

Ealing Fields Residents' Association
Minutes of the 36th Annual General Meeting
Held on 28 May 2014 at the Log Cabin, Northfield Avenue

Introduction and Welcome

Deputy Chair, Roger Jarman, welcomed Councillors David Millican, Mark Reen, Theresa Mullins and Police representatives Adam Qusted and Tom Headon along with 43 members of the Association to the AGM.

Apologies had been received from: Andrew Dick, Lynne West, Jane Cocking, Carla Andrewes and Wendy Hallam.

Minutes

The minutes of the last AGM were approved. There were no matters arising.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Keith Marriage, presented the audited income and expenditure accounts for the year ended 30th April 2014. Keith reported that the accounts were favourable mainly due to an increase in donations. It was reported that the History Group accounts would be shown separately from now on. The full accounts were circulated at the meeting. It was agreed that Jay Patel be reappointed as Auditor.

The History Group are in the process of preparing a book on John Quincy Adams which should be available in the autumn.

Membership report/street reps/newsletter/website

Keith reported on behalf of Carla, the Membership Secretary, that we now have 863 members at 568 addresses representing 30% of the households in the area. There is a shortage of street reps with vacancies in Cranmer Avenue, Lawrence Road, Radborne Avenue, Windmill Court and Weymouth Avenue.

Any volunteers were asked to speak to Carla or to use the website contact information to apply for these roles. There had been 4 issues of the e-newsletter in the year and the website held useful information and updates. The Committee would welcome any ideas, articles and questions on the content of the newsletters.

Special Notice

It was proposed at the meeting to extend the area covered by EFRA to include Jefferson Close, Littlewood Close and the remainder of Cranmer Avenue. This was agreed.

Election of Committee Members

Carla Andrewes (Blondin Avenue), David Ashworth (Bramley Road), Jane Cocking (Convent Gardens), Andrew Dick (Little Ealing Lane), James Guest (Wellington Road), Clive Herring (Bramley Road), Roger Jarman (Dorset Road), Helen Johnson (Wellington Road), Patricia Judd (Laurel House), Keith Marriage (Chandos Avenue),

Rosemarie Matter (Birkbeck Road), Rita Smith (Ealing Park Gardens), Lynne West (Niagara Avenue), Wendy Hallam (Hollies Road), Carol Atkinson (Jefferson Close) and Charmian Ali (Trent Avenue) were willing to stand for election. This leaves four vacancies on the Committee. Members were urged to consider standing for the Committee.

Community Safety: the Safer Neighbourhoods Team

The Police representatives spoke about a current priority to focus on the safety of vulnerable residents in the Ward. This would involve initiatives such as the Nominated Neighbour scheme which is where a neighbour would facilitate any door step contact with an elderly resident for instance.

The Police are keen to increase community engagement and looking for ways of improving communication particularly with those that may not have the internet or e-mail. There will be more information on proposals in the coming months and there will be a stall at the Brentford Festival in Blondin Park in September to promote the initiative.

A suggestion was made by a resident at the meeting for the Police to put copies of any reports and newsletters in Northfields Library and on the Community Notice Board.

Transport and Parking

Roger Jarman, Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning, reported on current issues including the proposed CPZ consultation south of Little Ealing Lane, Northfield Station forecourt improvements, potential roundabout at the Plough junction and the Piccadilly line operating through the night on Fridays and Saturdays from October 2015. Roger asked for any comments or issues to be brought to his attention.

Planning/Licensing Issues

James Guest, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Licensing, reported on current issues that include Cramner Avenue snooker hall development being refused, Reynard Mills development with the latest application being for a smaller scheme and the ongoing Get Bike motorcycle noise nuisance case. The potential noise issues from the Blah Lounge in the summer remains a worry.

Heathrow

Rosmarie Matter reported on the Heathrow expansion proposals and the potential for more air and noise pollution with an increase in flights. The population around the airport affected is much greater than other UK airports or those in Europe which is a compelling argument for not enlarging Heathrow. The Davies Commission looking at airport capacity in the South East is due to report after the General Election in 2015.

HACAN are holding a Gala at the Richmond Theatre on 18th June supported by Zac Goldsmith.

Other Groups

It was mentioned that the new free school have chosen a name, Ealing Fields, that has the potential to be confused with EFRA. This has been raised with the school organisers but is unlikely to bring about a change at this stage.

Councillors

The newly elected Councillors were introduced at the meeting with Theresa Mullins joining the team.

Open Forum

The possibility of a CPZ on Lawrence Road was raised by a resident asking if more off street parking could be granted. The council has strict rules on the space required for drives, which needs to be adhered to otherwise cars overhang the pavement. Another resident asked if there was any enforcement to ensure cars do not park partly on the pavement.

Radborne Road has an unsightly garage at the rear of a resident's property with maintenance work taking place on site. Councillor David Millican offered to help if it presented a hazard or had any problems with infestation or safety.

The Bus Stop beside the library is a crush in the morning due to the number of people waiting. This is exacerbated by the GSK bus stopping in the same place and a resident asked if GSK could be approached to relocate its bus across the road.

The Hostel is offering very poor standards according to a local resident. The Councillors offered to investigate if there was information suggesting a breach of the HMO rules.

A request was made for the Bus Stop outside the Chicken shop to be doubled in length.

The pedestrian crossing at the junction of Windmill Road is a concern as traffic coming along Little Ealing Lane and turning left may not anticipate this. Cllr David Millican explained the factors involved in positioning a crossing to encourage usage and that this would be included in the study on the option of a roundabout.

The area behind Sainsbury's in Derwent Yard is becoming a hang-out for drinkers. This is private land but the Councillors offered to help if needed.

A resident complained about a van being abandoned at the junction of Radborne Road and Ealing Park Gardens. Cllr David Millican asked for details to investigate.

Some gullies behind Overdale Road on near the garage occasionally flood which should be reported to the landlord as this is on private land.

A general comment was made that graffiti needs to be reported to the Council when found.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm with thanks to the attendees and participants.