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Secretary:
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**Minutes of the Committee Meeting of
 Wednesday 28th June 2017 at 7.30 pm
 Held at Fairfield Evangelical Church, Windsor Close.**

Members present:

Leo Mindel (LM)	Vice-Chair
Maxine Goswell (MG)	Minutes Secretary
Fiona Morgan (FM)	Treasurer
Alan Lester (AL)	Editor, The Echo
Andrew Retter (ARet)	Quartermaster
Graham Mann (GM)	Police rep
Lynne Halse (LH)	Events
Joan Butfield (JBu)	Health & EHG
Ted Adams (TA)	Resident
Jonathan Bianco (JBi)	Councillor

1. **Apologies for Absence received from:**
 Tony Lane, Andrew Riley, Trevor Dixon, Jane Clayfield, Duncan Flynn,
 Jan Choopani & John Morgan.
2. **Minutes of Meeting held on 26th April 2017: approved.**
3. **Matters arising (that are not tabled as Agenda Items):**
Actions Outstanding Remaining:

Actions outstanding from previous meetings:	By:
Candidates for the position of Echo Advertising Editor to be considered (Sept 16)	ALL
Help with reviewing and opposing planning applications. (Jan 17)	ALL
Consider a new candidate for Web Master. (Feb 17)	ALL
Meeting with Northwood RA re electronic membership system. (Ap17)	ARly/TD/MG
Seek Road Stewards for roads without one. (Mar 17)	All
The following actions from the AGM were noted:	
Traffic assessment at roundabout would not take place until September. NHRA views will be passed to the independent company.	JM/DF
Follow up electricity supply to lights on central reservation.	DF

Broken pavement by Namaste Lounge: Repaired but one side (where delivery lorries unload) often breaks up again very quickly due to unsubstantial footings.	To be monitored
Traffic issues in Chamberlain Way & nearby roads. (Mar 17) TA reported that petition with 332 signatures about to be submitted.	DF/TA
Actions outstanding from this meeting:	
Investigate possible funding for the provision of a ramp from behind the shops onto the Salisbury Road green space. (Jun 17)	JBi
Review the need for an extra motorcycle bay in Joel St. (Jun 17)	JBi/JM/DF
Green Spaces or others to water new tree in Joel St. (Jun 17)	JBi
Cost of the elm on the Hogs Back. Status to be confirmed. (Jun 17)	ARly
Possible emergency repairs in Maycroft and Ryefield Crescent to be looked at. (Jun 17)	JBi

4. Chairman's Report:

In the absence of the Chairman, Leo Mindel kindly chaired the meeting and the Chairman had submitted a written report.

The Chairman was delighted to have been awarded the British Empire Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours "For Services to the Community of Northwood Hills, Middlesex". The Investiture will be in November. Thanks were expressed to those who had nominated him and the committee sent their congratulations, a well-deserved award.

He thanks everyone who had been involved in organising the Big Lunch which was well attended. Two new Road Stewards were signed up plus two members, one of whom will be paying on-line. The date had clashed with Fathers' Day but was a nationally arranged date, liaising with the Jo Cox Memorial Fund. MG raised the issue that a ramp from behind the shops onto the green space would be very helpful for wheelchair users. JBi agreed to look at any possible funding for this.

Whilst not an NHRA event he also thanked everyone who was involved and supported the 1st Northwood new Scouting Centre Quiz Night at which over £1k was raised. Another quiz was to be held on Saturday 3rd March 2018.

For personal reasons he was unable to attend the Ruislip Lido Management Advisory Group meeting. It was noted that parking at Ruislip Lido is now chargeable for non-Hillingdon Residents. The access road was now no-parking totally, and those parking on the pavement or on the road would be ticketed. Overflow parking was available at Breakspear Crematorium at the weekends. JBi reported that security around the Lido had been increased over night to prevent damage to a wide variety of equipment.

The Chairman had attended the June Planning North Committee Meeting. He was pleased to see that the former Brainchild and Allen Brothers are being made ready

for occupation by Cake Box and Indian Desserts, respectively. Part of the former Early Bird Convenience Store is to be a hairdressers and a threading bar.

The Bailiff's notice is still in place at Wax. There is some concern about the Himalayan Flavour which is currently displaying a notice that it is closed due to problems in the kitchen. Robin Paterson had had to shut his butcher's shop due to having a knee replacement but hoped to open again after 6 weeks, although it was unclear if he had any retirement plans.

5. Police Report:

The Police were thanked for their presence at The Big Lunch Event.

Sam Quinn had sent in a report about 2 aggravated burglaries in Northwood Hills recently. Both were in Wiltshire Lane, one in May and one the night before this meeting. They are believed to be linked, with the same M.O and suspects. Three males have entered the properties and threatened the occupants asking for cash and gold. The burglary squad is investigating.

6. Planning and Environment:

At the June Planning North Committee Meeting the long outstanding application to convert the 1st and 2nd floors above the William Jolle into a gym was refused. The Chairman thanked Cllr Bianco for speaking in favour of the petitioners.

The owners of Dominoes Pizza building have appealed the Council's decision to refuse permission to develop behind the shop towards Ferndown Road.

The freeholder who owns the block from Cartridge World to the Nail Bar has appealed the Council's decision to refuse permission to build another floor of flats above the shops.

An application to extend into the loft at 154 Joel Street was declined. This building has recently been extended and split into two dwellings.

An appeal against the Council's refusal to allow additional flats to be built at 116 Pinner Road (corner of Hilliard Road) has been rejected by the Planning Inspectorate. This may now become an enforcement issue.

JBi mentioned that appeals seemed to be taking a long time to process through Bristol, presumably due to a back log of cases.

7. Regeneration:

As well as the issues covered at the AGM, See Item 3: Matters Arising, GM once again raised that the need for an extra motorcycle bay in Joel St was questionable and requested a response from the councillors. **JBi/JM/DF**

The replaced tree in the central reservation appeared to be suffering due to lack of water in the very hot weather. Green Spaces/ flower watering team or Lulu's Florist to be asked to take this on. **JBi**

8. Membership Growth:

As reported in Item 4, two new Road Stewards were signed up plus two members at the Big Lunch.

9. Events:

Past Events

AGM - Wednesday 24th May

This went well and Ted Adams was thanked for his presentation on The Rise & Fall of Green Shield Stamps.

The Big Lunch - Sunday 18th June. See Item 4.

Future Events

Christmas Lights Switch-On - Saturday 18th November

LH reported that she had submitted the Grant Application for this event and contacted the local schools about performing. She was also obtaining a quote for 10 benches for the children to sit on at the side of the stage when not performing. LM had sent the quote he had for hiring mikes to Steve Rogers. He believed that it was better to hire mikes than purchase them.

It was agreed that no bands should perform as they take a long time to get on/off stage, cause a lot of additional PA issues and are made up of the older children so parents are not so interested in them. The need for the programme to be shorter was discussed and the suggestion was made that only junior schools should be invited to perform. Secondary schools could be asked to assist with stewarding and the like, but it was only fair to invite all or none of them to perform. It wasn't possible to pick and choose, depending on what they offered. After some discussion, a vote was taken and passed by 7 to 2, (1 abstention) that no secondary schools should perform. The possibility of the location moving to the Argyle House carpark or Northwood School had been raised at the debrief meeting last December. The meeting generally agreed that Northwood School was too far away from the Christmas Tree site but the Namaste Lounge site was becoming dangerously full to overflowing. LM suggested that the carpark was visited at dusk to assess if it would make sense as new site.

10. Treasurer's Report:

FM confirmed the final R&A's which had been circulated with the agenda together with the list of roads/members.

EHG had requested funding for bird boxes for Long Meadow and Erica Symes had been happy that the Robert Symes Fund be used for 2 tawny owl and 1 kestrel box at a total of £240. This would be on top of the boxes in Ruislip Woods. FM reported that the cost of the elm on the Hogs Back had not yet been recovered from the accounts. Status to be confirmed by **ARly**.

11. Secretary's Report:

The blocked gullies in The Broadway which were earlier reported to the Council, plus a number further down Joel Street which were responsible for exacerbating the damage of last June's flash flood, have now been cleared. Thanks to Cllr Duncan Flynn for following this up with the relevant Council officers.

12. Transport:

Anthony Wood (father of Christine Bushell) has agreed to supply regular updates on Transport Information. Two updates have so far been received but not reproduced here as not relevant to Northwood Hills.

The Croxley Link now seems highly unlikely to go ahead despite all the money spent on the preparatory work.

13. Health:

No report.

14. Hills Echo:

We need to start work on the next edition of the magazine. It would be helpful if Committee Members would volunteer to write to various groups to obtain copy and also advertising. AL reported that the advertising revenue from April had still not all been received and the shops need chasing constantly.

AL has advised that this will be his last edition as Editor after 8 years, so we urgently need to identify a replacement. In short, if we don't have an Editor the Residents' Association could easily fail/go into decline. The meeting thanked AL for all his work.

15. Website:

TA raised prior to the meeting that the website says this meeting venue was Northwood School. It was noted that the website needs to make it clear that in general the meetings are the 4th Wed of the month at Fairfield.

Post meeting note: some further updates are required e.g. old committee names etc.

16. Councillors' Report:

JBi reported that the 3 councillors had walked around the Ward, agreeing a list of priorities for roads and pavements needing resurfacing/repairing. Lampposts needing repainting were not looked at as the LED upgrade programme could make this irrelevant. The councillors will submit the list but availability of budget at this stage was not known.

Those present reported that the pavement at Maycroft and the road at the entrance to Ryefield Crescent were particularly bad. JBi agreed to get them looked at in terms of any emergency repairs.

The replacement of lampposts during the LED upgrade programme results in there sometimes being a wait between the structural work and the electrical work so a lamppost can look unfinished for some time.

The response of Hillingdon Council to the recent tower block fire in Kensington and Chelsea has been prompt. There are 4 Council owned high rise blocks in Hillingdon of 17 stories or more. They do not have the combustible cladding as in Grenfell Tower, but have insulation between the internal concrete blocks and external brick work.

This is currently being tested. There are 13 Council owned properties of 6 or more stories and none have the combustible cladding. JBi reported that the most recent of the Council's regular Fire Inspections had taken place in May. Some recommendations of the replacement of older fire doors and improved emergency lighting had been made. As a precautionary measure, the Council have just placed an order to replace all fire doors in the buildings mentioned in the report. They have also implemented an increased frequency of checking clear routes from Fire Exits. The retro fitting of sprinkler systems is often disruptive and unpopular but may well go ahead in some higher buildings. Obviously, any privately owned buildings do not come under the Council's remit.

17. AOB:

- a) The Northwood Bowls club had recently held a very successful Open Day and the Northwood Hills Councillors had, once again, beaten the Northwood Councillors in the friendly match.
- b) LH reported that there was a dead tree in Hillside Gardens. A survey of trees in the Ward would be useful.
- c) GM had reported suspicious behaviour on Northwood Rec, which then resulted in a Police chase and then arrests and seizing of two stolen motorbikes. He also observes drug dealing there, but that has proved more difficult for the police to follow up.
- d) AR reported another accident on the Pinner Road, involving a telegraph pole being destroyed due to speeding traffic on the slight bend by his house. Further liaison between TFL and LBH would be useful in trying to resolve this.
- e) The Case is Altered has reopened and it is hoped there will be no major issues there.

18. Dates for Next Meetings:

Wednesday 19th July: meeting cancelled

August - no meeting

Wednesday 27th September

Wednesday 18th October (Ward Panel)

Saturday 18th November - Christmas Lights Switch-On

Wednesday 22nd November

December - no meeting

2018:

Wednesday 24th January (Ward Panel)

Wednesday 28th February

Tuesday 6th March - Annual Supper

Wednesday 21st March

Wednesday 25th April (Ward Panel)

Wednesday 23rd May - AGM