



**Minutes of a Meeting of the RA Council held on  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019, at Fellowship House, 136A Willifield Way at 8pm**

Present: Emma Howard - in the Chair, Tony Brand, Terry Brooks, Alan Brudney, Colin Gregory, Adrian Hodgson, Helen Leiser, Peter McCluskie, Steve Morris, Simon Sackman, Harry Simmonds, Ann Spencer, Rosemary Goldstein (Asst Secretary to the Council), Christina Brownson (RA Administrator).

Visitor: Brian Ingram.

**1. Note apologies and absences**

Tony Ghilchik and Hella Schrader.

**2. Question Time for residents who are not members of Council**

2.1 Brian Ingram asked Council for a contact for the Friends of Bigwood and it was suggested that he speak to Peter Falk.

2.2 Brian Ingram asked about the reason behind the letter from the Mayor's office regarding the cancellation of her visit to Northway Gardens. He was informed that he should contact LB Barnet or the Councillors as this was an internal matter and nothing whatsoever to do with the RA.

**3. Approve as accurate the Minutes of Council Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Simon Sackman was present at the meeting but not listed as attending. Subject to this amendment, the minutes were approved.

**4. Note draft minutes of EC meeting held on 31 October and 21 November**

These were noted.

**5. Northway Gardens Organisation: grant applications**

5.1 Applications for grants had been made by Northway Gardens Organisation for £925, £550, £400 for work to Fletcher's Gardens for preparing the site for planting, removing cut branches and trees and cutting back and removing hedges at the boundary of Northway and Kingsley Way.

5.2 The RA had made total grants for Fletcher's of £1000 this year including £500 approved at the September 2019 Council meeting. NGO was appealing against the RA's decision and wanted a further £500 for work which had been carried out at Fletcher's.

5.3 Brian Ingram made a short presentation followed by questions from Council members. He said there are few funding options for these open spaces and LB Barnet have provided no funding. The money was spent in good faith and all the work was done with the authorisation of LB Barnet

5.4 Council went into closed session to discuss the appeal for extra funding and decided that a further sum of £500 should not be made available this year for work to Fletchers Gardens.

## **6. RA Finances**

6.1 The third quarter management accounts had been circulated to Council with explanatory notes.

6.2 The RA has £90,000 cash in the bank.

6.3 Advertising income is £1,100 below budget. Suburb News is expected to make a profit of £1,000 this year and the Suburb Directory is expected to make a loss of £600.

6.4 The overall income from Events is £700 below budget. The Summer Fair income was £1,600 below last year and £500 below budget, mainly due to the weather. There was also no charge for attending the Halloween Children's Party.

6.5 The net effect is that end of year accounts should be neutral but they could show a small profit or loss.

6.6 Membership remains similar to last year but the amount received via subscriptions has increased slightly (final figures not available at the time of the meeting).

## **7. Proms Sponsorship**

7.1 The RA have been asked to sponsor the St Jude's Proms lunchtime concerts for the sum of £3000, which is the same amount as last year

7.2 The RA would be Silver sponsors and, additionally, would request four free tickets for raffle prizes at the Summer Fair.

7.3 The proceeds from the Proms are donated to the North London Hospice and Toynbee Hall.

7.4 A motion was proposed by Peter McCluskie and seconded by Tony Brand.

*'That the RA should make the sum of £3000 available for the St Jude's Proms lunchtime concerts.'*

The motion was passed unanimously. Proms Committee to be notified.

**Action Peter M**

## **8. Publications update**

8.1 Publications committee had discussed at their recent meeting whether the Suburb Directory should go on line on the new RA website, with hard copies terminated. Some members of Council thought this hard copy publication was

important and useful. Also the publications committee had discussed whether the discount scheme should end, due to difficulties in getting participating retailers and also little evidence that people were using it.

8.2 The matter will be considered by the Executive Committee on 16 January and advice to Council would be given. A decision will be made at the 4 February Council meeting.

8.3 Terry Brooks will retire from the RA Council, EC and the Publications Committee with effect from 31 December 2019 although he will continue as a non-committee volunteer and continue to cover (e.g.) public meetings and the RA's AGM. He was thanked by Council for his excellent work as Chair of the Publications Committee for 20 years and Editor of Suburb News for 5 years.

8.4 A motion was proposed by Terry Brooks and seconded by Peter McCluskie  
*'That Marie-Christine O'Callaghan and Shelley-Anne Salisbury be appointed to the RA Council and to the Executive Committee.'*

This was passed unanimously.

8.5 Council members noted that Shelly-Ann Salisbury will attend Council and Marie-Christine O'Callaghan will host and attend EC meetings

## **9. Events update**

9.1 The Fireworks party on New Year's Eve is progressing; LB Barnet and Platinum have confirmed and posters are being prepared; Emails will be sent out to volunteers and refreshments have been purchased. Sponsorship from The Spaniards of £1,000 has been obtained.

9.2 Hella Schrader is following up offers to assist with the Events committee from next year.

### **Action Hella S**

9.3 Hella Schrader will be resigning from the RA Council, EC and Events Committee effective 31 December. She was thanked for all the work she has done for the RA.

## **10. Volunteers and Volunteers' Evening**

10.1 This will be held at the Hampstead Golf Club, Winnington Road on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.

10.2 Council approved the sum of £750 for catering the event. It is expected that 40 to 50 volunteers will attend. Supper and some drinks will be made available.

10.3 Emma Howard has prepared an article for Winter Edition of Suburb News including ideas from members for what the RA should be doing and seeking offers from volunteers.

10.4 Maralyn Roberts, had suggested that surplus fruit from trees from Suburb gardens should be collected by volunteers and turned into chutney or jam for sale. Council agreed that this idea will be explored and fits in well with the idea of a

community orchard at Lyttelton. Steve M also suggested this could be an active section of the new RA website.

## **11. Security/Policing update**

11.1 The men who carried out some of the aggravated burglaries in Winnington Road have apparently been sent to prison.

11.2 CCTV is being installed in Winnington Road and Meadway/Heathgate junctions.

11.3 There has been a spate of burglaries of smaller Suburb properties with entry often being obtained from the rear.

11.4 There have been a large amount of catalytic convertors stolen from cars on the Suburb.

## **12. Pavement repairs**

12.1 Conways have been replacing some pavements and paving with tarmac, although LB Barnet should be following the public realm guidelines and be using more appropriate materials. LB Barnet were meeting with Conways to discuss and their report is awaited.

12.2 Helen Leiser agreed to take on leadership of pavements to include the safety aspect of uneven paving stones, and she will liaise with Councillors and LB Barnet.

**Action Helen L**

## **13. New RA website**

13.1 The new RA web site ([www.hgsra.uk](http://www.hgsra.uk)) is live and Steve Morris welcomed further ideas and would like it to eventually provide an interactive tool for members of the RA. He was thanked for all the work he has done to set this up.

13.2 Details of the web site will be included in the next eNews. **Action Peter M**

## **14. Any other business**

There was none.

## **15 Next scheduled meeting of Council:**

This will be held on 4th February at Fellowship House at 8.00pm