

Eastcote Residents' Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 25th March 2015

Venue – Elsie Fischer Room, St Lawrence Church

1. **Present** – Chris Groom (acting Chairman for the meeting), Irene Groom, Karen Spink, Jackie Redrup, Ian Murray, Alison Akerman, David Payne, Alison Holtorp, Keith Barnard, Cllr Nick Denys, Carolyn Derecki David Harper, Dev Chadha, Deesha Chadha. Andrea Gohil, Visitors: Leslie Crowcroft (Conservation/FEHG), Rachael Eckley, Sandra Wilson (Coteford School).
2. **Apologies for Absence** Gawain Cox, Cllr Michael White, Cllr Becky Haggard, Cllr Catherine Dann, Cllr Edward Lavery, Cllr Teji Barnes, Pamela Jean Marr, Jean Gibson, Elizabeth Beggs, David Stephens, Linda Laurie.
3. **Welcome** CG opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming and introduced our visitors.
4. **Approval of Minutes** The Minutes of the 25th February 2015 were agreed with the following amendments – The secretary IG apologized to Jean Gibson and Jean Dixon over a confusion of names – it is Jean Dixon who has retired and Jean Gibson is still active within ERA – IG did contact them. Also Malcolm Penny has taken over as Area Road Steward.
5. **Matters arising from 25th February 2015 minutes.**
 - CG did check and the sealing work on the Memorial at Pembroke Park has been done.
 - Cllr BH reports that the land along Eastcote Road, on Pembroke Park, which has rubbish, is not LBH's land but is the responsibility of Taylor Wimpy, they have been contacted and hopefully they will clear the land as soon as possible.
 - AH reports that she has submitted the article for the newsletter regarding what the £2 subs is used for.
 - The Borough Commander was contacted and he has submitted an article for the Newsletter.
 - The Eastcote Chamber of Commerce was eventually too late to submit an article for the current Newsletter but hopefully will submit one for the next Newsletter.
 - The closed public toilets in Devonshire Car Park – they were closed due to misuse which caused damage to the sewage pumps – broken needles which had been flushed down the toilet – the pit housing the pump has now been cleared and the pump can be stripped down and repaired. LBH are hoping to bring them back into use as soon as possible.
 - Street Lighting or lack of at Deancroft Road – this has been added to the database of lighting improvement requests and will be attended too when resources are made available. No time frame is available at the moment.
 - Flooding along High Road Eastcote – some work has been carried out but it has not solved the problem – KS reported that there is a broken manhole cover and will pass on this information to Cllr BH, **ACTION:KS**
6. **New resident issues** : - None
7. **New funding requests** :-
 - Coteford Junior School – They requested a donation towards the establishment of a Sensory Garden in the grounds of the school. After their presentation they left the meeting and after discussion at our Executive Meeting it was agreed by a show of hands that we donate £200 towards this project. AH will inform the school and send them a cheque.
 - FEHG Community Archive Book – LC requested a donation towards the publication of a book capturing personal memories of Eastcote and Eastcote House and gardens. After her

presentation LC left the meeting and after discussion at our Executive Meeting it was decided not to donate towards this book. CG will inform LC of the decision. **ACTION:CG**

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Planning –JR

The Planning Report up to the end of March was distributed and accompanies these minutes. The following items were brought to our attention:

- Bishop Ramsey School – Floodlighting to MUGA– this application has been withdrawn.
- Mobile Phone Mast – junction FER/High Road Eastcote – the mast is to be much taller and an extra box installed. Several people have written in requesting that the mast and boxes be moved onto the Council Land, now that the moratorium on building on Council land has been removed.
- 151 Woodlands Avenue – refused.
- 103 FER – house at the back of the shops – refused – JR to follow up in case this goes to appeal. **ACTION:- JR**
- 95 Elm Avenue – refused.
- 7 Woodlands Avenue – petitions submitted – but it is not on the list for this month – JR to investigate. **ACTION:- JR**
- 12 Abbotsbury Gardens – a new building being built in garden. JR to investigate and also write to James Rogers. **ACTION:- JR**

8.2 SNT/Police.

- The Eastcote and East Ruislip SNT Panel has not met since January. We understand that there is a possible new Chairman and Secretary. Cllr ND agreed to investigate.

POST MEETING NOTE:- next meeting arranged for 7th May

ACTION:ND

8.4 Parks Report

- **Eastcote House Gardens** – The works are over running by at least two months, progress is exceedingly slow. FEHG will be going ahead with the Picnic on 6th June. The car Park is nearly finished. The Lease for the Café has been let.
- **Warrender/Highgrove** – There are still problems with Bishop Ramsey using the park for rugby and football practice, the Chairman of Friends of Warrender Park will be taking this up with Paul Richards, Head of Green Spaces. The tennis courts are almost finished and more seating has been promised in the rest of the park. LBH will be asked to put notices on the tennis courts and multi use games area setting out the rights of use. The MUGA which is about 2/3rds of the area is for the use of Bishop Ramsey during school hours and at all other times it should be open for all members of the community. The tennis courts which occupy the other third is for use by the general public 24/7. Warrender received some money from Waitrose and they are willing to sponsor some annual planting for the old paddling pool looked after by the 6th Eastcote Beavers and Cubs.
- **Hillingdon Plan Part 2** – The results of the consultation and changes resulting from the consultation were submitted to Cabinet 26th March. The submission was approved by Cabinet. Any changes resulting from the consultation will be the subject of further consultations then an examination by the Planning Inspectorate in December 2015/January 2016 will follow. One change made which was requested by other RAs was that the wording pertaining to building on gardens should be brought into line with the National Policy Framework, and this states that building on gardens should be resisted, however the draft HP referred only to back gardens, this has now been amended to a general gardens.
- Request to give Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) status to Bessingby Park/Cavendish Park/Pine Gardens complex/Warrender Park/Highgrove Woods have been refused. Also giving dual

designation of MOL and Green Chain to Pinn River meadows was refused. These requests can be put to the Planning Inspector at the examination. Representatives from Eastcote Conservation Panel and Friends of Pinn Meadow will take the matter forward at the examination.

8.5 Health and Community Voice -EB

- The latest reports have been received and distributed. The subs of £22 is now due – it was agreed by a show of hands that we continue and AH will issue the cheque. **ACTION:AH**

8.6 Webmaster - GC

- A very detailed report has been submitted and will be distributed with these minutes.

8.7 Finance - AH

- .AH submitted a provisional financial report which has been distributed to committee members.`

8.8 Road Stewards – AA

- The majority of the subscription money is in, just a few more to come.

8.9 Newsletter - LL

- The first draft has been produced and is being edited and will be sent for publication early/middle of April. Sometimes a problem arises that the article is already out of date before the magazine comes out, people writing articles should be informed of the date when the magazine will be printed.

8.10 HARA - IG

- IG was unable to attend the last meeting, no Minutes received yet. The next meeting is in the middle of May.

8.11 Transport.

- The new Croxley Link has now been approved and work will start soon with three new stations and is expected to take approximately 3 years. Watford Station will close. One extra train is required.

8. A.O.B.

- Cllr ND and Cllr BH have submitted reports on the following items:
- **New Post Box (by the relocated post office)** – the date of installation is given as May.
- **Pavements from Missouri Court to shops** – The route has been walked and whilst the footway is uneven in places most of the route is within safety intervention levels, however three locations need repair works and a Works Order No.21460 has been issued.
- **Missouri Court** - the plants etc have been bought and planting by FEHG has started. Cllr BH visits on a regular basis and has managed to assist residents with their issues.
- **Eastcote Chamber of Commerce** – We understand that they have been asking for sponsors for the flower beds and they have been given the name of the correct officers to contact in the Council to initiate works.
- **Flooding at the back of Budgens** – this was reported to LBH and action was taken to resolve the issue, drains cleared and flushed out.
- **The “To Let Signs”/”For Sale Signs”** – This is an on-going problem and we have been advised that 40 estate agents in respect of over 100 boards have been served notices. On a recent tour 70 would appear to have been removed and the 30 left will be collected in the next few days. There will then be more to identify and collect over time and it is hoped that the agents will get the message that putting boards up, not on the for sale site, is not in accordance with the regulations.
- **Road Safety Boards (numbers of accidents)** – The signs are updated every one – two years and the Council is in the process of updating all the signs on Victoria Road, Field End Road and Cowley Road.

- **Alleyway near Eastcote Station** – the alleyway is on the list of areas a mobile CCTV unit will visit, a yellow warning sign has been installed to inform people of this. The tree will be completely removed and the pavement repaired. The street cleaning team is now inspecting the area more regularly. The lantern in the alleyway will be upgraded to better light the area. If anybody observes any criminal or anti-social behaviour they should inform the police using the 101 telephone number.
- **Skate Park – Kings College** – they have been given a further grant to fully refurbish the park as it is very well used.
- **Arens Bar** – there had been no problems over the last month, but a couple of complaints have been received in the last couple of days – they are being investigated.
- **A.G.M.** – the St Thomas Moore hall is booked. The Borough Commander Mr Nick Downing is booked. LL and team to do refreshments. CG to Chair the meeting. As well as advertising it in the Newsletter, it was suggested that adverts should be placed in the Gazette, on our Notice Boards and emails sent to other RAs, Eastcote Park Estate, Pembroke Park and Chamber of Commerce. This will be discussed more fully at the April meeting.
- **Wentworth Drive** – a complaint has been received from several residents regarding the parking of coaches in the road because they cannot get into the school before a certain time. Cllr ND will investigate. **ACTION:ND**
- **Cheney Street** – There is still an on-going problem with traffic etc. The speed activation sign was in the wrong place and has now been taken down but not re-installed. Cllr ND will investigate with Caroline Haywood. **ACTION:ND**
- **RAF Northolt** :- GC will attend the Liaison Meeting **on 26th March** **ACTION:- GC**

There being no further business CG closed the meeting at 9.40pm

The next Committee Meeting will be on WEDNESDAY 29th April in the Elsie Fischer Room, St. Lawrence Church starting at 7.30pm.

PLEASE EMAIL/PHONE YOUR APOLOGIES AND REPORTS TO IRENE GROOM.