

Bowes Park Community Association

Minutes of the

Annual General Meeting: 26 November 2009.

St Michael's at Bowes Church Hall, Palmerston Road

The A.G.M. took a different form this year for the 10th Birthday, starting with a buffet (with food and wine provided by the committee and members) followed by an invitation for everyone to come up with plans for the future of Bowes Park Community Association which they did with gusto.

Those standing down from official duties were thanked for their hard work and presented with gifts. These were: Caroline Simpson (Chair), Marguerite Canuti (Treasurer), Lukie Hewat (Secretary), and Charlotte Argyle (Secretary of the Garden Group).

Charlotte Argyle was happy to announce that Sarah Harris has volunteered to take over the role of Secretary for the Garden Group, and that Doris Leonfellner had volunteered take over as Treasurer.

Before the official business of the evening commenced, certificates were awarded to Tony Healey who, with his team of Haringey Council Parks employees, has provided valuable support to the work of the BPCA, especially in the Community Garden in Myddleton Road. Beverley Stevens of Haringey Neighbourhood Management and John Liddle of Thames Water were also given certificates in absentia.

The committee was delighted to welcome the attendance of David Burrowes (Conservative MP for Enfield & Southgate), and councillors Matt Cooke, Ali Demirci, Achilles Georgiou and Yasemin Brett. all of whom have commended the BPCA for its work for the local community. Apologies had been received from Lynne Featherstone MP who had a broken toe and other engagements.

Following the social part of the evening, Cathy Herman, who provides valuable support to the BPCA, organised the brainstorming session where groups formed to suggest future projects for the association. It was proposed that these should include using fund money to obtain an empty shop in Myddleton Rd as a base for local work and information and where the exchange of goods such as home-made bread, vegetables etc. might be organised. It was thought however, that the existing funding could not be used to pay someone to staff this shop, but Matt Cooke, (who stressed the council's 100% support for the BPCA), said that there were various places where funding could be obtained.

Following the group activity – where many interesting and useful suggestions were put forward (See Appendix) the meeting continued to the formal part of the evening.

1. Minutes of the 2008 AGM were adopted (proposed by Lukie Hewat, Seconded by Cathy Herman).
2. 2009 annual report was adopted (proposed by Cathy Herman, seconded by Catharine Perry).
3. Treasurer's report – included in the Annual Report

Marguerite Canuti had sent her apologies and in her absence, Caroline Simpson proposed the adoption of Annual Accounts 2008-9 and Report. Seconded by Catharine Perry.

4. Election of General Committee, Secretary and Treasurer

Nominations by post/email:

Treasurer: Caroline S was delighted to announce the nomination for Treasurer – Doris Leonfellner (proposed by Caroline Simpson, Seconded by Sally Booth).

Nominations from the floor:

Secretary: Ed Balleny volunteered to be 'Communications Secretary' – dealing with emails and working with Fr. Robert Wilkinson on the BPCA website. (Proposed by Caroline S, seconded by Lukie) Jude Habib offered help, when time permitted. Fr. Robert said that he

would be glad of help with this as certain difficulties had arisen. He welcomed the idea of an exclusive website for BPCA (which currently runs as an add-on to another site). He was praised for the sterling work he has done on the website, keeping it interesting and up-to-date, despite his many other commitments. The role of 'Minutes Secretary' remained unfilled, but minutes can be taken by committee personnel decided at each meeting.

New volunteers for the committee were:

Sue Baylik (Proposed by Caroline S, seconded by Cathy Herman); Chris Lawler (Proposed by Cathy Herman, seconded by Charlotte Argyle); Asha Patel (Proposed by Caroline S, seconded by Catharine Perry).

Dee Kushlick-Williams (Proposed by Caroline S, seconded by Cathy Herman)

Continuing Members:

Caroline Simpson agreed to stay on as a committee member (Proposed by Catharine Perry, seconded by Kate Franzmann);

Existing members of the committee who offered to stand again were: Karl Sweeney and Lionel Ferer. Brian O'Reilly regretted he could not stand again, but agreed to continue helping with newsletter delivery.

The new Chairperson to be elected at the next committee meeting.

5. Review Membership fees. A discussion took place over possible increases in membership fees and the effects these might have. It was decided that further discussions should take place at the next committee meeting.
6. A.O.B.
 - o As well as joining in enthusiastically to the group brainstorming session, the councillors spoke of new bins at the Whittington Rd gates to the New River, which would be for general rubbish as well as acting as a dog bin. This to happen within 28 days. It was happily announced that Bounds Green and Bowes Park which have long been regarded at the 'poor relation' of Haringey are to have Christmas lights in Green Lanes, which, the meeting was told, are already in place and had been turned on. An update was given about planning applications for 129 Palmerston Rd where the application for major redevelopment is being strongly opposed both by BPCA and the council. A request has been made for a review of the situation regarding the speed of traffic on the new one-way systems in the boroughs. It was agreed that speeding, signing and weight restrictions would require further investigation and action.
 - o David Burrowes was pleased to announce that £90 million has been allocated for the development of houses, and the rediscovering of Green Space in the area of the North Circular Road and that this would be a liaison between BPCA and the Notting Hill Trust together with Transport for London, which owns a number of these houses. A general improvement would take the borough up into the top league of councils. He said that Bowes Ward has been listed as one of the best performing wards by the Metropolitan Police, even having a 'bobby on the beat' in Green Lanes. There had been a project at Trinity at Bowes which involved liaising with young people. Appreciation was expressed for the evening's project of looking ahead for the next 5 – 10 years (see Appendix).

Raffle Draw :

Thanks were extended to everyone who provided Raffle Prizes and all who have organised and taken part in this AGM.

Appendix:

N.B. The suggestions below (compiled from the groups' ideas), aim to reflect the ideas put forward during the meeting.

A SAMPLE OF THE SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE PROJECTS PUT FORWARD AT THE BOWES PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION A.G.M. HELD ON 26 th NOVEMBER 2009		
PRESENT – 2 YEARS	2 – 5 YEARS	5 – 10 YEARS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Everyone to bring in a new member o More dropped kerbs. Better pavements o Less rubbish o 20 MPH restrictions to be policed / observed. o Youth involvement in projects o More facilities for young people o International projects o More involvement from different ethnic groups. Engagement with these groups. Picnics, festivals Newsletter etc. o Community Centre. o Community groups e.g. knitting, book club, cycling club o Car club – cars in Bowes Pk o Use of shop in Myddleton Road o Key worker on Myddleton Road. Visitors to premises, e.g. Age Concern (help with pensions, befriending, funeral arrangements, insurance etc.) o Coffee/cake shop o Links with schools o Workshop space (see →) o Arts / Music Festival o Reduction in the number of converted flats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Myddleton Road to become a 'garden street' o Stop the movement of HGVs on side roads o Bring the 'Lyons Tea House' back o Bring back the Post office. Have a local bank. o Bring the Thames Water land into community use o Myddleton Road Street Festival (with road closure on the day – Myddleton Rd) o Facilities for young people / international neighbours (garden/social events) o Homework support o Paint all the properties on Myddleton Road o Further improvements to Finsbury Gardens – inc. renovating the railings. o Decent place to eat on Myddleton Road o Open Air cinema in the Community Garden o Cinema Club in ex-cinema o All gardens to be looked after. o Access to a renovated Shaftesbury Hall. o Bowes Park to be 'recognised' as an area in London 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Bring back the cinema o Incentives for new businesses – e.g. have a tenant/resident in every shop. Charity shops NGOs o More retail shops serving the community.