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**NORTHWOOD HILLS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES of the Committee Meeting held on**  
**WEDNESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

**Present**

Andrew Riley	Chairman
Leo Mindel	Vice-Chairman
Tony Lane	President
Trevor Dixon	Secretary
Maxine Goswell	Minutes Secretary
Herbert Levinger	Transport & Health
Lynne Halse	Events
Joan Butfield	Health & EHG
Fiona Morgan	Treasurer
Alan Lester	Editor The Echo
Jean Bartoli	Ward Police Panel
Jane Clayfield	Committee member
Jan Choopani	Committee member
Keith Blunden	Event Manager, Christmas lights

**1. Apologies for Absence received from**

Graham Mann, Lesley Crowcroft, Police Inspector Paul Trice, Lesley Crowcroft, Jonathan Bianco, Duncan Flynn & John Morgan.

**2. Minutes of Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2016: agreed.**

Minutes of the 2016 AGM were also accepted by the committee, to be approved at the 2017 AGM.

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

If there is an action by your name, PLEASE DO IT.

Post meeting note: Outstanding actions were not reviewed at the meeting, hence all remain below.

**Actions Outstanding Remaining:**

<b>Actions outstanding from previous meetings:</b>	<b>By:</b>
Urged to bring one new person each to next meeting, or ask someone to come forward. (Nov 2015).	<b>ALL</b>
Provide annual schedule of Finance actions for each year. (Jan 2016).	<b>FM</b>

Provide annual schedule of actions for each committee role for the year to TD/MG. (Jan 2016).	ALL: not LC,TD & JB
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: <a href="mailto:maxine.goswell@tesco.net">maxine.goswell@tesco.net</a> (Feb 16)	ALL
Ensure all Zones have a zone leader (Feb 16)	MG/TD
Hanging baskets and weeding to be done (Feb 16 & Jun 16)	JM/JB
Meeting to review if Echo should be available on-line. (Mar 16)	ARly, MG, AL, GM
Source Echo Article about sewers problems. (Apr 16)	AL
Join NORA. (Apr 16)	ARly/FM
Meet to resolve dangerous bollard outside NISA. (Apr 16)	DF
Email list of dates for Christmas lights event sub-committee meetings (Apr 16)	KB
Inspect Christmas tree pit and resolve propping issues (Apr 16)	ARly/KB
Ask if Green Spaces team can regularly check Hogs back elm (Apr 16)	DF
Arrange donation to Fairfield for use of the premises (Apr 16)	FM
Visit Grant & Stone yard regarding parking of lorries (Apr 16)	DF
Further access to LBH noticeboard at the station (Apr 16)	DF/JB
Raise the Long Meadow shrine issue with enforcement officers again. (Apr 16)	DF
Review bus cage on the road at the stop in Northwood Way (Apr 16)	ARly
Council to erect posters advertising Smart water use: progress (Jun16)	JB/JM/DF
Confirm if a car parked with 2 wheels on the kerb is fined (Jun16)	JB/JM/DF
Investigate disabled parking bays future on Joel St (Jun16)	JM
Consider any possible candidates for a quartermaster. (Jun16)	ALL
<b>Actions outstanding from this meeting:</b>	
Request from Inspector Trice a report on burglaries in Northwood Way, and update on trial of Panel meeting incorporation into NHRA meeting.	ARly
Candidates for the position of Echo Editor to be considered	ALL
Parking stress tests results	JB/JM/DF
Report that gates into Ruislip Woods prevent bicycles being taken in. Provide details of Ruislip Woods Trustees contact.	LH and ARly
Investigate Nextdoor Social Media website.	MG/ARly

#### 4. Chairman's Report:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Sadly Wetherspoons have confirmed that the William Jolle will be closed on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November. There are several rumours going around about what will happen to the site but nothing has been confirmed. The Chairman is hopeful that

Wetherspoons will again provide the Mulled Cider at this year's Grand Christmas Lights Switch-on Event the week before, but this has not yet been confirmed.

The Chairman recently met with an LBH Officer on the Hogs Back to look at the Robert Symes tree. The tree is still there, as is the protection.

Discussions have commenced with Cllr Flynn about using some of the Robert Symes Legacy money to improve the Highland Road entrance to Northwood Rec. It is hoped that a meeting can be arranged in the near future with Officers and perhaps Cllr Morgan at the site to discuss what may be possible. The Chairman has also recently written to Stuart Hunt to chase up what is happening about the camera box, screen etc. at Ruislip Woods Visitors Centre.

The Chairman congratulated the Councillors and Officers on the notable achievement of Green Flag awards for the Hogs Back, The Pinn Meadow (by Eastcote Hockey Club) and Northwood Rec. The Hogs Back also received a Silver Award in the London Bloom Awards and Northwood Rec received a Bronze Award. The Long Meadow received a Gold Medal in the London in Bloom Awards in the large conservation area category. The Friends of EHG were awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in the Birthday Honours.

Work on the new nursery school at Joel Street Farm has moved on apace but it looks like there is still much to do.

The builders are due to hand over the new Northwood School on 1st October, with the school moving in during the week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> October, which will mean the new entrance will be on Pinner Road. The school will hold an open day for prospective pupils in the new hall on 10<sup>th</sup> October, while a Saturday open morning for the public is planned in the near future. Phase 2 of the works will start on 31st October 2016. This will involve the demolition of the existing school, which is to be replaced with new Rugby and Football pitches, as well as the completion of an all-weather football pitch.

#### **5. Ward Police Panel:**

In the absence of police representation, HL asked for an update on views of the promises and their success. Promises last time were:

Tackling ASB in Argyle house and William Jolle car parking areas.

Drug dealing at Catlins Lane.

Drug Dealing around Windsor Close.

Increased patrols in Windsor Close had been in evidence, dealing still taking place though.

It was agreed that these 3 should remain in place.

JC reported a number of burglaries she had been made aware of in Northwood Way, one at knife point. **ARly** agreed to write to Inspector Trice for a report and update on this at the next meeting.

HL asked for feedback at the next meeting as to how the police felt the trial of the Ward Panel into the NHRA meeting had progressed. He was concerned that only one previous member of the Ward Panel, who was not a member of the NHRA committee, was at this meeting. TD confirmed that the papers are sent to all the Panel members. **ARly** agreed to progress this with Inspector Trice.

## **6. Planning and Environment:**

Over the summer holiday period a number of objection letters have been sent to the North Planning Committee:

5 Maycroft - Still to be decided.

22 Stanley Road - This appears to be very similar to a previously refused application.

11 Hillside Rise - Still to be decided.

The Case Is Altered - Due to the potential impact on Northwood Hills Residents.

12 Colchester Road - Still to be decided.

91 Joel Street - The former Car Audio Shop.

We are aware that that LBH have announced that they need to expand and rebuild Hillside Infants and Junior Schools. Some 'portacabins' were installed during the school holiday but as yet there has not been a Planning Application.

Applications seem to be taking a long time to get to committee, not just in Northwood Hills ward, but all wards.

## **7. Regeneration:**

Still no progress on reduction of pavement width at the roundabout, perhaps NHRA should bring this to a full Council meeting, not just reply on the Ward Councillors to progress this?

JC and JCh had both chased the Council for Hanging baskets/flowers for next year. **ARly** had also chased Stuart Hunt.

## **8. Membership Growth:**

Membership growth still needs to be a priority, yet no progress is being made.

## **9. Events:**

**Autumn Tidy-Up** - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October: more people needed.

**Christmas Lights** - Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November: grant application submitted and progress made on the costings for the event.

a) A Chief Steward for the event needs to be appointed.

- b) Support from Committee members and friends. (The Chairman reported that over the summer he had spoken with various ex HSBC staff members whom he knows and a number have volunteered to act as Stewards.)
- c) Father Christmas's Grotto issues to be discussed at the sub-committee.
- d) Date of next sub-committee meeting agreed as Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **10. Treasurer's Report:**

FM gave a brief report. 2k raised in subscriptions so far, figures all appear to be on target to break even.

#### **11. Secretary's Report:**

The Secretary was asked by the Borough's Flood Defence Officer to submit a report on the flood damage in Joel Street on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. It appears that drainage clearance hasn't happened regularly since the 1972 flood after which some additional drainage had been provided.

He was invited to attend, as an FEHG Committee member, the presentation of a Queen's Award for Voluntary Service to the Friends. He also attended the bi-monthly HARA meeting.

#### **12. Transport:**

We have been advised that TfL withdrew their Planning application to redevelop the centre of Northwood just before the application was due to be heard. NRA report that they anticipate another application will be made in due course.

#### **13. Health:**

At the Hillingdon CCG AGM a question was asked about the involvement the CCG have with the development of the Northwood and Pinner Cottage Hospital in conjunction with NHS Property Services, who claim they require approval for any proposed development. The CCG reported that whilst the CCG is clear that the site is not required for future Health Care delivery, NHS Property Services are exploring two possible options for the site. An option appraisal is due to be submitted by NHS Property by the end of September. The CCG Premises Committee will discuss the proposal in October.

The Community Voice mailing was distributed with the agenda.

#### **14. Hills Echo:**

The Chairman thanked AL for putting together the Autumn/Winter edition of the newsletter which has now gone to print. The Chairman is concerned that AL not only collected in the various input but all the advertising as well. He also invoiced and collected in the income from the Spring edition. **Urgent** support for AL is required. Please let the Chairman or AL know if you can assist.

The magazine will be 48 pages, not 64 as usual, as there had been a lack of content. AL was very disheartened with the lack of responses and feels perhaps it's time to

step down as Editor. ARly asked those present to offer to contact one or two shops each to ease the burden. MG pointed out that the lack of members and therefore the number of people on the committee was the major issue as few committee members had any more time to give to the NHRA, because they already gave enough, doing other roles.

It was agreed for the magazines to be delivered on the morning of 10<sup>th</sup> October, 1700 copies. MG will host the "Bagging Up" session on 10<sup>th</sup> October and distribution to the Road Stewards will commence later that day.

### **15. Councillors' report:**

This was read out in their absence:

#### **Green Flag awards**

Hillingdon has 8 new Green Flags awarded for outstanding green spaces which takes the council's total to 42 - the largest number of Green Flags not just in the UK, but also any local authority in the entire world. In addition, we now have a Green Flag in Northwood Hills ward as the Hog's Back has been awarded this status. The raising of the flag presentation ceremony will take place on Friday, 14 October at 1:45pm with the Mayor and residents are welcome to attend.

#### **Road resurfacing**

A number of roads in Northwood Hills have recently been resurfaced or will be resurfaced in the next few days following the councillors making requests for improvements. These include Briarwood Drive, Haydon Drive, Gatehill Road and Woodside Road.

#### **Britain in Bloom**

Hillingdon has won the gold award at the annual London in Bloom awards.

#### **Parking**

Councillors are presently analysing the report from the parking stress surveys conducted earlier this year and will make suggestions to council officers in the coming weeks.

#### **Northwood School**

The Councillors are looking forward to the upcoming opening of Northwood School which is part of Hillingdon Council's secondary school rebuilding programme.

#### **Littering**

Councillors are conscious of littering problems in the area around the Tesco petrol station on Joel Street and have asked council officers to regularly monitor this area.

#### **Christmas Lights**

Hillingdon Council has approved the funding for the Christmas Lights in Northwood Hills for this year.

## 16. Parking

The parking stress tests had been completed and the results were still awaited from the **Councillors**.

Parking problems in Windsor Close: The proposed notices to ask residents to park considerately were agreed by the committee, though no approval had been given by the council. It was agreed that these should be printed and displayed in Windsor Close, Briarwood Drive and Ferndown. A3, A4 and A5 sizes to be produced so that residents could also have a few flyers to put on car windscreens to see if that would help. It could be extended if seen as worthwhile. It was agreed to put a flyer in the next edition of the Echo.

It was pointed out that registered dropped kerbs can be ticketed at any time, and a traffic warden could ticket your own car parked over your own dropped kerb.

Yellow lines around the Northwood Way island may be worthwhile as some cars are being parked on the island all day, making line of sight very difficult for drivers.

## 17. AOB:

**Remembrance Sunday:** Tony Lane, President, agreed to lay the wreath at the Northwood Memorial on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

**Rubbish at NISA shop:** JM had been asked at the AGM for leaflets printed in various languages may help, but apparently, Hillingdon Council is reducing the number of leaflets printed like this, due to the expense.

**New footpath gates into Ruislip Woods:** LH and KB reported that although these gates are to deter motorcycles, they also prevent bicycles being taken in. However, access just a few meters further along is still easy for both. LH to raise with Council and ARly to provide details of Ruislip Woods Trustees contact.

**NORA:** FM reported that the NHRA had joined the National Organisation of Residents Associations.

Post meeting Note: we have been advised by NORA that they were invited to give written evidence to the Lords Select Committee on the Effect of the 2003 Licensing Act, and are giving oral evidence at a hearing at the Palace of Westminster on Tuesday, 11th October 2016 at 11 30 am. Councillor Carol Davies (Loughton RA) and the NORA chair are both speaking. Westminster CAB and Hartland RA, Camden Town, London will also be represented. It will be live on Parliament TV.

**Nextdoor:** a new Social Media website seems to be springing up offering local services. MG/ARly to investigate.

## 18. Dates for Next Meetings:

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October - Autumn Tidy-Up Day

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October (incl. Ward Panel)

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November - Christmas Lights Switch-On

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

December - no meeting

**2017:**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January** (incl. Ward Panel)

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March (tbc) - Annual Supper

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April** (incl. Ward Panel)

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May - AGM**

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

August - no meeting

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November - Christmas Lights Switch-On

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

December - no meeting

**2018:**

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

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March - Annual Supper

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April**

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - AGM**

**The meeting closed at 9.10.**