 Hilliard Road. Enforcement notice served. Alleged breach: Without the benefit of planning permission, the unauthorized material change of use of an outbuilding to a self-contained residential unit. **Appeal undecided**.
- Rear of Clearview House 201, Pinner Road. Erection of another building to house 2x offices and flats. The building at the front of the site was until recently known as Zettler House. The former Zettler House already has permission to change from offices to flats. The proposed building behind the former Zettler House does not have any amenity space apart from balconies which would be overlooked by the front building which is to have a roof garden. **Undecided**. New drawings have been added and the council have re-consulted. NHRA have commented again. The new drawing showed a clearer view of the parking layout but this does not make any changes to our original objections.
- 1 Rushmore Close Eastcote. Over-large extensions to the roof, making the dwelling over dominant within the street scene.
- 4 Chamberlain Way. Large over dominant changes to the roof. Resubmission.
- 73 Ryefield Crescent. This is the 4th attempt to build a miserable dwelling at the back of the shops. This time the applicant is trying the Prior Approval route, which means the LPA can only refuse on parking and/or land contamination. Parking was a reason for refusal before, and a ground contamination survey has not been submitted, so hopefully it will be refused again. The proposal is little better than a 'bed in shed' housing. The Councillors have been asked to raise this objection with Nick Hurd and Boris Johnson.
- 3 Pikes End. This development is within the Eastcote Village Conservation Area. The dwellings forming this part of Pikes End were designed by a local architect Noel Wurr.
<http://www.modernism-in-metroland.co.uk/pikes-end.html>
The first application to change the street scene was approved in 2010 although there was strong opposition from both the Eastcote Village

Conservation Panel and local residents. The planning permission was renewed in 2013. Six years from the original application this development has not been carried forward. This current application is not asking for a renewal of planning permission but has been entered as a new application. Our objections are the same as for previous applications. The addition of the extra floor spoils the harmony of the roofscape of this modernistic designed courtyard development.

- Joel Street Farm. Change of use to a Day Nursery. The landscaping layout has been submitted to LBH. It appears adequate. However there is a gate shown from the fields into the children's play area, comments have been sent to LBH stating.....' Our main area of concern is the proposed gate at the end of the children's play area. This gate opens out onto the fields beyond. Surely it is not in the children's best interest to have a gate that could allow access to anyone wandering in the fields. Should this gate be approved, then there should be a strict condition that the gate be kept locked when children are using the Nursery'.
- 68 Raisins Hill. This forms part of the Raisins Hill ASLC. The proposed extensions are larger than the original dwelling so do not look subordinate to the original.
- The removal of some hedging by Joel St Farm had caused some concern, but appeared to not be linked to the buildings or the nursery application.

7. Regeneration:

Once again, an update was long overdue. The need for roundabout line repainting was paramount, and the additional cost of this as a hurdle was not significant in the view of the committee. The traffic island and bollard on the Rickmansworth Road outside NISA also was in urgent need to attention.

ARly reported that NHRA had been copied into a response from the LBH to a resident who had written to them with his comments about the regeneration and highlighted some of the observations and responses:

Central Reservation means that Emergency vehicles cannot get through if there is any traffic - Response: In practice the layout has shown there is sufficient room for passing traffic even when buses are waiting or cars looking to park. We conducted a thorough consultation including all emergency services before installing the central boulevard. No concerns were raised and there have been no reports received to indicate that there are any access ability issues in Joel Street with emergency vehicles.

The Trees in Central Reservation are dying - Response: The 'Frans Fontaine" species was especially selected to be able to tolerate an urban environment and the tree pits within the central boulevard include a specialist system to help the trees establish and thrive, especially in the early years. It was necessary to increase the regularity of watering during the July heat wave and the trees are re-leafing as expected.

Pedestrian Crossing is too close to the roundabout, so if traffic is going down Joel Street it stops everything. Response: Congestion at Northwood Hills Circus largely results from the proximity of a number of schools. The Council continues to try and encourage them to foster sustainable transport by their staff, pupils and parents but the reality is that the school run does impact on traffic congestion. We are not complacent and we are undertaking traffic surveys on all arms of Northwood Hills Circus to see what, if further changes could be possible. ARly reported that he thought it was unlikely that anything would be decided until the impacts of the new Northwood School were understood.

8. Membership Growth:

Road Stewards are still needed to replace those covering Raisins Hill and Harlyn Drive (evens). Committee members were urged to encourage any resident to join. The Gatehill Estate has its own Association, so whilst we are happy for the Echo to be distributed to roads there, there is an agreement to not overlap, so subscriptions to NHRA are unlikely.

9. Events:

Past:

Annual Supper - Tuesday 1st March

This seemed to be enjoyed by all present.

Future:

AGM - Wednesday 25th May (Update required on regeneration.) Bright posters on lampposts as last year would be helpful. **ARly** to provide?

Confirmation of the below needed from **MG**:

Car parking availability

Refreshments: are we able to provide them?

Cost of caretaker

Police cadets/cybercrime talks.

Nominations for committee posts are required by 11th May.

The new logo options were reviewed and that below chosen to be approved at the AGM. Apostrophe to be added!



The agenda sheet should be printed in colour to show this.

Q90 Picnic in the Park - Sunday 12th June. ARly gave an update on progress of arrangements. Acts and staging have been booked. Please confirm availability to help ARly. **ALL**

10. Treasurer's Report: R&A briefly reviewed. FM thanked for her work.

11. Secretary's Report: NHRA can ask the librarian to place a notice on the notice board inside the library for us, and we can ask the station and council if we can place a notice in a community noticeboard at no charge.

12. Transport:

METROPOLITAN LINE: There has been considerable negative publicity for the Metline management because of the mishandling of the original signalling contract with Bombardier. The main mistake was not to link staged payments with actual results achieved. As a consequence, about £1m. was paid out prior to Bombardier withdrawing from the contract.

HS2: A hitherto secret report has just been published which indicates that part of the HS2 route, which is mostly planned to be built on embankments, would be unsafe at speeds in excess of 157 mph because of soil instability, whereas the project is based on a speed of 225mph. The highest speeds currently being achieved in Europe are 200mph. Speed restrictions along a large part of the part of the route would seriously weaken the already contentious economic case.

13. Health:

REVIEW OF LONDON BOROUGHES

Hillingdon is worse than average for children in poverty, homelessness, diabetes, TB and sexually transmitted diseases.

THH LATEST FIGURES

Hillingdon hospital is conducting a campaign to promote weight loss for its staff.

The A & E has come under increased pressure in numbers, particularly in the 65 to 80 age group.

Staffing in January: THH made 164 offers of employment with 29 new starters in January, while agency staff spend fell by 12% compared with the same period in 2015. Year to date deficit for THH was £1,13million despite a surplus of 300k for January.

HCCG

At month 10 (Jan), HCCG achieved a cumulative surplus of £6.23m. and it is forecasting a year end surplus of £7.48m. GP managed budgets at the end of November were overspent by £2.78m.

The London ambulance service target of eight minutes response time for 75% of calls was not achieved in December (71.7%) year to date 68.2%. Throughout London the problem was staff recruitment and retention.

14. Hills Echo: Echoes, together with membership cards to be bagged up and distributed to zone coordinators on 12th April. All zone coordinators and Road Stewards have been notified of the arrangements. Those Road Stewards who have not yet provided a list of members will be specifically asked to do so.

Agreed a review and decision required as to whether or not the Echo should be available on-line. **ARly, MG, AL and GM** to then bring this back to committee.

15. Councillors' Report: None, but the recent resurfacing of Winchester and Highland Road was welcomed.

16. AOB:

DB mentioned the following events, open to anyone:

Tuesday 29th March at 1.30 pm: Older Peoples Assembly in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Uxbridge.

Monday 18th April at 1.30 pm: TEA DANCE in the Middlesex Suite, Civic Centre, Uxbridge.

Monday 25th April, 6.30-9 pm PEOPLE IN PARTNERSHIP at Hillingdon Hospital, education building. Quarterly event for members of the public regarding questions about health generally. Governors will be present as well as Board members.

Controlled Parking Zone: once the stress survey has been carried out, the councillors will report back with the findings. Cabinet member for transport and planning will make the decision.

Theft of wing mirrors: 20 had been stolen over 2 nights recently.

17. Dates for Next Meetings:

Tuesday 12th April - Echo distribution date

Wednesday 27th April

Saturday 14th May - Scouts Jumble Sale

Saturday 21st May - Spring Tidy-Up Day

Wednesday 25th May - AGM

Saturday 4th June - Eastcote House Gardens Picnic

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

Wednesday 22nd June

Wednesday 20th July (tbc)

August - no meeting

Friday 9th September - Echo copy date

Wednesday 28th September

Saturday 8th October (tbc) - Autumn Tidy-Up Day

Wednesday 19th October

Saturday 19th November - Christmas Lights Switch-On

Wednesday 23rd November

December - no meeting

2017:

Wednesday 25th January

Wednesday 22nd February

Wednesday 22nd March

Wednesday 26th April

Wednesday 24th May - AGM

The meeting closed at 9.00.