



Minutes of Committee Meeting held Wednesday 27th November 2013.

Venue – Elsie Fischer Room St Lawrence Church

1. **Present** – Ian Brooks (Chairman), Irene Groom (Minute Secretary), Karen Spink, Alison Holtorp, Ian Murray, Ian Parkinson, Linda Laurie, Chris Groom, Keith Barnard, Cllr Catherine Dann, Cllr Edward Lavery, David Stephen, Pamela Jean Marr, Deesha Chadha, Dev Chadha, Lynda Massey.
2. **Apologies for Absence** –Elizabeth Beggs, Gawain Cox, Alison Akerman, Carolyn Derecki, Cllr Raymond Graham, Andrea Gohil, Jean Gibson.
3. IB welcomed everyone to the meeting and David Stephen indicated that he had a Resident Issue he wished to bring to our attention.
4. **Approval of Minutes** The Minutes of the 30th October were approved after the following amendment – Item 6 Cllr CD asks that the words “by the Council” be added to her final statement.
5. **Matters Arising from 30th October meeting:**
 - Aren’s Bar (Woodman Public House) – there was a meeting on the 18th November attended by 3 Councillors from Northwood Hills and the 2 brothers who own the pub. One of the Councillors took the chair. A lot of concerns were raised by the local residents regarding nuisance and parking in local streets and Joel Street. There is to be a Licencing Committee meeting on the 16th December and some residents will be allowed to speak at the meeting. IB has written in with his comments.
 - Open Forum – IB thanked everyone for attending and their help on the night. Much smaller numbers than usual. Those that were there participated enthusiastically. After discussion various suggestions were put forward for future Forums– key note speaker who is involved with something which is topical at the time – make it more of a social evening – bringing it forward to October – possibly moving it to a Saturday evening.
 - Christmas Lights – they are now up but IP reported that they are not the original Eastcote lights, he was instructed to hand over the original lights to the Council which he has done. A few of the businesses have complained and asked what has happened to the original lights; they wanted the original lights installed. A lot of money is involved and it needs to be resolved as soon as possible and IP is waiting for some information from the Council as to the whereabouts of the original lights and what is happening regarding the money. The majority of the money came from the Council but some money was forthcoming from local businesses, ERA and others. Discussion then followed and the outcome was that this needs to be discussed more fully in the New Year. If the newly proposed Eastcote Chamber of Commerce does get up and running they may be able to take over the responsibility for the lights and any festival.
 - Baskets and Troughs of Flowers for Eastcote – we are advised that there could be a budget for this kind of thing and we should apply now. The other areas which had them this year were installed under “London is Bloom” initiative. It was suggested that we tidy up and replant the beds between the main road and service roads that are already in Eastcote shopping area. CG has contacted Green Spaces but to date there has been no response. CG to chase up.

ACTION:- CG

5. Committee Reports

5.1 **Newsletter** – LL will be contacting people in the New Year for articles for the next Newsletter.

5.2 Planning

Due to work related problems JR has been unable to produce a report (but will produce when time is available).

The following was brought to our attention:

- Pembroke Park – various planning applications which were turned down by the Council, concerning unauthorised changes incorporated into new properties, dormer windows in the roof, etc went to Appeal – disappointingly they have been allowed.
- There was a well attended public meeting to illustrate new proposals for Initial House at 150, Field End Road. They appeared generally, but not completely, acceptable, but we await the formal, revised, planning application.

5.3 Police Matters/Safer Neighbourhoods – IM

- The meeting held last week was very poorly attended. There are only two more meetings left, the last one will be in March.
- The new Safer Neighbourhoods Police Board is being set up and the closing date for lay member's applications is the 3rd January. IB informed the meeting that he had applied and been selected to take on the role of Chairman for the first period of three years.
- IM and all the Committee congratulated IB on his new roll.
- We understand that new SNT Panels will be up and running soon. After March if we want any policing matters we shall have to rely on our representative on the Safer Neighbourhood Panel.
- We have been advised that the crime statistics we receive come from a Central MET Unit not Hillingdon and it is not possible to compare previous years as they are taken at different times.

5.4 Transport /Road Safety

- The problem with the automatic sign in Cheney Street is still ongoing – BB arranged for someone from the Council to investigate and they agreed that it is in the wrong place. No information has been forthcoming as to what is proposed to do about it.

5.5 Conservation & Parks Report

Eastcote House Gardens

- Everything is going ahead with the preparations for the improvement works which is due to start next year. The project has been given formal Heritage Lottery Funds permission to proceed and both local and historic building permission have been granted.
- Tree Dressing in the gardens on Saturday 30th November at 1.30pm.

5.6 Health and Community Voice

Report by EB:-

- A Community Voice meeting was held on the 7th November proved to be very interesting. The speaker was Margaret Sullivan CEO of the Paul Strickland Scanner Centre. The scanner appeal was first started in 1983 under the Chairmanship of Paul Strickland and has gone on to be one of the most important charity medical units in Hillingdon, and has scanned over the past few years 225,000 patients. A new scanner was installed in October 2013 at a cost of £1.4million. The Centre's work comes from various GP's in Hertfordshire, Hillingdon and Harrow, but patients can only use this service via a referral from Hillingdon Hospital and not directly from their own GP, the

new Commissioning Group does not have access to Choose and Book as to acquire this the Centre have to put in place an expensive system at a great deal of cost to the Scanner Centre. New scans are being developed to diagnose dementia in some patients and this should prove a fantastic step forward in the future.

- Discussion was held on the length of time that the London Ambulance Service took for a 999 call (i.e. 1-1/2 hours) various other members described their own experiences.
- The letter received back from the LAS was not really that satisfactory.
- The Northwood and Pinner unit at Mount Vernon has now moved to the Woodlands Centre at Hillingdon Hospital.
- A very lengthy discussion ensued about prescriptions and how individual members had good and bad experiences.

5.7 **HARA** –

No report – IG was unable to attend the last meeting due to problems with parking in the Civic Centre. The matter was reported to Liz Segal (Secretary of HARA) who has since reported that various other people had a similar problem. She is sorting the problem out and will give details of name and telephone number of the person to contact to book a place in the Civic Centre car park when necessary. When the minutes of the meeting are received they will be circulated.

5.8 **Road Stewards** – No report.

5.9 **Finance** – We have sufficient funds to finance this year’s proposed expenditure.

5.10 **Webmaster** - Stats for November – Website hits 747 - New Face book Fans - one (60 in total), New Twitter followers-ten (469 in total).

6. **Eastcote Residents Issues:**

- David Stephen brought to our attention that, although the Blackhorse Public House does have a disabled ramp at the front of the building, it does not have a disabled toilet. We were advised that there is no law to force the company to provide a disabled toilet within an existing building (only required in new buildings or building subject to major refurbishment) it can only be suggested. The pub is a Listed Building so even internal works need Planning Permission/Listed Building Permission. IB/KB to contact the pub/brewers regarding this matter. **ACTION:- IB/KB**
- Deesha Chadha brought up the problem of trying to get children/ young people involved in ERA and other local issues. This was seen as very positive aim and after discussion, a suggestion was made that perhaps we could hold an Open Forum especially for children/young people, holding it in a school.

7. **AOB**

- INITIAL HOUSE – there was a very large turnout for the meeting that was held at the Tudor Lodge recently. Although the building will still have flats, the drawing displayed showed a change of design and elevations, very different from the original documents. We now understand that they have submitted the documents required for the demolition and removal of the spoil from the site.
- MEMORIAL FLOWERS IN ELM AVENUE – an article appeared in the Gazette last week concerning this memorial. A number of ERA residents have objected to it. Councillor Burrows is the one to contact regarding this matter. Cllr CD has a contact with the family and will assist if necessary. AH/IB to contact Cllr Burrows, copying in our Councillors, and report back. **ACTION:- AH/IB**

- Cllr CD reported that she had attended a very interesting presentation at The Churchill Hall recently especially for children in the age group 16/18 year old. It was concerned with road safety and had the theme – SAFE DRIVE – STAY ALIVE. A very appropriate intervention bearing in mind two local young driver related deaths (Elm Av & Cuckoo Hill)
- It has come to our attention that the parking ticket issuing machine near the War Memorial has been demolished by a car and removed. We understand that it will be replaced but in the meantime parking is allowed there for free, the Traffic Wardens having been told not to issue tickets in this area for the time being.
- KS reports that the service road behind the shops from the Library downwards is in a very bad state of repair. We understand that the road itself is private and the owner is not known. Other people then reported problems with the other service roads behind the shops and the mess alongside the Pet Shop on the corner of North View. Cllr CD is to investigate. **ACTION:- CD**
- If any of the Eastcote Christmas Lights are out, please let Cllr CD know.
- ERA MEETING DATES FOR 2014: 29th January, 26th February, 26th March, 30th April, AGM FRIDAY 16TH MAY at St. Thomas More Church, 25th June, 30th July, No meeting in August, 24th September, 29th October, 26th November, No meeting in December.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER.

The next meeting will be Wednesday 29th January, 2014 at Elsie Fischer Room, St Lawrence Church, starting at 7.30pm. Apologies to Irene Groom.