

Wimbledon Park Residents' Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the WPRA held at 8.00 p.m. on 23th October 2014 at Wimbledon Park Hall, Arthur Road, SW19.

Committee:	Iain Simpson (Chair)	Ivan Scott (Minutes)	Kathy Blackburn Beate
Eberhardt	Michael Moore	Nigel Israel	
	Peter West	Elaine Sandon	
Ex Officio:	Cllr Oonagh Moulton	Cllr Linda Taylor	
Apologies:	Ken Ball	Paresh Modasia	Cllr Janice Howard
	DeNica Fairman	Pam Hunt	
In Attendance:	Jill Farmer		

14/01 Minutes of the AGM dated 24th October 2013

The Minutes of the 2013 AGM were approved without comment.

14/01 Matters arising from the Minutes of the 2013 AGM

Items for comment will be covered in the course of the Meeting.

14/02 Front Garden Awards

Jill Farmer remarked on the continuing decline in attractive front gardens in the ward. Photos of the winners were posted on the display boards. There were 20 finalists in 3 categories and the winners were:-

Overall winner and winner of the John Uden Cup and Environmentally Sustainable Garden:-
Judy and Bernie Bindman, 59 Kenilworth Avenue.

Summer Interest Garden

Priska and James Davies, 13 Braemar Avenue.

All Year Interest Garden

Elizabeth Allerman, 21 Wellington Road. (she expressed thanks to her neighbour Mary Whiting)

14/03 Criminal Activity

Members of the SNT did not attend the Meeting.

14/04 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported expenses on the new hall shown as Note 4 on the Accounts. He also pointed out the transfer of funds from the Haydon's Bridge RA. The accounts had been examined by an 'experienced eye'. A questioner from the floor asked whether the report on the stadium was paid for out of WPRA funds. The answer to this was 'No'. The Chairman reported that the Wimbledon Park Community Trust accounts would be completed at the end of March 2015 following which a residents' meeting will be held.

14/05 Chairman's Report

a) Wimbledon Park Hall

The Hall is now complete and the WPCT took it over in mid-February. The Hall is extremely busy both in the week and at weekends. No noise complaints have been received. It is the Trusts intention to keep the hall in a 'near new' condition. The café has been leased and is opening on Monday 27th. The lessee is looking to create a 'Community Café'.

b) Car Park extension in the Park

The proposal to extend the car park by the Revelstoke Road entrance to the Park was rejected by the LBM Planning Committee last year. This is now a well grassed over area.

c) Durnsford Recreation Ground

Lucien Road gates have been changed and a 'Please Shut the Gate' sign fitted. Getting people to react to this sign will be difficult. The gates do not yet shut and lock automatically on the triangular play area. This area should be available for public use outside of school hours although the school did forget to unlock these gates one weekend.

d) Kenilworth Green

Much planting has been done, especially by Michael. LBM are now looking after this Green well.

e) Parking Survey

There was no natural conclusion to this survey, from documents sent to local residents. Cllr Taylor has been asked to request that LBM look into the misuse of disabled bays. Also considered was the serious issue of parking around the Mosque, where Parking Wardens were reluctant to act.

f) Loss of Butchers

There was nothing that the WPRA could do to resolve this problem. Work is now being undertaken to changes to flats which had already been agreed by LBM. There was a proposal to change the frontage and many letters of objection were sent to LBM Planning. We are awaiting the Planning Meeting.

g) Speeding

Bumps are not considered effective and we are looking to the imposition of 20mph limits on some roads. Enforcement is a problem but this is an attitude which is changing.

h) Vineyard Hill Surgery Closure

A letter has been sent to all patients by the doctors informing them that the surgery is to close and requesting that they sign on with another surgery. NHS England (South London) were contacted by Oonagh and Iain and made aware of the problem of a lack of doctors in the area and the possible effect on the local chemist. They were shocked by the level of concern. The WPRA, Councillors and the local MP were involved. The current surgery property is owned by the doctors and is considered unaffordable and unfit for purpose.

i) Gap Road Development

Redevelopment of this site, to include 165 homes, has been proposed. Cllr Taylor has written to LBM indicating that there is no strategic planning in this, and other housing proposals in the area, to include schools etc. The increase in traffic would be a major problem.

j) Greyhound Stadium

WPRA have been active regarding this site and views have been submitted. Peter West gave a summary of the work which had been undertaken. The AFC and the Greyhound proposals were raised and the problems which these proposals could cause especially with regard to flooding. The AFC plans were not compatible to the planning guidelines and the greyhound plans have been amended. Both plans will be available to view on the WPRA website. Questions from the floor were raised including the whether the whole of the Wimbledon Park Ward was surveyed, too much stress made of the 20,000 seat stadium and not of the 11,000 capacity which is initially proposed and the apparent lack of public transport.

k) Other Issues

A questioner from the floor raised the issue of the Merton Adult Education being under threat. Cllr Moulton informed the meeting that a decision will be taken in January.

14/06 Election of Officers

The following Officers and Committee Members were approved by the Meeting:-

Iain Simpson (Chairman)

Ivan Scott (Minute Secretary, Vice Chairman and Treasurer)

DeNica Fairman (Membership Secretary)

Committee members

Ken Ball

Spike Clarke

Nigel Israel

Michael Moore

Peter West

Kathy Blackburn

Beate Eberhardt

Paresh Modasia

Elaine Sandon

Pamela Hunt

Ex Officio

Cllr Oonagh Moulton

Cllr Linda Taylor

Cllr Janice Howard

AOB

There being no other business the meeting was closed.