

Eastcote Residents' Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 29th June 2016

Venue – Elsie Fisher Room, St Lawrence Church

Present – Alison Holtorp (Chairman), Chris Groom, Irene Groom, Karen Spink, Jackie Redrup, Linda Laurie, David Harper, Chris Hankin, Cllr Catherine Dann, Cllr Becky Haggard, Cllr Michael White, Pamela Jean Marr.

1. **Apologies for Absence** Ian Murray, Elizabeth Beggs, Gawain Cox, Alison Akerman, Carolyn Derecki, Keith Barnard, Cllr Nick Denys, Cllr Eddy Lavery, Cllr Teji Barnes, Deesha Chadha.
2. **Amendments/Approval of Minutes** The Minutes of the 27th April were agreed by a show of hands.
3. **Matters arising from the 27th April 2016 meeting**
 - Missing planning applications - not in the Library – Cllr MW to investigate and report back in due course. **ACTION:- MW**
 - Devonshire Lodge Car Park toilets – Cllr ND reports that they are open at the moment and he has asked officers to keep him informed of any further issues. CG did check the toilets and although the Notice said they were closed, they were in fact open, so he removed the Notices.
4. **Amendments and Matters Arising from the AGM on the 24th May 2016.**
 - Various items were brought up at the question and answer session after the Eastcote Refurbishment presentation namely Pavements, Litter, Car Parking, Street Lighting, Station, Flower Beds and Planters, and Crossing on Chapel Hill Field End Road – these are being followed up and will be reported on in due course.
 - Cllr BH is dealing with the Pavement issue. **ACTION:- BH**
 - Pedestrian Crossing on Chapel Hill – this is still in the system.
 - Car Parking – due to new Aldi store– Cllr ND reported that he had spoken to Officers and while they understand that there will be an increase in the number of cars in the car park they do not anticipate any major problems as there is usually some spare capacity. Officers are assuming that Aldi will generate broadly similar levels of traffic as Budgens. Officers will monitor the situation once the new store opens and if traffic levels are higher then they will consider what impact this is having. If resident report concerns with the traffic level, please inform Cllr ND and he will pass the information to officers. The entrance and exit to and from the car park is via the rear access road that runs behind the shops linking Abbotsbury Gardens and North View. This road, which has recently been resurfaced, is not part of the car park and is adopted highway. Last year the Council's Transport and Projects team conducted a detailed review of the safety of the road. The review found that the road and exit points were within safety standards. Cllr ND will have a look again at both exits to see if these particular parts of the road need to be looked at again. **ACTION:- ND**
5. **New resident issues :** -
 - No new issues raised.
6. **New funding requests :-**
 - None were received
7. **Committee Reports**
 - 7.1 **Chairman's Report - AH**
 - AH attended Eden Academy Art Exhibition at Grangewood – They are now engaging with us re Newsletter.
 - AH wrote to Friends of Eastcote House Gardens congratulating them on their award of the Queen's award for Voluntary Service.
 - Met with LL to discuss finding someone to take over newsletter. First step to put ad in next Newsletter.

Chamber of Commerce

- AH hopes to meet Carole Paterson (C of C) next week to discuss Christmas Lights and possibility of including Black Horse Parade. CG has made enquiries with Bim (Hillingdon Council) and the deadline for funding applications is not imminent.
- AH to write and thank council for hanging baskets in High Street and troughs in Black Horse Parade. **ACTION:- AH**

Town Centre Development

- At the Chamber of Commerce launch of the Town Centre Improvement Scheme ERA representatives were approached by Phil Hill of International Visual who requested a meeting. This is scheduled for July.
- AH to email Helena Webster latest list of Residents Comments. **ACTION:- AH**

7.2 Finance – AH

- No report

7.3 Health and Community Voice - EB

- The latest reports have been received and distributed to members

7.4 Newsletter - LL

- LL reported that the autumn edition of the Newsletter will hopefully go out to the Road Stewards by the 17th October, therefore if anyone wishes to submit a report or article the deadline will be 26th August.
- LL also reported that she wishes to give up dealing with the Newsletter and therefore she is looking for a replacement.

7.5 Parks Report - KB

- No report this month.

7.6 Planning – JR

JR issued a report which will be circulated with these minutes. JR brought to our attention the following items:-

- 186 Field End Road – remains showing as undecided although the application was lodged in February 2016.
- 195a Field End Road – has now been approved on the basis of 2 x 1 bedroom flats, where a Feb 16 application for 1 x 2 bed + 1 x 1 bed was refused.
- 8 The Glen – refused again.
- 3 Pikes End – still showing as undecided although application was lodged in February 2016. A concerned resident has continued to send me update emails re her emails to the planning officer.
- 17-21 The Close, Land to the Rear – still showing as undecided although this application, that is one of many for this site, was lodged in March 2016.
- The Malt House
 - The owners have now received approval for their planning application to change the status of the building from office to residential, this under granted permitted rights.
 - Building owners have arranged to be at the Malt House Premises on 7th July between the hours of 4 to 8 pm to present details of their scheme for this site and the one that they own in Woodlands Avenue. CG has already sent out this information to our wide community.
 - The owners are undertaking a public consultation process and we will continue to support them and send out further reminders to ensure that all who might have a concern are given the opportunity of attending on 7th July.

New Planning Issues:-

Concern that it seems that there are planning applications that are not being dealt with within the 8 week time span that I understand is the requirement for Hillingdon Council to deal with applications.

- 186 Field End Road, 3 Pikes End and 17-21 The Close, Land to Rear, sited above, are examples.
- Whilst it would be good to know what is happening with each of these individual applications, it would also be helpful to know what is actually the remit for Hillingdon Planning and the process for complaint. Cllr MW to investigate. **ACTION:- MW**

7.7 SNT/Police - CH

CH attended Eastcote and East Ruislip SNT Ward Panel, 21st June 2016 and gave following report:-

Matters from previous meeting

- Skate Park continues to give concern with some evidence of drug taking and use by motor cyclists. It was suggested that the council consider solar-powered motion lights as a deterrent.
- There were concerns about vandalism and other anti-social behaviour on the Highgrove Estate. The SNT are aware.

Report from SNT

- There were 6 arrests for burglary, 2 supplying drugs, 1 robbery and 1 for theft from a vehicle.
- Over the last three months, there were 16 burglaries (same as previous 3 months), 10 thefts from vehicles (significant decrease), 7 thefts of vehicles (significant increase), 1 vehicle interference and 3 robberies (same as previous 3 months). The rise in vehicle theft is attributable to an increase in the use of jamming devices to interfere with remote locking on high-end vehicles. Many of the thefts from vehicles may have been committed by the individual arrested (see above). One of the robbers has been arrested and the others may have been drug-related.

West Ruislip Ward Panel: the way ahead

- There had been suggestions that the two Ward Panels be merged. Representatives from the West Ruislip Ward were surprised by this and felt that it was premature to suggest a merger. They recognized that they could learn from the Eastcote and East Ruislip Panel but will continue to operate as a separate panel.

Issues from Panel Members

- There continue to be anti-social behavior issues in Pembroke Park – these are being addressed by Cllr Becky Haggar.
- A concern was raised about the number of flat-bed lorries with unsecured ladders and tools that were being parked overnight. The SNT were not concerned about the tools being used by burglars but more to do with the prospect of the tools being used as instant weapons. Their advice was to contact the vehicle owner.

Priorities/Promises

- Burglary
- Motor Vehicle Crime
- Anti-social Behaviour

7.8 Road Stewards – AA

- A Road Stewards meeting is planned for Friday 15th July from 2pm to 4pm in the Stables (Eastcote House Gardens). The cost of the Stables is £16.40 an hour (2 hours = £32.80) it was proposed that we should fund this meeting and it was agreed with a show of hands.
- AA sent a written report as follows:-
At meeting on 22nd June with Road Stewarding Lead Team and AH experience re paying in of subscriptions during past year was discussed. The following was agreed:
 - Encourage Road Stewards to pay in electronically if able, using road name as reference.
 - Payment direct into HBSC by cheque to be avoided as such payments do not show reference required on the bank statement
 - No need to give counterfoils of banking into HSBC to Treasurer. But to be retained by RS - attach to sheets which are then passed to Area Stewards
 - Area Stewards to be encouraged to email advice re monies banked or given to Treasurer to AA cc Treasurer, then no need to use paper summary sheet and have to pass it on.
 - Consider future electronic collection, as other Residents' Associations - AH to investigate further.
 - To help engender interest in membership of ERA it was agreed the sheet about why there is a need for ERA should be updated and should include mention of what has been achieved historically. This could also be used in the Newsletter.

- It was agreed that a social gathering of Road Stewards would be arranged in the next few weeks - to be held in the Stables at Eastcote House one afternoon (see above). We would also arrange a Road Stewards meeting in the evening later in the year.
- It was noted that list of roads requiring Stewards requires updating on the ERA website. Senior Road Steward needs to be able to do this direct and therefore keep it updated.
- We have set up an emailing distribution list for Road Stewards to enable ease of contact; this was used for the first time to announce the Town Planning presentation at the AGM and will be used to arrange Stewards' meetings as well as other uses to give or receive information. It is noted that not all Stewards are on email so these Stewards will be contacted by phone or note through the door. Can we please encourage all Stewards to ensure we do have their correct email address - notification to alison@fsmf.uk.com please?
- In addition to the map showing roads requiring Stewards displayed at the AGM it has been noted that Pine Gardens and Coombe Drive need to be added. We received one note of interest of someone offering to become a Road Steward at the AGM but AA has to date not received contact back.
- We have had someone offer to take on the evens of Ferncroft Avenue.

7.9 Transport - IM

- IM reported that there is little to report. The unusual weather conditions last Thursday caused a number of travel disruptions on the Met Line, flooding caused delays along all stretches of the line and its various branches, which also affected the signaling system, as well as debris brought down on the tracks at various locations. For those with Oyster cards etc disrupted or diverted journeys which resulted in additional expense can be reclaimed through the TfL claims procedure.

7.10 Webmaster - GC

- No report..

7.11 HARA (Hillingdon Alliance of Residents Associations) – IG.

- IG reported the last meeting was in May and the speaker was John Bartlett from Green Spaces who gave a talk on Hillingdon Trees and Green Spaces, detailing the work being carried out in the various green spaces around Hillingdon. The May meeting was also the AGM – Tony Ellis to stay on as Chairman for one more year, Graham Bartram (Ruislip RA) is Vice Chairman and Nim Jalaf (Tudor Way RA) is Treasurer and Liz Segal (Vine Lane RA) staying on as Secretary. The rest of the meeting was taken up with reports from other RAs' and other affiliated bodies. The next meeting is Monday 18th July, then 19th September and 21st November.

8 A.O.B.

- **The Container behind Youngs Newsagent**– JR reports that the owner had spoken to her regarding this container, also to other ERA committee members thus a number of people have become involved. Cllr CD has taken up this matter. The owner told JR that he has had a council visit and they verbally agreed that the container is on his land, has been there for some 20+ years and therefore there is no need for any planning permission or other council intervention now. The owner was concerned that he should still seek planning permission and JR has told him that he does not need to do this. However, the owner has stated that if residents do require it, he would be willing to paint the container to such colour as required. He is also willing to consider how the entrance flap may be altered to achieve a more pleasing outlook here with any new entrance installation ensuring there is no fire hazard or other H&S risks at the point of entrance to the container. **ACTION:- CD**
- **“L” Drivers in Car Parks** – we are advised that the Council will take legal action against any School of Motoring caught using the car parks for driving instructions.

- **Flooding** – Various flooding issues were reported and AH emailed the RS asking them to report any problems to her and a list will be kept for future reference.
- **Sainsburys** – Uneven pavements Cllr BH reported that she is dealing with this problem. The Council will make a site visit and Cllr BH will report back in due course. **ACTION:- BH**
- **Shelving stand outside Grocery Shop near the station** – various people have expressed concern regarding the unit that has appeared outside this shop – this is a very busy area due to being so close to the station. The Cllrs are investigating. **ACTION:- MW**
- **ERA Committee meeting minutes** – JR has concerns that committee meeting minutes, that are essentially a draft, are placed on the ERA website before they are finalized at the next committee meeting, i.e. any required amendments are then agreed providing the final minutes. ERA members should only see what is finalized to void any confusion for them over any changes that have resulted from amendments. An official log of all finalized minutes should be kept and JR is not convinced that the ERA website should be the only place where these are held.

There being no further business AH closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

The next Committee Meeting will be on WEDNESDAY 24th AUGUST 2016 in the Elsie Fischer Room, St. Lawrence Church starting at 7.30pm

Please note change of date for the next meeting. No July Meeting