



**Minutes of Committee Meeting held Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2012**  
**Venue – Elsie Fischer Room St Lawrence Church**

1. **Present:** - Chris Groom (Chairman), Irene Groom (Secretary), Eddie Lavery, Catherine Dann, Pamela Jean Marr, Carolyn Derecki, Karen Spink, Keith Barnard, Ian Murray, David Payne, David Harper, Paul Ashby, Ian Brooks, Linda Laurie, Jean Gibson, Elizabeth Beggs, Roger Brown, Alison Akerman.
2. **Apologies for absence:** - Jackie Redrup, Ian Parkinson, Ray Graham, Gawain Cox, Michael White, Bruce Baker.
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011 - agreed with no amendments.

4. **Actions/Matters arising, not on Agenda and not covered elsewhere in the minutes**

- CG wished everyone present a very Happy New Year.
- IP sent a message to thank everyone for their help and support during the Eastcote Christmas Festival. He is hoping that work commitments will ease and therefore make it possible for him to attend the meetings in the future and give proper reports at those meetings.
- In BB's absence the three items marked to BB – bus stop at Bridle Road, footpath through RAF Eastcote and Eastcote Road/Fore Street junction will be held over to the next meeting.

**ACTION :- BB**

- The Telecom Mast in Field End Road has been approved. The one in Kings College Drive was refused.
- The restaurant menu nailed to a tree has now been removed.
- It was reported that there was concern about the lack of actions from Hillingdon to encourage the Street Champions.
- Heath College – Field End Road – this never opened – the original application was refused due to lack of response to questions from the Planning Department – a “For Sale” board is now up on the building.
- Kings College Playing Fields, 186 and 216 Field End Road – JR wrote to planning on these applications.
- Cheney Street –report is being analysed but to date no information has been released.

**ACTION:- DP**

- ERA Notice Boards (from ward funds) – we will be getting a new Notice Board for Whitby Road. A new Notice Board for outside The Ascott has also gone forward and will be installed approximately March/April time.
- Open Forum – the sub-committee is working on the three main issues and details will be forwarded to the committee when ready, for comments – more details under a separate heading.
- ERA Constitution/Rules – this has been looked at carefully. Some small changes are needed to make things clearer and when completed will be forwarded to the committee for their comments. This will then be discussed/submitted for approval at the AGM.

5. **Representatives Reports**

5.1 **Planning & Enforcement**

- The latest planning report covering the period up to 25<sup>th</sup> January is attached as Appendix A to these minutes.

5.2 **Police Matters**

- The long term future of the Hillingdon Police and Community Consultative Group (HPCCG) is in doubt. This group is fully funded by the Metropolitan Police Authority and budget cuts of 20% this year and a further 10% next year are to be made. In the short term this could mean fewer meetings (currently 6 per annum) and a cut in the hours of the administrator on this work (an LBH employee). However, with the use of reserves no changes are expected in 2012. The Harrow HPCCG has already ceased to meet.
- Up to 6 December 2011 the Borough Crime statistics reflect a total increase (since April 2011) of 1% with personal robbery (muggings) up 9%. **Residential Burglary is up by 26%** with a main target being gold and gold jewelry (gold bullion is trading at record levels). Theft of car keys is also on the ascendancy. However, a number of suspects have been identified.
- LB Hillingdon are running a pilot enforcement scheme until March 2012 targeting littering, dog fouling, gum spitting. Wardens witnessing such offences can issue fixed penalty notices of £80 reduced to £50 if

paid within 10 days. This scheme has been introduced after "overwhelming" representations by residents.

- Police SNT staff is greatly depleted – a Sergeant, PC and PCSO to join by 7<sup>th</sup> February.
- It was reported that our local Neighbourhood Watch Co-Coordinator – Ken McGregor – sadly died a few days ago.

### **5.3 Transport and Road Safety**

- Hawthorne Avenue / Meadow Way speed complaint. No change - awaiting action from residents.
- Cheney Street post scheme traffic monitoring and review is still awaited – *Cllr Payne dealing-*  
**ACTION- DP**
- Eastcote Road j/w Fore Street safety review – Council update awaited  
**ACTION-BB**
- Noisy & speeding night time lorry movements – Joel St and Field End Rd. Petition hearing likely in April in meantime traffic monitoring being arranged but no substantive action taken to address the problem. Key issue remains that it is wrong for the Council to have decided not to have the capability to enforce a regulation that is enforced in 29 of the 33 London boroughs. Following the problem being raised by the Chair, Chris Groom, at a meeting of the Chair's of resident groups with Nick Hurd MP on 20<sup>th</sup> Jan`12 a briefing note been sent to our MP.
- KS reported on speeding traffic problems in Cuckoo Hill – this had been reported to her by a number of local residents. There has been some initiatives in the past but not recently – IB will investigate.  
**ACTION:- IB**
- Andrew Riley – NHRA has offered assistance to liaise with the transport companies involved in the noisy and speeding night time lorry movements.
- A comment was raised regarding the traffic lights on the bridge at Eastcote Station (long delays) – we understand that these are phased in with the main traffic lights at the nearby junction.

### **5.4 Community Voice**

- Community Voice Newsletter is attached to these minutes

### **5.5 Festival Committee**

- The Christmas Lights were excellent, an improvement on last year and were well received by traders and residents
- At the Christmas Festival the ERA stall, giving away Mulled Wine and Mince Pies for a small donation was very successful and also raised £200.
- Overall the Christmas Festival (run by the Festival Committee not ERA) was successful but some problems were reported. It is hoped that a debriefing session can be held and copies of the financial accounts can be tabled.
- It was felt that clarification was required to define the distinction/roles of the Festival Committee, Business Representative and ERA. This can be discussed as and when a debriefing session is organised.

### **5.6 Open Forum - ERA Priorities**

A subcommittee consisting of Chris Groom, Ian Brooks Karen Spink, In Murray, Carolyn Derecki and Linda Laurie met on 15<sup>th</sup> Dec to progress agreed actions:-

- To review suggested solutions and determine an Action Plan – by Jan 2012.
  - Update - partially completed
- Review ERA Constitution and propose amendments
  - Update - partially completed
- Present conclusions at AGM in May.
  - Update: awaits AGM
- Updates on progress to be posted on ERA website – Dec, Jan, and March. Update:
  - Dec update `pdf` posted on website beginning of Jan <http://www.eastcoteria.co.uk/assets/priorities.pdf>

### **5.7 Parks Reports**

- Eastcote House Gardens  
Events that have taken place:-
  - Tree Dressing involving local Community groups and the general public at the start of Christmas Advent.
  - Wassailing ceremony in original and the new Jubilee Orchard at the end of Christmas 12<sup>th</sup> night.
- Forthcoming Event :-  
Jubilee Picnic Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> June 12-00 to 4-00pm having the same format as last year.
- General
  - Lottery grant stage 1 application successful
  - New orchard planted
  - West wall of the Walled Garden declared an unsafe structure, Shoring up taken place prior to emergency repairs being carried out. We understand that the funding for this work will have separate funding and not come out of the £150,000 that has already been allocated for restoration work to the Walled Garden and Buildings.
  - The Jubilee Gates have now been made and they will be installed in time for the 2<sup>nd</sup> June Jubilee

Picnic.

-----Gardening sessions – 9.30am first Friday and third Thursday

- Cavendish and Bessingby Parks
- Litter Pick – 11.00am –Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February
- Easter Egg Hunt – 11.00am Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April

## 6 **AOB/Correspondence**

- **WEBMASTER:** The full Webmasters report will be discussed by the Committee.  
**ACTION:-ALL**
- **NEWSLETTER:** As the AGM is the 23<sup>rd</sup> May, the Newsletter needs to be out by the end of April, so articles as soon as possible, by the end of March at the latest.
- **ROAD STEWARD:** KS reported that she needs a new Road Steward to cover Bridle Road – if anyone can take on this task – please email Karen Spink on karen@elmfield.ndo.co.uk – clearly stating that it is in relation to Road Steward business. This is also to be mentioned in the next Newsletter.
- **BRITISH LEGION:** Over the last few months there has been thefts of metals at War Memorials –Eastcote Branch of the British Legion are asking for our support to have CCTV installed to cover the Eastcote War Memorial – after discussion it was decided we would support them and CG will contact them in this regard.  
**ACTION:- CG**
- **WARD BUDGETS:** **There is still money left in the Ward Budget – email Counsellors with any suggestions and they are looking in particular for suggestions from Scout/Guide and other uniformed groups.**
- **BUDGENS CAR PARK:** it is reported that the tree roots are coming up again through the recently re-laid public footpath at the entrance from Abbotsbury Gardens.  
**ACTION:- DP**
- **HIGHGROVE SWIMMING POOL:** the second phase of refurbishment has now gone out to tender.
- **PEMBROKE PARK:** The physical barrier is now in place to stop through traffic through the site. Lime Grove is experiencing parking problems as cars from Pembroke Park are parking at the bottom of Lime Grove to be nearer to the Eastcote Station. Cycling on the Public Footpath through the site and into The Sigers is still causing problems.

CG closed the meeting at 9.05pm

**The next meeting will be WEDNESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at Elsie Fisher Room, St. Lawrence Church at 7.30pm. Apologies to IAN BROOKS .**