



Eastcote Residents' Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 26th March 2014

Venue – Elsie Fischer Room, St Lawrence Church

1. **Present** – Ian Brooks (Chairman), Cllr David Payne, Irene Groom, Chris Groom, Ian Murray, Karen Spink, Alison Holtorp, Jackie Redrup, David Harper, Dev Chadha, Alison Akerman, Andrea Gohil, David Stephen.
2. **Apologies for Absence** Cllr Edward Lavery, Elizabeth Beggs, Carolyn Derecki, Cllr Michael White, Cllr Raymond Graham, Cllr Catherine Dann, Linda Laurie, Keith Barnard, Jean Marr, Jean Gibson, Deesha Chadha.
3. **Approval of Minutes** The Minutes of the 26th February were agreed, with the following amendment – 186A should read 186.
4. **Matters arising from 26th February meeting:**
 - Christmas lights –For 2014, the ERA or any other suitable organisation should apply to the council; CG will follow this up if nothing is forthcoming by June.
ACTION:CG
 - Baskets and troughs of flowers – Council have ordered them for Eastcote – details to be clarified by CG in due course.
ACTION: CG
 - Blackhorse Public House, disabled access – unfortunately there is nothing we can do as works have been approved by planning department.
 - Memorial flowers in Elm Avenue – IB brought this up at a recent HARA meeting and Tony Ellis (Chairman) is to take this up with the Council. We are advised that the Council are in the process of formulating a policy document on this matter but there is no time frame. It is likely to be Autumn time before any document/decision is available.
 - Deane Way and Farthings Close state of roads – all that has been forthcoming from the council is that these and other roads are “on the list to be done”, but with no timescale.
 - Flooding at Old Forge – this has been sorted out. We are advised that over the next 12 months all ditches and drains are to be inspected and recorded on a list for future use.
 - A.G.M. – the £100 donation to the Colne Valley Trust has been agreed.
 - Eastcote Post Office – We have received the following email from Cllr David Payne – “My investigations show that Eastcote PO is on the list of Post Offices considered for closure. This is because it is projected unlikely to be in a break even financial position by March 2015. At this time the exact financial position will be known and a decision made. There will be the opportunity for a shared partner with the P.O. in the present building or in a nearby building with an already existing business. There seems to be no question of Eastcote completely losing its P.O. I have requested that as more information becomes available, I am kept informed and I will of course keep you informed.”
5. **New resident issues:**
 - A resident has brought to our attention the disgraceful state of the footpaths and pavements in and around Eastcote and more particularly in the Field End Road shopping area. After general discussion we were advised that everyone report to the Contact Centre all footpaths and pavements in need of repair. IB is to email Jean Palmer on this subject and request that an inspection/repairs of footpaths/pavements take place.
ACTION:IB
6. **Committee Reports**

6.1 **Planning** – JR distributed her latest report.

- Initial House redevelopment – 150 FER - was approved with the proviso that all windows overlooking Moreford Way must be obscure glass.
- 186 Field End Road – website shows withdrawn but it is still on the list.
- 2, Mytle Avenue – going to appeal.
- 40 Coombe Drive – JR to investigate as this appears to be over development.
- 89, Lime Grove – LC has written in about this one.

It would appear that the Council is now cracking down on anything that looks like any extension/additional building in the garden that looks like it could be used as a separate dwelling.

6.2 **Police Matters** – IM

- IM attended the last meeting of the disbanding police committee last week; he has been our representative for 13 years. It would appear that Resident Associations will have no part to play within any new committee but they should have a representative on their ward SNT Panel. CG reported that he will be attending Eastcote SNT panel meetings in the future.
- IB reported that the new Board met last week as a training mission. One of the first jobs is to make sure that SNT panels are up and running so that RAs have access to police matters. The model they are working for is a panel for each ward.

6.3 **Transport /Road Safety** –

- Northwood Hills Town Centre improvements: 24th July-3rd Sep Joel Street southbound closed between Pinner Rd and Tolcarne Drive. Southbound 282 bus diverted to Pinner (Marsh Rd), Bridle Rd and back on route at Field End Rd. H13 bus also implicated
- Track replacement Uxbridge branch: 19th July – 10th Aug; during the week the line will be suspended on the Metropolitan line between Uxbridge and Ruislip and on the Piccadilly line between Uxbridge to Rayners Lane. On two weekends the closures will be extended on the Metropolitan line between Uxbridge to Wembley Park and Northwood and on the other two between Uxbridge and Rayners Lane.

6.4 **Parks Report**

Eastcote House Gardens

- The next community picnic will be on Saturday 7th June from 11am to 4pm.
- There will be a bat walk on Thursday 1st May and a history walk on Sunday 27th July (booking essential for both).
- An archaeological dig will take place between Friday 27th June and Tuesday 15th July.

Eastcote War Memorial

- CG reported on the work that was carried out that morning by Friends of Eastcote House Gardens, Royal British Legion and Council gardening staff, clearing the area behind the War Memorial to allow a greater area for future memorial services.

6.5 **Health and Community Voice**

- No report from EB but Newsletters received from Community Voice distributed.

6.6 **Webmaster** – No report.

6.7 **Finance**

- AH distributed her report, covering the period up to 31st March 2014. The final Accounts for the AGM need to be Audited, CG said that he had a contact and he will contact him asking if he would be prepared to audit our accounts. **ACTION: CG**
- AH then brought up the subject of having a second signature on the account - after general discussion it was agreed that a second signature was needed and it was agreed by a show of hands that Irene Groom (Secretary) should be the second signature.

6.8 **Road Stewards**

- Subs are up this year.
- There is a shortage of Road Stewards as some have decided to give up this year, also there are a lot of roads that have never had Road Stewards.

- The original flyer needs to be amended and GC has the original art work, if he is unable to print JR offered to print them if necessary. This flyer needs to go out with the Newsletter and onto the Website.

6.9 **Newsletter**

- The Newsletter is going to the printers at the beginning of April and will be 16 pages long.
- Discussion then followed regarding going down the colour route, and it was decided to investigate pricing etc with the idea that we use colour in the Autumn magazine.
- It was pointed out that if we want to use photos of children in the magazine we need their parents' consent.
- We are now receiving regularly Newsletters from other RAs and DH has agreed to store them.

6.10 **Other Reports**

HARA – It was reported that the efforts of Northwood RA had helped to stop (currently) the big development in Northwood, near to the Station. It would appear that their efforts have forced TfL to think again and to think more carefully in dealing with local RAs affected by any development they are contemplating.

7. **AOB** – We were advised that Cllr David Payne is to be made Freedom of the Borough, the ceremony is on Thursday 3rd April at 6pm in the Civic Centre. The next meeting of the ERA will be his last, and after the elections in May he expressed an interest in being co-opted onto the ERA committee after the elections.
8. The meeting finished at 9.20pm.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 30th April 2014 at the Elsie Fischer Room, St Lawrence Church, starting at 7.30pm. PLEASE EMAIL/PHONE YOUR APOLOGIES AND REPORTS TO IRENE GROOM.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING – WEDNESDAY 26TH March 2014.

Present: Chris Groom, Ian Brooks, Irene Groom, Alison Akerman, Alison Holtorp, Jackie Redrup, Ian Murray, Karen Spink, David Harper.

Apologies: Elizabeth Beggs, Gawain Cox, Linda Laurie, Carolyn Derecki

IB handed out his list of committee members for discussion.

- Ian Parkinson is not seeking re-election at the AGM.
- Gawain Cox will continue with the Website but finds it difficult to attend meetings.
- Deesha Chadha does not want to come on the committee at this stage but will help out when necessary.
- Ian Brooks then explained what his new duties will be within the new Police Committee and that under the circumstances he cannot stand for Chairman, so therefore a new Chairman is required.

So as well as seeking a new Chairman we also have four other vacancies on the committee.

As David Payne has indicated that he would like to be still involved with ERA, he can be co-opted onto the committee after elections and the AGM in May.

Everyone else has agreed to stay on the committee in their present roles.

One suggestion made was that a different person chairs the committee meetings each month.

It was pointed out that we do need a “figure head” or named person that correspondence and emails can be sent too for distribution.

No conclusion was reached and serious thought needs to be given to this problem – discuss again after the April meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.