

Ealing Fields Residents Association

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 15th January 7.30pm 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), Andrew Dick (AD), Mike Eastgate (ME), Clive Herring (CH), Diane Kerr (DK), Raj Kapoor (RK), Keith Marriage (KM), Holly Perry (HP); Cllrs Paul Driscoll (PD) and Ian Kingston (IK)

Apologies: David Ashforth (DA), Jane Cocking (JC), Wendy Hallam (WH), Helen Johnson (HJ), and Cllr Kim Nagpal (KN)

2 Approval of minutes of the meeting held on 18th September and matters arising

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 – RJ had submitted a response on behalf of EFRA, taking a position of neutrality. Most residents locally had shifted position from in principle support to objection just ahead of the close of the consultation. In total, there had been 41 comments, comprising 32 objections, 4 in support and 5 taking a neutral stance. The matter was currently with planning officers. PD would update RJ as soon as a decision was known (**action: PD**). Given fewer than 50 responses were submitted, the matter would be delegated to officers. Most of the objections related to parking, which did not carry significant weight.

(b) Proposed Northfield Conservation Area (CA) – LBE's Conservation Officer had now been appointed and was working their way through the responses. PD would update RJ as soon as there was further news. (**action: PD**)

(c) SuDS planning application (Lammas Park) – a response to the current application had been submitted; EFRA had called for the matter to be considered by Committee given the strength of feeling on the issue. PD reported that the LBE case officer dealing with the application was currently on annual leave. In addition, it was clarified that the application was for landscaping work – to spread the excavation soil over a wider area, to make the overall gradient flatter. Thames Water had not yet made the required connections with the drainage system, which was causing an excess build-up of water. The rectification works were scheduled to conclude in June at the earliest. RJ reported that of the 212 comments submitted, 192 were objections (many to the original scheme rather than the rectification works). There were just 13 comments in support.

(d) Other planning issues – Orion Park – there was no further update; St Paul's Church – update on plans for 5G telecoms equipment including antennae, cabinet and base.

(e) LBE's licensing consultation¹ (ends 17 January) – this related to special planning applications (SPAs) which generally covered licences for areas around town centres, and there was a cap on the licences already in place. A discussion was held on the technical

¹ <https://www.aroundealing.com/jobs/licensing-policy/#:~:text=To%20find%20out%20more%20and,Road%2C%20Ealing%2C%20W5%20HL.>

aspects of the consultation. It was agreed that EFRA was not likely to respond with a formal position, but noted that the consultation was underway, and would monitor the outcome.

4 Transport and parking

(a) Review of road improvements at the Plough Junction – this had now concluded and just needed signing off prior to publication. Some points had arisen from a safety review, but the review had generally been positive (**action: Councillors to advise once concluded**)

(b) Traffic measures west of Northfield Avenue – PD had asked for confirmation regarding whether there had been vandalism of the traffic monitoring kit, or whether it had been accidental damage. In person events were planned for those impacted by the road changes – letters would be sent to residents in the affected area (**action – to be added to newsletter**).

(c) CPZ survey – LBE was consulting on up to 10 new/revised CPZ areas across the borough, which would bring in all day parking restrictions. None of the proposed areas were in the EFRA area. The closest was one proposed area on the northern edge of Elers Road (Zone JJ). A watching brief would be maintained – it was possible that the impact of the Overdale Road/Orion Park developments would require more parking restrictions.

(d) School Streets (SS) – a new Head had taken up post at Little Ealing School, and a meeting to discuss the introduction of a SS had been held. LBE now had 40 schools participating in ‘school streets’. The Grange School will have an SS implemented from 10 March.

5 Environment

(a) Floodlights at Northfields Depot – London Transport had indicated that they would commission bespoke hoods for the lights; however there was no further news (**action: PD**).

(b) Flower beds at Plough Junction – WH would follow up with a request for members to help with another session; however the area was looking good currently (**action: WH**).

(c) Alleyways in the vicinity of Chandos Avenue – DK and IK had met. LBE had asked for more specifics e.g. issues which fail planning criteria on each of the properties backing on to the main Chandos alleyways. Drug dealing –there was a need to continue submitting reports in relation to anti-social behaviour in the area around the alleyway.

(d) Tree management – PD reported that the programme to prune/pollard selected trees continued. Contractors were working through their schedule. The policy of pruning all trees in a street had been discontinued. This raised concerns about trees being left untreated for an excessive period.

(e) Leaf collection / waste management – community collections seemed to have worked well this year – LBE had reported that resident requests for bags had doubled from c300 to c700.

6 ‘Your Voice, Your Town’

RJ provided an update on the Council’s initiative to replace Ward Forums with Town Forums. Some funding was available to be used on issues which local people had deemed a priority. Following resident voting, results were awaited. Meetings were being held to discuss local priorities.

7 Ward / Community Forum 13th November – feedback

This event, co-hosted with Councillors, had been held on 13 November, and had been well attended and lively. Another Community Forum would be held later in the year to be hosted by BMRA.

8 Northfields Library

There had been a power cut on 14 January, which had resulted in the library having to close at lunchtime. Some helpful events had been held recently, including a presentation to the library staff by Ealing Advisory Services on 'signposting', so that staff could point residents to the right organisations for help. The second phase of refurbishing the library was now underway. Evening classes were going very well and helping maintain a good income stream.

9 Community safety

RK as the new chair of the Ward Panel had chaired a police forum at the end of November, which Deirdre Costigan MP had attended at the Blondin Pavillion. Northfields remained the safest ward in LBE statistically. Car crime and violence against women and girls remained the most significant concerns. Attendance was not as high as it might have been, potentially owing to proximity to Christmas. Also the venue - inside Blondin Park - was deemed as unsafe by some. The date of the next meeting would be added to a potential Newsletter (**action: RJ**). Residents would be reminded not to leave anything visible in cars, and to use 'Faraday' key pouches where appropriate to prevent car keys being cloned.

10 Heathrow

KM reported that there was a new CEO at Heathrow airport. There was no further news from HACAN, and an update from ENAG would be circulated (**action: KM**). The Civil Aviation Authority would be implementing a new nighttime regime from October 2025 (delayed from end 2024). Planning permission was being submitted to LB Hillingdon in relation to the 3rd runway.

11 AOB

A reminder of tree-planting in Blondin Park at 11am on 25 January (free hot chocolate for those participating). To raise concern about pavements, it was advised to use the 'Love Clean Streets' app to report the problem. There was no other business.

12 & 13 Date of next Committee meeting and social

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 19th March at **7:15pm** and a date for the EFRA social for committee/street reps/councillors would be scheduled (**action: Jane C**).

14 Treasurer's report

HP reported that the current bank balance was £2,932.79, with some subs to pay in of £94 (£89 in cash and £5 cheque). £28 had been paid out in January for EFRA's membership of the London Forum.

15 Membership matters / newsletter / e-newsletter / website

Website development update – Links to EFRA's responses to LBE planning consultations were now being added. Links to minutes needed to be added, as well as a link to the history group. There was still work to do at the front end (**action CB/RJ**).