

BowesPark

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 29 November 2006 at St Michael's Church Hall

Present: Jeff Rodin, Enfield Councillor, Yasmin Brett, Enfield Councillor, Matt Cooke, Haringey Councillor, John Oakes, Haringey Councillor, David Burrowes, MP for Enfield. Committee members: Charlotte Argyle, Chris Lawler, Sarah Harris, Kathy McKeown, Jane O'Neill, Susan Parashar, Catharine Perry, Caroline Simpson.

Apologies: Lynne Featherstone, MP for Haringey, Achilleas Georgiou, Enfield Councillor. 15 Residents.

Chair: Steve O'Leary

1 Safer Neighbourhoods

Two members of the Enfield Bowes Ward police Safer Neighbourhoods team reported that they were regularly consulting residents about their priorities, and also published a monthly e-Newsletter which includes information on, for example, current scams and which will be sent to any Enfield resident who asks for it. They said that crime figures overall had decreased, though there were problems with squatters and numberplate thefts.

For Haringey, Caroline Simpson reported that there was a consultation meeting every two months attended by people from various local groups. The Haringey team had been dealing with drug dealing on Whittington Road and break-ins to cars. She urged people to report any crime so that we could get an accurate picture of what is going on.

2 Enfield Councillors' Report

Jeff Rodin and Yasmin Brett said that their big issues were:

- (1) the problems around the North Circular, and that they were pleased that the different bodies – Transport for London, the Councils – were talking to each other about the issues. They particularly wanted TfL to do something about the blighted properties which were depressing the neighbourhood.
- (2) Planning applications, in particular for telephone masts.

They had successfully lobbied for new lighting improvements to be introduced in Bowes Ward first and were pressing for the area to have wheelie bins.

3 Minutes of the 2005 AGM

The minutes of the last AGM, held on 16 November 2005 were accepted.

4 Annual Report, 2005-2006

The Annual Report was approved by the meeting.

5 Treasurer's Report

(a) Catharine Perry, the Treasurer, pointed out that following the decision at the last AGM to change the financial year to October to September, the figures were presented in two versions: April 05-April 06 and October 05-September 06. The Association's finances are reasonably healthy but there is a very clear link between visible activity, membership and income.

(b) A resolution to open a savings account alongside the current account with the NatWest Bank in palmers Green was proposed by Adil Certel and seconded by Lydia Navarro. It was carried nem con.

6 Election of General Committee, Secretary and Treasurer

Steve O'Leary said that he was stepping down from the position of Chair and from the Committee, but all the other current members were willing to stand again. Adil Certel, XX and XX were also willing to stand. These names were accepted by the members present, so the 2006-2007 Committee will be:

Miranda Andrea
Adil Certel
Evanna Goodwin
Sarah Harris
Chris Lawler
Jane O'Neill
Susan Parashar
Caroline Simpson

Kathy McKeown was elected as Secretary and Catharine Perry was elected as Treasurer. They were thanked for their work.

7 Haringey Councillors' Report

Matt Cooke reported that he was on the Executive Area Board and had succeeded in getting a subgroup for Myddleton Road set up. A survey of the numbers of cars parked at different times of day was being undertaken. John Oakes pledged support from the Liberal Democrats for the action around Myddleton Road.

8 Traffic

The Chair summarised the consultations on a Controlled Parking Zone around Myddleton Road and new traffic calming measures put forward by Enfield and Haringey. The volume of cars parked in the area is a problem, and the car-sharing scheme, Streetcar, was mentioned as one way of dealing with this. It will be publicised in the Newsletter.

9 Rubbish

The constant problem of fly-tipping was discussed. Information about legal ways of disposing of unwanted items will be put on the BPCA website and in the Newsletter.

10 Walking Group

Catharine Perry reported that this group had started in May and was growing, with monthly walks locally and further afield.

11 Myddleton Road Garden

Charlotte Argyle reported on developments in the Garden, which included a new bench and path from Haringey, and two successful events, a community picnic with free children's entertainment and a table top sale.

12 Committee's Mandate

The Chair opened discussion by saying that the Committee found it difficult to know when it could speak for residents on issues, given the wide range of views there is on almost any matter. This was particularly true for planning applications. The view of the meeting was that after consultation we should develop our own 'neighbourhood plan' which would give something to judge planning applications and other developments against. It might be possible to use the website in some way. At some point in previous years the Association had had a 'mission statement' and it would be useful to find this.

It was agreed that clear information on how to object to a planning application should be made available to residents. Planning lists could be posted on the website. It was pointed out that the Conservation Officers of the councils need to be told by us what is going on as they cannot monitor developments all over their boroughs.

It was agreed to write a letter from the Association objecting to [something in Whittington Road].

13 Thanks to Chair

A vote of thanks to Steve O'Leary for his work for the Association was proposed and enthusiastically supported.

CSP/KM/CS