



Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 29th October 2014
Venue – Elsie Fischer Room, St Lawrence Church

1. **Present** – Elizabeth Beggs (Acting Chairman for the meeting), Irene Groom, Karen Spink, Linda Laurie, Carolyn Derecki, Keith Barnard, Cllr Michael White, David Harper, Dev Chadha, Deesha Chadha, Cllr Becky, Haggar, David Stephens, Chris Groom.
2. **Apologies for Absence** Alison Holtorp, Jackie Redrup, Ian Murray, Alison Akerman, Cllr Catherine Dann, Cllr Edward Lavery, Cllr Teji Barnes, Cllr Nick Denys, Pamela Jean Marr, Jean Gibson, Gawain Cox.
3. **Welcome** EB opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming.
4. **Approval of Minutes** The Minutes of the 24th September 2014 were agreed with no amendments.
5. **Matters arising from 24th September 2014 minutes.**
 - Cllr ND reported that the issue of the alleyway by Eastcote Station is ongoing. The Council has investigated the lighting and says that it meets “required standards”. He has gone back to them and said that because of specific problems associated with the alleyway there is a good case for stronger lighting. Discussions on this point are ongoing. He also contacted the Anti-Social Behaviour team to find out if they can help in anyway. **ACTION:- ND**
 - Cllr ND also reported that he is helping residents in Boundary and Boldmere Roads re badly behaved traffic around Cannon Lane School, this school has recently expanded. **ACTION:- ND**
 - AA sent an email to remind everyone that there is a Road and Area Stewards meeting in the Elsie Fischer Room this coming Friday, 31st October. Starting at 7.30pm. She also reported that she now needs a Road Steward for the Wentworth Drive area. **ACTION:- ALL**
 - Cheney Street traffic problems - CD reported that she had received a very long reply to her emails to David Knowles (Hillingdon Council). The Council have made a site visit and the problem speed sign has now been removed to be resited; after a new traffic survey. There is to be another vehicle check on speed and volume which will take place in the first week of November at a number of locations in Cheney Street. Also to be investigated is the possible redesign at the duel carriageway area of the road. Some residents have contacted the Council themselves but had received no response. CD has now leaflet dropped the area giving people details of a named person to contact.
 - CG has passed to JR the names of people in Taylor/Wimpy (Pembroke Park) to contact regarding some outstanding work that needs to be finished.
 - Cllr BH attended the Eastcote and East Ruislip SNT Panel meeting and met the new Inspector, Rob Bryan, he is very keen to meet us all and a suggestion was made that we invite him to either one of our Committee Meetings or the AGM next year.
 - EB reported that she was unable to attend the Safer Neighbourhood Board meeting held recently.
 - Cllr MW reported problems with flooding in Bessingby/Cavendish Parks is ongoing with a water main leaking and flooding of the cricket pitch, a new contractor is being sourced. **ACTION:- MW**

6. New resident issues:

- Residents from Missouri Court are complaining about the disgraceful state of the pavements in the area of the shops in Field End Road. ERA are liaising with the newly formed Eastcote Chamber of Commerce on this matter. They are already dealing with the state of the walls and bushes alongside the main road and general improvements similar to Ruislip Manor. Post Meeting note :- At a meeting with Cllr Douglas Mills (Cabinet Member for Community, Commerce and Regeneration) on 1st November he confirmed that Eastcote Shopping Area is on the Cabinet agenda in January for inclusion in the town centre improvements programme)

7. New Funding Requests

- NONE.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Planning – As JR was unable to attend the meeting the Planning Report to the 29th October 2014 was emailed to committee members before the meeting and is included with the minutes distribution. She also brought to our attention the following items:

- 61 Wentworth Drive – 4 x 2 storey 2 bed back to back properties – reported at last month's meeting and detailed to go for determination to the North Planning Committee – no date is currently shown for this on the planning committee future meetings list.
- Harefield Medipark site – “Dementia Village” - both JR and LC have written regarding this matter. JR is liaising with the Harefield Tenants and Residents Association to ensure a concerted approach to representing the overall concerns. **ACTION:-**

JR

- Hillingdon Local Plan Part 2 –It has been noted that Field End Rec. (FER) has been designated Metropolitan Open Land [MOL] whilst, Cavendish/Pine Gardens/Bessingby have not. FER is a large field of mown amenity grass, with Bessingby Rangers club house to the rear. The Cavendish Parks have many sports facilities, football, cricket, tennis, and bowls. Cavendish ward and Eastcote/East Ruislip wards have some of the highest populations in the Borough. Through the consultation process it will be suggested that these parks are upgraded to MOL. MOL gives as much protection as Green Belt status. The same applies to Warrender Park and Highgrove Woods. The deadline for comments on the 3 volume documentation is 4th November. JR will make a submission on the appropriate form before the deadline.

ACTION:- JR

- A question was raised as to why some extensions needed planning permission and some did not – JR has written an article on this which is included in the Newsletter.

8.2 Police Matters

- EB attended the meeting where she met the new Licencing Officer.
- The recent stabbing at Eastcote Station involved non local Somalis and is believed to be drug related.
- EB reported that she felt that overall it would appear that there is a more positive approach to policing within the Borough at present.

8.3 Transport /Road Safety

- No report.

8.4 Parks Report

- **Eastcote House Gardens: -**
 - Following on from EHG's success in London in Bloom, Britain in Bloom also gave many accolades to the Gardens and to the FEHG. Hillingdon received a Silver Gilt award, which is a tremendous achievement.
 - The restoration work is in progress, the stables are to have a new roof. It is hoped that work

on re-planting the walled garden can start early December.

- The builder's plant and equipment has been the target of thieves, and regrettably the FEHG container was severely damaged. The beaten up gardening tools were not of interest but the biscuit tin was stolen. Consequently, with tools stored in many different places the gardening sessions will be curtailed until safe storage is provided at EHG.
- A new Community Award has been started by FEHG. It was becoming very difficult to choose a recipient for the Hinman Shield, with so many schools and groups working in the Community. Joan & Terry Butfield offered to sponsor the EHG Community Award. This can be awarded to any group of person who works for the community. The Award was presented to the 6th Eastcote Beavers & Cubs, by the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr. Catherine Dann, October 6th 2014. The group had started and kept in good order the display behind Boots the Chemist, supplied and maintained flowering pots at the Acorn Youth Club and British Legion. Taken over a run down flower bed in Warrender Park, and raised money for Macmillan Nurses.
- Restoration Fund -FEHG are awaiting the result of the Lloyds Community Award. If enough people voted for FEHG to gain the top award, then the £25K total will be almost reached. The results will be known early November.
- **Warrender Park:-**
 - Work has started on the resurfacing of the Tennis Courts. There is some areas of doubt as to how much of the courts will be for use by the general public, Cllr. Nick Denys is looking into this matter. **ACTION:- ND**
 - ERA financed the purchase of spring bulbs for Warrender Park; these will be planted Saturday 1st November 10am -12 noon, by the Friends of Warrender Park and 6th Eastcote. Cllr BH and FEHG are setting up a Garden Club at Missouri Court (sheltered/retirement housing in Bridle Road) and several of the residents are also getting involved.

8.5 Health and Community Voice -EB

- EB reported that she had been unable to attend meetings. She did report that she had attended a Steering Committee meeting regarding elderly care.
- Hillingdon Hospital is very short of nurses and it remains to be seen whether all the extra money coming will make a difference.

8.6 Webmaster - GC

- **No report.**

8.7 Finance - AH

- As AH was unable to attend the meeting her Treasurer's Report was emailed to committee members.
- The newsletter is estimated to cost £700-£750 – this is good value bearing in mind it is a large edition and in colour. The last large edition in Black and White cost £645 in May 2012.
- The Public Liability Insurance is due for renewal. It has gone up to £91.50 – AH sought approval to pay this amount and this was agreed by a show of hands. **ACTION:- AH**

8.8 Road Stewards - AA

- See the item under Matters Arising.

8.9 Newsletter - LL

- The Newsletter has been printed and will initially be distributed at the Area/Road Stewards meeting on Friday.

8.10 HARA - IG

- Last Meeting - The speaker was Cllr Scott Seaman-Digby, Cabinet Member for HR, Legal Services, Procurement and General background and day to day services. He outlined the history of the Cabinet system and then went on to expand on his duties with the Council and Cabinets. This was followed by a question and answer session.
- Other items discussed included Transport, Roads, Speed Humps, and West London Waste

Plan.

- Police Matters – The new Borough Commander will be speaking to HARA in January.
- For the November 17th meeting the speaker is Raj Alagh – Head of Local Services.

9. AOB –

- KB and CG attended a recent a liaison meeting at Arens Bar in Joel Street with local residents, etc. Bearing in mind the local dissatisfaction it was sad the meeting was poorly attended and badly run, and very few local residents turned up. It was agreed that future meetings would be chaired by either Eastcote or Northwood Hills Residents Association representatives. There were problems last week weekend and the police attended. The restaurant has now closed down and except for private functions it is believed the venue is only open Thursdays to Sundays and it appears to be trying to turn itself into an Event Venue/Nightclub.
- CG, KB, and GC will be attending a meeting at the Civic Centre on Saturday 1st November to meet Boris Johnson who it is understood will stand as MP for the Cavendish part of Eastcote at the next election.
- **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**
- Sunday 9th November at 10.40am- Remembrance Parade – meet on the corner of Abbotsbury Gardens
- Thursday 20th November at 10 am – the unveiling of the Plaque at Pembroke Park (Formerly RAF Eastcote and HMS Pembroke V the wartime decoding station working with Bletchley Park) by the Mayor. Plaque is by the crossing in Eastcote Road, near Fore Street.
- Thursday 13th November at 4pm – turning on the Eastcote Christmas Lights by the Mayor – in the area by the Ascott Pub.
- Monday 17th November at 8.15pm at St. Martin's Church Hall, Ruislip – a talk by Peter Hounsell (London Historical Author) on “Down in the Dumps – The curse of the suburban waste tips 1920-1950” – this is being run by the Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society.
- Saturday 15th November – Eastcote Methodist Church Hall – Pamela Gardens – 2.00-4.00pm -Vintage Teas and stalls and much more – in aid of Michael Sobell House
- Committee Meetings for 2015 all at Elsie Fischer Room and starting at 7.30pm. 28th January, 25th February, 25th March, 29th April, 13th May, (AGM at St. Thomas More Church), 24th June, 29th July, NO AUGUST MEETING, 30th September, 28th October, 25th November, NO MEETING IN DECEMBER.
- A question was raised as to why we have no meetings in August – it would appear to be historical and checking back through back numbers there has never been a meeting in August.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

The next Committee Meeting will be on WEDNESDAY 26th November at the Elsie Fischer Room, St. Lawrence Church starting at 7.30pm. Chris Groom will be chairing this meeting. PLEASE EMAIL/PHONE YOUR APOLOGIES AND REPORTS TO IRENE GROOM.