

Eastcote Residents' Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 28th September 2016

Venue - Elsie Fischer Room, St Lawrence Church

Present: Alison Holtorp - Chair, Carolyn Derecki - Acting Minute Secretary, Karen Spink, Jackie Redrup, Ian Murray, Alison Akerman, Keith Barnard, Chris Hankin, Deesha Chadha, Dev Chadha, Cllr Catherine Dann, Cllr Michael White, David Hooper, Alison Dungworth.

1. Apologies for Absence: Chris Groom, Irene Groom, Linda Laurie, David Harper, Cllr Teji Barnes, Cllr Eddy Lavery, Cllr Becky Haggard, Cllr Nick Denys.

2. Notification of AOB: None

3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting 24th August 2016: The Minutes of 24th August 2016 were agreed.

4. Matters Arising from Meeting 24th August 2016

- KS raised the issue of Plans for Conservation Applications no longer being available at libraries. MW replied that the Council are streamlining in keeping with modern times and plans will no longer be available at libraries. Hard copies for major applications would probably be available on request to the Council.
- CD reported that there has not been any communication from ND or the Technical Advisor with regard to Cheney Street Traffic Calming Proposal.

5. New Residents Issues

- DH reported that after a successful petition and approval for time restricted yellow lines in Boundary Road/Ivy Close a year later nothing has happened. MW suggested that these things can take a while but agreed that more than a year is too long. Cllr CD will contact Cllr ND. **ACTION Cllr CD**

6. New Funding Requests: None were received

7. Committee Reports

7.1 Chairman's Report - AH

- London Open House, balloons were handed out - thanks to members who helped with the stall. Four new members signed up.
- Public Liability Insurance, currently valid but will not be renewed as current insurers no longer do PLI cover so propose to move to Zurich same as NRA. **AGREED**
- The Chamber of Commerce is arranging an event for the turning on of the Christmas Lights on November 20th 2016.
- Phil Hill is organizing on behalf of C of C Halloween Treasure Hunt for Half Term 24th to 31st October 2016. Entry Forms from Library and Audit House.
- Festive Market organized by Council will be at The Ascott Pub on 3rd December 2016 from 10am to 4.30pm. Traders, Crafters, Artists, Sculptures and independent businesses invited to come along and take a stall.

7.2 Conservation - No report

7.3 Finance - AH

- 500 Balloons cost £129, sticks £41.15 and pump £5.99 - Total £176.14 **AGREED**
- Hall hired for Open Forum 15th November 2016 at St Thomas More. Cllrs who are able to will attend.
- Current Account has sufficient funds to cover expenses for coming year.

7.4 HARA - The last meeting was 19th September, IG unable to attend. Await Minutes.

7.5 Health and Community Voice - EB - No report

7.6 Newsletter - LL

- Newsletter at the printers now to be collected on October 7th. It is a 24 page issue again and the photo section has had to be deferred this time because of lack of space.
- LL has confirmed that she will step down from her role as Designer after the Spring 2017 issue.

7.7 Park Report - KB

- KB reported success for EHG in the London in Bloom Awards 2016 - a Gold Medal in Park of the Year.
- Highgrove Woods won Gold in Common of the Year category and Long Meadow and Pinn Meadow awarded Gold in the Large Conservation category.
- At Open House Weekend at EHG over £500 was raised.
- More successes for Ruislip Lido winning Gold in Large Park of the Year and Manor Farm and the Rural Activities Garden Centre both winning Gold in the Small Parks category.

7.8 Planning - JR

JR issued a report which will be circulated with these minutes. She also highlighted the following:-

- **The Malt House** - Home Group, the building owners, have submitted their application for prior notification for the proposed demolition of the existing building and this has already been approved. Residents should note that there was no requirement for a consultation process for this demolition.

Post this meeting:- Home Group have submitted their application for 'Erection of four storey residential building comprising 26 flats (7 x 1 beds; 16 x 2 beds; and 3 x 3 beds) and erection of 4 terrace houses with associated car parking, landscaping, access and related works following demolition of existing building'. Any comments are due by 19th October.

- **Land at Telcote Way & Woodlands Avenue (currently the private car park in this location)** - This is the other site owned by Home Group, for which they also provided provisional information at the public consultation that they held on 7th July.

Plans for the redevelopment of this site have been submitted to create 'Two x 3-storey buildings to form 2 x 4-bed and 3 x 3-bed dwellings with associated parking and amenity space'.

The Eastcote Conservation Panel has written to object and to ask for refusal of the plans in their current form. ERA will also be writing in a similar vein.

Our joint concerns relate to the overdevelopment of what is a relatively small site, the lack of outlook for the houses to the rear of the site, the relatively small amenity space, which appears to overlap with car parking facilities, the fact that the building materials do not match the adjacent, existing buildings which adds to the overwhelming impression.

- **The Case is Altered Public House** - Due to Councillors intervention and the petition that was submitted, this Application will go to the North Planning Committee for determination at a date to be advised.

Objections raised:- KS advised that there are increasingly more customers and insufficient parking - no obvious space for additional parking. Toilets unsuitable for disabled customers. Fifty residents sending petition.

- **Tudor Lodge Enforcement relating to roof tiles that do not match existing** - We are informed by the Council that the Hotel did not seem able to find a suitable tile but a Conservation Officer has now found something appropriate so it is hoped that this matter can now be progressed.
- **Decision Notices taking more than 8 weeks** - The Council have responded to ERA's concerns in this regard by stating that some applications will take more than 8 weeks, where an extended time-line has been mutually agreed with the Applicant, to allow for further information and amended plans to be provided such that an initially potentially unacceptable scheme might be made acceptable. However, it has also been suggested that ERA contact the Council if there are concerns over any perceived delay on specific applications. JR will follow up on this and report at the next meeting.

Applications going before the North Planning Committee on 4th October as follows:-

- 50 Rodney Gardens - recommended for refusal
- (Land) Adjacent to 29 & 33 Dollis Crescent - recommended for refusal
- 1 Rushmoor Close - recommended for approval

7.9 Police and Safer Neighbourhoods - CH - No Report - next meeting next week.

7.10 Road Stewards - AA

- The evening event at the Stables was only attended by 15 members. The talk on the Colne Valley was well received and an enjoyable evening followed by those who came.
- Need to have Newsletters delivered before the Open Forum.

7.11 Transport - IM

IM attended the FOMLUC meeting with the Met Line on Thursday 29th (post meeting) at their Baker Street Offices and the main points were as follows.

- Performance levels have been severely affected in recent months by the storms of 23rd June which not only caused disruption on the day but on-going problems such as embankment erosion. Ruislip Manor was affected by flooding (as was North Harrow) and LB Hillingdon have been blamed for drainage problems below the Station Bridge; London Underground are seeking improvements in this respect (as they are with LB Harrow). 23/6 was the worst day in 40 years for lost hours. Subsequent problems with signalling defects in July were also blamed on water ingress.
- Work has started (on the District Line) on modernising the sub surface lines for automatic 'driving' similar to DLR, Jubilee and Central lines. The Met Line will start in January 2017 but it will probably not be until 2021-23 before any appreciable improvements will be noticed.
- The Northwood Station scheme has been withdrawn in its present form on the orders of the London Mayor, Sadiq Khan, who wants a higher proportion of 'social housing' in the scheme. Revised plans scheme will be submitted in due course. At Harrow a study is under way to provide step free access at the station but any scheme will also include improvements to the bus station; this is a priority scheme as Harrow is regarded as a major transport hub.
- Track renewals between Finchley Road and Baker Street are on schedule for completion in 2018. Bespoke equipment has been designed to speed up the work. However, delays could occur in 2017 as Tottenham Hotspur will be moving to Wembley for the 2017/18 season whilst White Hart Lane has a makeover, requiring trains to Wembley Park beyond the early closure times where games are played in the working week.
- A programme has been devised to 'close the gap' at stations where these occur (e.g. Baker Street).
- 2017 timetables will be much the same as now although rolling stock refits from 2017 could affect train intervals (District Line are to retain some 'old' trains so that some of their new stock trains can be loaned to Met Line).
- There will be major track works at Harrow over Easter 2017 resulting in a complete 'blockade' of the tracks (i.e. no trains including Chiltern).
- Summer temperatures coupled with heavy rainfalls have resulted in higher than usual leaf growth so 'leaves on the line' incidences may cause adhesion problems and hence delays on the more exposed areas of the line.

7.12 Webmaster - GC - No report received.

AOB

- AH introduced Alison Dungworth to the Committee who introduced themselves and duly welcomed her to ERA and new role as Treasurer.
- IM raised the issue at the request and on behalf of Daymer Gardens residents concerning the ongoing building works of a 45 bedroom Care Home in Daymer

Gardens. Residents reported that contractors are flouting the rules and causing inconvenience and Health and Safety issues as a result. Builders have ignored 2 warning notices with regard to breaches of planning. Main concerns:

- Parking of site vehicles - JCB parked on Council land.
- Tall crane left after working day is done with arm left over road.
- Building work starts before 7am; this has been reported. Enforcement Officers have to see/witness breaches before anything can be done to rectify the problems and change the situation. Builders language is very offensive; not suitable for children to hear. Cllr CD and Cllr MW asserted that as many residents as possible must continue to press the Council and Ward Cllrs need to be made aware of the situation. **ACTION IM/WARD CLLRS**
- Significant investment over the last few years at the Lido has resulted in increased visitor numbers such that the residents living near the Lido are now experiencing difficulties 24/7 which previously they only encountered on summer weekends.

There being no further business AH closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

The next Committee Meeting will be on Wednesday October 26th 2016 in the Elsie Fischer Room, St Lawrence Church starting at 7.30pm.

Please email your reports and apologies to Irene Groom cc to AH also.