

Ealing Fields Residents Association

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 6 August at 7.15pm at the Log Cabin Children's Centre, 259 Northfield Avenue

1 Welcome and apologies for absence

Present: Roger Jarman (RJ) (Chair), Carol Atkinson (CA), Cheryl Burke (CB), Jane Cocking (JC), Charlie Cooper (CC), Andrew Dick (AD), Wendy Hallam (WH), Clive Herring (CH), Diane Kerr (DK), Raj Kapoor (RK), Keith Marriage (KM), Holly Perry (HP), John Russell (JR), Sally Malin (SM) and Cllrs Paul Driscoll (PD) and Ian Kingston (IK) (except for items after item 10)

Observing: Stella Chiu (SC), Christine Dymond (CD) (Street Reps)

Apologies: Helen Johnson (HJ) and Cllr Kim Nagpal (KN)

2 Approval of minutes of the meeting held on 7th May and matters arising from the 7th May meeting and 18th June AGM (minutes of AGM previously circulated & agreed)

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as drafted. All **Matters Arising** appeared on the main agenda.

3 Planning and licensing matters

(a) Proposals for development of land behind Overdale Road – The developers had put in planning permission to change a number of the 1 bed flats to 2/3 bed units. Owing to the lack of interest from housing associations to enter into a S106 agreement to manage the affordable housing (14 units) on the site, the developer had offered to make a monetary contribution to the community instead. That would mean the flats would be sold on the open market. Communications between the developer and the community had ceased, with the PR firm previously engaged by the developer no longer working on the project. PD agreed to work with the street rep (SC) to re-establish contact with the developer to help get clarification on some of the points arising from the proposed alterations (**action: PD**).

(b) Proposed Northfield Conservation Area – PD explained that there continued to be challenges within LBE regarding staffing; however the results of the consultation exercise were expected to be published in the autumn.

(c) SuDS planning application (Lammas Park) – The works were progressing well and some lower level, wooden fencing (temporary) had been erected in place of the metal fencing now that the ground works were complete and the grass seed had been planted. Further planting was scheduled for the autumn and it would take time for the area to look established. However, it would be a good recreational area once finished according to PD. Some sort of event was proposed to mark the end of the works and to celebrate the re-opening of the space.

(d) East Lodge, Lammas Park planning application – Historic England had rejected LBE's submission to protect the East Lodge via a Building Protection Notice. It was unclear what the developers' next move would be, and it would be for the Walpole Ward Councillors to make representations (*Post meeting note: RJ circulated an email on 14 August from Diedre Costigan MP following questions from Devonshire Road Street Rep Christine Dymond*).

(e) Other planning issues – (i) Orion Park – RJ had written to the chair of Sovereign Network Group (SNG) regarding the building works as the timeline for starting had been 'mid 2025'. SNG had put the contract out to tender once more, and tenders were being reviewed. (*Post meeting note: RJ received a response from SNG circulated on 18 August stating that the review process would be completed in late October, and that a further update would be provided then*).

4 Transport and parking

(a) Review of road improvements at the Plough Junction – It was noted that the report had still not been published. PD agreed to follow up (**action: PD**).

(b) School streets – The School Street for Little Ealing Primary School (LEPS) would be implemented in the third week of September, with signage and cameras likely to be erected in early September. The restrictions would only apply during term times. Any PCNs received during school holidays should be appealed. EFRA supported the School Street for LEPS but noted the opposition that had been raised in other areas (around Fielding and Elthorne Park schools).

(c) Stop and Shop proposals – The consultation had raised some points of concern, including points raised in EFRA's formal response; however the council's decision had been published earlier in the week, with the decision to proceed. There had been extensive evidence of 'overstaying' and the changes were intended to address this, as well as bringing LBE into line with neighbouring boroughs. The new scheme would roll out over the coming weeks, as 900 new signs were needed across the borough. Further information would be set out in the EFRA newsletter and residents were encouraged to look out for further information on the timelines in '*Around Ealing*'. There would be a two-week transition period, and Blue Badge holders were unaffected.

5 Environment

(a) Floodlights at Northfields Depot – The lights were still too bright and it seemed that the bespoke hoods had not been fitted. PD agreed to follow up with the local MP who was pursuing this matter for a constituent (**action: PD**).

(b) Flower beds at Plough Junction – The working party had met earlier in the day on 6 August. The beds needed to be maintained and further working party sessions would be scheduled, with a request for more volunteers particularly as the 'leaf fall' season was starting early. It was noted that the bed outside Ealing Fields School needed to be planted. PD reported that Northfields Ward was scheduled to have its tree survey in 2026/27.

(c) Alleyways in the vicinity of Chandos Avenue – Given recent issues with drug dealing, the issues were now on the list of priorities for the Northfields Community Safety team.

(d) Early morning noise from LEPS – The resident had escalated concerns to EFRA and the Councillors and matters had got worse over the holidays with construction works starting as early as 6am as well as over the weekend. The contractors had been spoken to. On site observations would be conducted once term time started.

(e) Proposal to use part of Blondin Park to facilitate works at Northfields train depot – It was confirmed that this proposal was not going ahead. The deployment of the new trains had been delayed to 2026, and while the reason for this was unclear, testing of the new trains was underway.

(f) CASE – litter collection in South Ealing – Clean Around South Ealing (CASE) was interested in attracting volunteers, building on the success of Litter Action Group Ealing Residents (LAGER Can). An item would be included in the EFRA newsletter. LAGER Can welcomed ideas for spending donations received – any ideas to be passed to CC.

(g) Leaf fall – Concerns were noted about wet leaves accumulating on the footpath on Weymouth Avenue where the road crossed the rail line given the incline. Residents would need to work together to clear the pathway in the autumn.

6 Council matters

(a) Proposal to limit the number of signatories before a petition is discussed via a debate – There had been cross-party agreement by LBE that the minimum number of signatories needed to be 1% of residents i.e. 3,600. It was clarified that there was no minimum number of signatories for presenting a petition.

(b) Government proposal to restrict Councillor oversight of planning applications –

The changes were noted and it was explained that they had been proposed by the Government for the whole of England, with the aim of speeding up planning applications.

(c) Borough-wide Safety Zone – PD explained that the borough-wide community protection order was time-barred and was up for review shortly. This included anti-social behaviour restrictions such as street drinking. A consultation was in progress. RK would draft a response on behalf of EFRA, supporting the renewal of the protection order (**action: RK**).

(d) Closure of the Log Cabin Children's Centre – potential impact on EFRA – It was clarified that the Log Cabin would continue as a charity and it was unlikely that the changes to the contract that it had with LBE for SEN children's services would mean closure of the centre. EFRA was still likely to be able to access the space. RJ would follow up (**action: RJ**).

7 Community safety – Ward Panel update from meeting held on 31 July

RK reported back on a positive meeting held on 31st July in Blondin Park Pavillion. The recent phone snatching incidents had been discussed, as well as other priority areas such as violence against women and girls, and vehicle crime. The drug dealing on the alley way at the end of Chandos Avenue had also been raised. Drop-in sessions continued to be hosted by the Police in the library, with the next session scheduled for 21st August. Everyone was reminded about the 'Met Engaged' initiative, and that the Northfields Ward had the lowest crime rate in the whole of the borough.

8 Heathrow – Runway 3

There was no further update, following the Government's decision to support the development of the 3rd runway, other than that two counter proposals had already been received (including a proposal for a shorter runway). KM reported that there was a proposal to change the flight paths over West London, and an update would be provided in due course. KM continued to engage with ENAG and HACAN.

9 AOB

Residents were concerned about the new street lights on Devonshire Road – these seemed very bright, though it was possible that after the 'bedding in' period, they would be dimmer. There was no other business.

10 Date of next Committee meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 1st October at 7:15pm.

11 Treasurer's report

HP reported that the current bank balance was above £3,000.

12 Staffing the EFRA stall at Brentford Festival at Blondin Park

AD agreed to assist, and RJ would circulate a request for further volunteers (**actioned**).

13 Membership matters / newsletter / e-newsletter / website

(a) Portfolio positions were agreed as follows: Roger Jarman, Chair (Dorset Road), Wendy Hallam Vice Chair (Hollies Road), Holly Perry, Secretary and Treasurer (Chandos Avenue), Clive Herring, Membership Secretary (Bramley Road), Cheryl Burke, Website (Blondin Avenue), Keith Marriage (Chandos Avenue), Andrew Dick (Little Ealing Lane), Jane Cocking (Convent Gardens), Carol Atkinson (Jefferson Close), Raj Kapoor (Weymouth Avenue), Ed Ballard (Julien Road), Helen Johnson (Wellington Road), Diane Kerr (Chandos Avenue), John Russell (Bramley Road), Charlie Cooper (Hereford Road), Sally Malin (Devonshire Road)

(b) Membership matters – There were now 392 members following the most recent round of

renewals.

(c) A WhatsApp Group for EFRA – This would be progressed outside of the committee
(action: RK) .

(d) Website development update – A number of suggestions for updates were made. RJ
and CB to discuss.

(e) E newsletter – suggestions for articles – A number of items had come up in discussion,
including CASE / LAGER Can / Leaf collection / School Street changes and Stop and Shop.