

# Ealing Fields Residents Association

## **Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 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), Charlie Cooper (CC), Andrew Dick (AD), Wendy Hallam (WH), Clive Herring (CH), Diane Kerr (DK), Raj Kapoor (RK), Holly Perry (HP), Sally Malin (SM) and Cllrs Paul Driscoll (PD) and Ian Kingston (IK) (except for items after item 11)

**Observing:** Charmaine Ali (Street Reps)

**Apologies:** Jane Cocking (JC), Keith Marriage (KM), Helen Johnson (HJ), Cllr Kim Nagpal (KN), John Russell (JR) and street rep Christine Diamond.

The Committee passed on its very best wishes to Jane Cocking with her ongoing medical treatment.

### **2 Approval of minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025 and matters arising from previous meetings**

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** – PD reported that the ongoing negotiations about the s106 agreement had meant that the proposed change to the planning permission re the size of the units in the block of flats had not been determined. Officers had been chased to ensure the issue was resolved satisfactorily (**action: PD**).

**(b) Orion Park** – RJ had written to the chair of Sovereign Network Group (SNG) who had replied – through his officers - to say that the outcome of the tender process had resulted in the appointment of a contractor subject to due diligence tests. It was expected that the contractor would take possession of the site in January 2026. There would be a further update in the new year on who the selected contractor was, as well as the next steps and timelines. An update would be included in the forthcoming Newsletter. It was agreed that CA would lead a group of residents who lived adjacent to the site, so that issues could be raised and channelled to the contractor.

**(c) Proposed Northfield Conservation Area (CA)** – LBE had decided not to go ahead with the Northfield CA (70% against, 30% for), on the basis the area was too large and the current built form was already too varied. Members were reminded that the Committee had taken a neutral stance. It was noted that LBE had approved the creation of a new CA around Lammas Park with the intention of ensuring the East Lodge was covered by the new designation. The designation would also offer protection to the West Lodge on Northfield Avenue.

**(d) SuDS scheme (Lammas Park)** – The grass had grown well and was due to be cut, and some of the fencing would be removed pending further planting before Christmas. A community planting event would be held in the Spring. There were also plans for permanent information boards to be erected. Around 5,000 leaflets had been distributed to local residents to explain the purpose of the scheme.

**(e) East Lodge, Lammas Park planning application** – As noted, the East Lodge would be incorporated into a new CA. The previous planning application had been withdrawn, and there was no further update regarding the intention of the building owner.

**(f) Other planning issues** – There were no other planning issues to report.

## 4 Transport and parking

**(a) Review of road improvements at the Plough Junction** – The report was in the final review stage prior to publication. There had been no reported accidents. There had been some changes to the textured pavement, with additional signage to make clear that the pavement was a shared space with pedal cycles. Concerns had been raised about e bike parking in the vicinity of the Plough junction, next to the flower beds (**action: PD**).

**(b) School streets** – The School Street for Little Ealing Primary School (LEPS) had been suspended for a brief period while utility works were carried out on Little Ealing Lane. Generally, the traffic had been flowing well, and dispersing around the area as expected. It was suggested that an update be included in the forthcoming e-newsletter.

**(c) Stop and Shop proposals** – The proposals had now been implemented. Some members and residents objected to the 40p platform charge; however it was explained that this was a charge associated with the sending of text messages, and that by going into settings on the app, it was possible to switch these off and avoid the 40p charge. LBE would be monitoring the effectiveness of the Stop and Shop proposals now that these were in force, and it was agreed that it would be helpful to have an update on this in due course (**action: PD**).

**(d) Use of pavement gulleys for EV charging** – As previously discussed, some residents were running covered cables from their homes to their EV; however such cabling was not legal and LBE could take action against the motorists responsible. LBE had turned down the opportunity to participate in a trial involving pavement gulleys that was being taken up in other parts of London/England: LBE had concerns about residents not being able to park close enough to their property if they paid to have the gulley cables. The installation costs were high and also attracted planning fees. On a related matter, LBE was shortly to review kerbsides in the borough as part of a 'kerbside review' and would look at use of gulleys as part of the overall package around parking. LBE had confirmed that it would not start fining residents for placing temporary cables across pavements while the kerbside review was ongoing. There were issues with cables including visibility, accessibility, conflict with neighbours etc. LBE was actively looking at the use of lamppost charging and was leading a consortium of NW London boroughs to look further at feasibility. It was confirmed that 'heritage lamp standards' in Northfield Ward could not be used for EV charging.

## 5 Environment

**(a) Floodlights at Northfields Depot** – PD had liaised with the Diedre Costigan MP who was pursuing this matter for a constituent. PD had been under the impression that the matter had been resolved; however this was not the case, and PD would follow up (**action: PD**).

**(b) Flower beds at Plough Junction** – Another date for the working party would be fixed, likely in the following week (Wed 3 December).

**(c) Alleyways in the vicinity of Chandos Avenue** – There had been recent incidents of drug dealing, and the issue had been drawn to the attention of the Northfields Community Safety team.

**(d) Early morning noise from LEPS** – The resident and RK had met with the Headteacher to discuss the concerns. However, there continued to be issues – currently there was an issue with the sport floodlights being left on for the last three weekends. RK would pursue the matter once again (**action: RK**).

**(e) Removal of redundant steps from Bramley Road Gardens** – Councillors had undertaken a walk around the area and IK would follow up with LBE (**action: IK**). There was the possibility of applying for a grant from the community fund (possibly linking up with 'Ealing Transitions') to fund the necessary works and perhaps create a 'micro forest'. CC would prepare an application (**action: CC**).

**(f) Tree management in the EFRA area** – PD explained that there had been significant cost inflation over the recent past for this service, and there was now a plan in place for intermittent/rotational pruning to maintain a canopy and tree cover (hence why in an immediate area, some trees would be pruned, and others would not). In relation to saplings, it was noted that there had been no further action in relation to the dead sapling outside 77 Chandos Avenue, reported 3 years ago. The Committee was advised that pruning of Plane trees in the summer was not recommended because of potential dispersal of toxic spores from leaves.

**(g) Garden waste collection: revised timetable** – A revised timetable was now in place, with extended collections to reduce the pause period (which would now last from early December to early February).

**(h) Leaf collection: progress report** – It was confirmed that community collections could continue throughout the year, but that these were not a replacement for council leaf collection, which was continuing. When community-collected bags were ready to be picked up, this could be reported via the *LoveCleanStreets* app.

**(i) LAGER can in South Ealing** – Volunteers were being sought for South Ealing – an item would be included in the e-newsletter.

## **6 Community safety**

**(a) Ward Panel update** - RK reported that the last meeting had been held on 13<sup>th</sup> November, where topics discussed had included ‘cash for crash’ incidents, dangerous driving, e-scooters, e-bikes and ongoing community safety issues including Chandos Avenue alley drug-dealing and parcel thefts from doorsteps. Other areas covered included countering violence against women and girls, and countering anti-social behaviour (specifically, incidents in Blondin Park). The next meeting would be held in March 2026. The Met Engage initiative was receiving positive feedback, and it was reported that the Safer Neighbourhoods team in the Northfields area was adjusting their shift pattern so that there would be cover up to midnight, which was welcomed.

## **7 Heathrow – Runway 3**

There was no further update in KM’s absence.

## **8 Your Voice Your Town/Connected Communities**

IK reported that there would be an information sharing event in Northfields Library from 10am to 1pm on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November about the grants programme associated with this initiative (see item 5(e)).

## **9 AOB**

There was no other business.

## **10 Date of next Committee meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7:15pm.

## **11 Treasurer’s report**

HP reported that the current bank balance was a healthy £3,211.39. There was to be an increase in bank charges, with the cost of banking a cheque to rise to £1.00. This would make paying subs by cheque prohibitively expensive.

## **12 Membership matters / newsletter / e-newsletter / website**

**(a) Membership report** – There had been £550 paid in subs so far this year, and £580 in

donations, which was very much appreciated. The Committee formally thanked Christine for her hard work to sign up a very large proportion of Devonshire Avenue as EFRA members.

**(b) Website development update** – A number of updates had been made following a meeting of RJ and CB. The link to bags for leaf collection would be added (**actioned**).

**(c) A WhatsApp Group for EFRA** – This would be for EFRA committee members specifically and RK would progress outside of the committee. RK was content to act as 'admin' for the WhatsApp group (**action: RK**).

**(d) Proposed items for the e-newsletter** – Suggestions for articles for the next e-newsletter had been raised throughout the meeting. The newsletter would be issued in early December.

**(e) Online donations** - CB had prepared a helpful paper for the committee's consideration on online donation options. The 'donate' function could be activated; however the position was more complicated in terms of arrangements for online processing of payments for subs. The matter would come back to the next meeting for further consideration owing to shortage of time (**action: RJ / CB**).