



## Minutes of Committee Meeting held Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Venue – Elsie Fischer Room St Lawrence Church

1. **Present** – Ian Brooks (Chairman), Carolyn Derecki (Minute Secretary), Karen Spink, Alison Holtorp, Jackie Redrup, Ian Parkinson, Linda Laurie, Alison Akerman, Keith Barnard, Deesha Chadha, Dev Chadha, Pamela Jean Marr, Jean Gibson, Dympna McDermott, David Harper, Andrea Gohil, David Stephens.
2. **Apologies for Absence** – Irene Groom, Chris Groom, Ian Murray, Elizabeth Beggs, Gawain Cox, Cllr Catherine Dann, Cllr David Payne, Cllr Michael White, Cllr Raymond Graham.
3. **Approval of Minutes 31<sup>st</sup> July** – The minutes were approved with the exception of 6.3 which should read 'Area Road Stewards' with regard to the meeting title.
4. **Matters Arising from July 31<sup>st</sup>**
  - Warrender Park – Cllr Dann spoke to gentleman who requested removal of a bench in order to help prevent unruly behavior in the park but others should not have been removed. There has been neither additional nor further support in respect of his complaints.
  - Woodman Public House – Aren's Bar – Cllr Andrew Retter circulated an email detailing his observations of Aren's Bar and concluded that given the number of incidents of anti-social behavior, criminality and nuisance endured by local residents since the bar opened he saw no alternative than to seek a review of their late night licence. Since this will take time he urges residents to continue to report any incidents to the Council or the Police & Cllr Retter. If there is a decision to hold a licensing review individuals will have 28 days to comment.
  - Alison Close – No plans ongoing. KS confirmed that planning permission isn't required as it's permitted development and Building Control confirmed it was a single storey rear extension. The trees that were felled were not protected.
  - ERA Open Forum Meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> November – 7.00pm to 9.00pm. at St Thomas More Church. IB asked for members to assist in setting up the room and helping during the evening. The main topic is 'Community Policing in the North of the Borough' and the two main speakers will be Inspector David George from Safer Neighbourhood Team and Ed Shaylor, Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Investigations Service Manager who will give a presentation and then be available for questions. Details of the Forum will be in the October Newsletter.

## 5. **Committee Reports**

5.1 **Newsletter** - LL confirmed the Newsletter will contain 16 pages and should be ready for delivery to Road Stewards from the third week of October. JR will write a short article giving an update on planning. LL advised that there was a possibility of having colour photographs in the Newsletter and would investigate the cost. It was then decided by members that due to the size of the Newsletter it would not warrant extra expenditure involved. JR queried the possibility of including advertising but LL thought it could cause problems. DH will include an article 'Did you know?'

5.2 **Planning** - The Planning Report was distributed and accompanies these minutes. JR brought to our attention the following:

- RAF Eastcote – there was a Hearing and site visit on 25<sup>th</sup> September with a huge attendance from residents of Azalea Walk, seen by the Appeals Inspector as an excellent turnout. The problem of ‘overlooking’ was seen as ‘perceived’. It appears that no-one from ERA is able to attend tomorrow’s meeting. Clear that it is not the end of issues to be heard with regard to the estate.
- 216 Field End Road – work has now started – alcohol licence applied for.
- Barnhill – new house in garden of existing property – refused – gone to appeal, JR to write.
- Esso Garage – High Road, Eastcote – houses will go ahead. Developers didn’t appear to have gone to Environment Agency. Many residents wish the garage to stay others want development of houses.
- Revisions to planning laws – EL to prepare article for ERA Newsletter.

5.3 **Police Matters/Safer Neighbourhoods** - Ian Murray sent a report highlighting the following: It has been decided by the London Mayor’s Office that as already reported to ERA the Borough Committee which Ian represents on ERA will be replaced in April 2014 by a Safer Neighbourhood Board which will comprise: an LB Hillingdon Councillor, a young person (appointed annually by Hillingdon Youth Council), a representative of Hillingdon Older People’s Assembly, a representative of Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch, a representative of a local victims’ organization and two positions as ‘lay’ members of the board. The position of Board Chairman is a voluntary job with ‘reasonable’ expenses and is currently advertised on the Borough website; closing date for applications 25<sup>th</sup> October. The job is demanding and IM will not be applying. The Board will meet quarterly. The Board will have a number of key responsibilities including:

- Monitoring volumes, trends and types of complaints relevant to Hillingdon from victims of crime and complaints from members of the public against Police Officers
- Monitoring crime performance and community confidence
- Playing a significant role in Community Payback
- Ensuring all wards have a ward panel of residents
- Supporting the Independent Advisory Group
- Supporting the Custody Visitors Panel to ensure the system of custody visiting is delivered
- Supporting Neighbourhood Watch
- Suggesting policing priorities in the Borough

On the crime front the main objective currently is a reduction in gold jewellery theft especially from the Asian community; there have been a number of crimes of this nature recently in North West London and the situation has got to the point where in LB Harrow the Borough are seriously considering opening a depository for residents to store their high value gold items. These issues were confirmed as ongoing and significant by Deesha Chadha.

#### 5.4 **Transport /Road Safety**

- IB confirmed that the vehicle speed sign in Cheney Street had been totally ineffective due to close position to Bridle Road. IB to contact BB. **Action IB**
- Following resurfacing of Elm Avenue (west of Lime Grove) parking restrictions have been applied to north side. Viewed as helpful due to the ‘main road’ status of this route.
- JG reported that resurfacing was not to take place in Farthings Close despite being agreed at Petition Hearing. IB advised Lead Petitioner to contact DP.
- Traffic Counters in place in Catlins Lane and High Road, Eastcote.
- AA raised the point of emergency vehicle noise at inappropriate times. IB suggested contacting London Ambulance or the Borough Commander.

## 5.5 Parks Report

### **Eastcote House Gardens**

The Hillingdon Cabinet meeting 26<sup>th</sup> September will approve the acceptance of the HLF funding for EHG.

- London in Bloom. Hillingdon won the coveted Gold Award this year. EHG achieved 'It's Your Neighbourhood – Champion of Champions. Park of the Year Gold Award, Community Garden 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The IYN trophy was presented to the Friends at the Hillingdon Show, where the Friends entries achieved; Cooking Apples 1<sup>st</sup> Prize, Vase of Mixed Flowers 1<sup>st</sup> Prize and 3 Bunches of Herbs 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize.
- The Planning Application and Listed Building consent is now current and on the Hillingdon Planning website.
- The progress of the project will be posted on the EHG website.
- The local schools will be coming in October to plant daffodil bulbs, purchased with the money from Waitrose tokens.
- Saturday October 26<sup>th</sup> will be a Community Volunteer Day.
- Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October is the last Vintage Tea Garden of the season. The British Royal Legion Eastcote Branch will be launching their Poppy Appeal at this event.
- KB confirmed that EHG are half-way to their donation of £25,000 with £12,500 already raised.

### **Warrender Park**

The Friends of Warrender Park were also successful in the London in Bloom Awards, moving up to Level 4 in 'It's Your Neighbourhood'. Small Park of the Year – Silver. The Friends will be planting bulbs this autumn sponsored from the Ward Budget. Thanks to our Councillors.

### **Bessingby/Cavendish/Pine Gardens Parks**

The Parks were awarded a Green Flag this year at their first entry.

### **Pinn Meadows**

It is regrettable to note that Eastcote Hockey Club is preparing yet another application for a 2<sup>nd</sup> floodlit Astro turf pitch on Kings College Playing Fields. Hillingdon won the London in Bloom category for Biodiversity; floodlit hockey pitches on the meadows will not live up to this award. The Friends of Pinn Meadows are continuing regular meetings to maintain and manage the meadows.

### **River Pinn Volunteers**

The River Pinn Volunteers also received funding from Waitrose and will purchase waders etc.

All Friends groups of the parks and open spaces deserve congratulations for all the voluntary work they carry out with such enthusiasm and such great success.

5.6 Health and Community Voice -There was no report but Community Voice has been circulated.

5.7 HARA - not reported at this meeting – written report submitted

IG reported that the HARA meeting was Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September. Unfortunately, the speaker, Dany Nobus (Pro-Vice Chancellor at Brunel University) was unable to give his power point presentation/talk as the computer equipment requested was not provided. He will now be coming in January 2014. Items discussed at the meeting were transport/roads/parking/congestion problems, local policing model/Safer Neighbourhood Boards.

Tesco/Morrison at Hillingdon Circus, Powerday (Recycling Company) West Drayton and various reports from other RA's. We were advised that on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September BBC Question Time is being recorded in Uxbridge – go to the BBC website to find out where the recording is and how to get tickets. Next meeting 18<sup>th</sup> November – speaker from the Transport Police. IG will hopefully have a copy of the minutes by our next ERA meeting – if anyone would like to see the minutes, please make contact.

#### 5.8 **Road Stewards**

AA reported that she and David Stephens will try to get more ERA members from Pembroke Park Estate.

5.9 **Finance** - AH circulated ERA Treasurer's Report for April-September 2014. The treasurer requested that we raise our donation to the British Legion from £20 to £25. IB agreed, seconded by IP. Meeting agreed.

5.10 **Webmaster** - No report received.

#### 6. **Eastcote Festival Team funding Request**

IP circulated Eastcote Christmas Festival 2012 Final Draft Detailed Income and Expenditure Statement, Hillingdon Festive Decorations: Application for Funds for Festive Period 2013 and comprehensive information in support of a contribution from ERA towards this year's Christmas Lights. A full and frank discussion followed with committee members in an attempt to reach a decision. IB proposed that £500.00 be forwarded to the Council with the proviso that if sufficient funds were not eventually received from other parties the amount of £500.00 would be returned to ERA. This was seconded by KB. A show of hands carried the motion with 2 'no' votes and 1 abstention.

#### 7. **AOB**

IP raised the question of 'email protocol' – not dealt with at tonight's meeting

IB posed the question 'Do we need Public Liability Insurance'? All agreed that it was essential – IB to look at our needs and get premium as close to what it is at the moment - it expires November 30<sup>th</sup> - all agreed that a rise to £150 was acceptable. IB to email members if necessary. **Action IB**

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

**The next meeting will be Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at Elsie Fischer Room, St Lawrence Church, starting at 7.30pm. Apologies to Irene Groom.**