

BOWES PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
(‘the Company’)

MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Company
held at Bounds Green School, N22, on 15 November 2016 at 7.30pm.

Present: Joanna Burke (Chair, Trustee)
Kerry Levere (membership secretary)
Catharine Perry (Committee secretary, Trustee)
Dee Kushlick-Williams (Trustee)
Doris Quinn (Treasurer, Trustee)
Caroline Simpson (Trustee)
Ann Summerhayes (Committee member)
Clare Bull, Ali Demirci, Joanna Christophides (Councillors, Haringey)
Catherine West (MP, Haringey)

See also attendance list below.

Apologies: Tessa Curnew, Nicki della Porta, Pippa and Jonny Dyson.

1. INTRODUCTION

Opening the meeting, the Chair welcomed those present and thanked them for attending.

2. NOTICE AND QUORUM

The Chair reported that notice of the meeting had been given to all those entitled to receive it. It was noted that a quorum was present and the meeting proceeded to business.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM, 22 September 2015

The minutes of the previous annual general meeting were agreed to be correct. There were no matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda.

4. (a) ANNUAL REPORT

The objectives of the company were stated in the report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2016, copies of which were available at the meeting. The Chair noted that the Association was an umbrella organisation for the groups listed in the report. Some updates were given:

Planning matters – Caroline Simpson asked people to report unauthorised building developments, particularly if a house was being turned into two flats, which was not allowed.

Drop-in sessions at Hobarts estate agents – from June 2016 two committee members had been available once a month to discuss residents’ concerns and issues. These sessions were likely to start again in spring 2017.

We love Myddleton Road – Emma Killick said that Myddleton Road had been nominated for a Great British High Street award, and reminded members about the festival and market being planned for Sunday 4 December.

Myddleton Road Community Garden – Kari Koonin noted that occasional ‘Big Garden Clear Ups’ had been well supported, and that a play bus would soon be installed.

Finsbury Gardens – Kate Franzmann said that lack of volunteers hampered maintenance of the Gardens; one problem was that it was perceived as something that should be done by the council. The Bowes Park Festival had been held in September rather than July.

Bowes Park Community Choir – Dee Kushlick-Williams reported that in June 2016 the choir had joined others in singing at the opening of the Tate Modern extension. Proceeds from the choir winter concert this year would be going to Alexandra Palace theatre restoration. A composer was creating a song for the choir, using a poem to be written by local poet, Katherine Gallagher.

(b) FINANCIAL REPORT, 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016

The Treasurer presented the annual accounts, which were balanced and in order. At £2050, income from subscriptions and donations was higher than the previous year. Administration costs of £1,820 included £760 for producing the two newsletters; the Association was grateful to Hobarts Estate Agents for sponsoring these. The treasurer, Doris Quinn, and outgoing company secretary, Liz Bell, were thanked for their work, as was Graham Levere, who had scrutinised the accounts.

There were no questions on the annual report and accounts. Their approval was proposed by Kate Franzmann and seconded by Emma Killick, and unanimously agreed by members present.

5. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kerry Levere reported that there were 171 paid up members in the year to 31 March 2016. Some members did not renew their subscriptions, so reminders would be sent out. She urged those present to set up standing orders or Paypal recurring payments.

6. COMPANY SECRETARY

As of this meeting Liz Bell was handing on her role as company secretary to Graham Levere. Liz was thanked for her years of work for the Association, and Graham was thanked for his willingness to take on the role.

7. TRUSTEES AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Each year one-third of the trustees had to stand down. Liz Bell and Catharine Perry had resigned as trustees, thus fulfilling this requirement. Remaining trustees were Joanna Burke, Caroline Simpson, Dee Kushlick-Williams and Doris Quinn.

Trustees were *ex officio* members of the Executive Committee. Other continuing committee members were Ann Summerhayes, Dawn Barnes and Kerry Levere.

8. CLOSE OF FORMAL MEETING

The Chair ended by thanking everyone for attending and declared the formal meeting closed.

OTHER MATTERS

Joanna Christophides noted that Haringey small grant funds were still available for application this year.

New River between Myddleton and Whittington Roads: the problem was raised of rowdy groups drinking in the summertime beside the New River. Joanna Christophides noted that that the police Safer Neighbourhood Team (which now had a second dedicated officer) could not take action until there were signs up saying what activities were banned; they were liaising with Thames Water about these. Caroline Simpson said that after a year Thames Water had finally replaced their community

liaison person. CCTV was suggested, but it would not produce adequate evidence, so reporting of incidents by members of the public was needed.

9. Thanks

Particular thanks were given to two longstanding trustees and committee members who were standing down, Dee Kushlick-Williams who had chaired the Association for five years, and Catharine Perry, who at different times had been treasurer, membership secretary and committee secretary. Doris Quinn, who was continuing as treasurer, Maria Huybens, who designed the newsletter and produced posters, and Deirdre Stowell-Smith, the gift aid secretary, were also thanked.

10. Appeal for additional volunteers

The Chair noted that Sarah Harris and Sue Baylik, to whom thanks were due, were no longer able to organise social events and no one had come forward to take this on (although one person new to the area may be interested in organising a quiz in 2017). Nor had it had been possible to produce an autumn newsletter for this season. The Chair reported that three new volunteers had offered their help with editing and delivering the newsletter for 2017, but more volunteers were needed to sustain the work of the committee and the Association's other activities.

11. Presentation by Louise Stewart, Chief Executive Officer of Alexandra Palace

Given prior to the formal meeting

Ms Stewart said that Haringey council was the sole trustee of the Alexandra Palace Charitable Trust, which also runs a trading company. Income was high, but the cost of restoring the building was huge. With a large Lottery grant, restoration of the East Wing was underway, including the theatre and the BBC studios. Educational and family activities, and the involvement of community groups and volunteers, were key to increasing public support. One overall aim was to make the building more accessible and welcoming. The park was heavily used, and currently consultation was underway about holding more income-generating large events, to get the right balance with its use for leisure. The park management plan included a dedicated conservation area to offset the negative environmental effects of other activities.

In answer to questions, Ms Stewart said that ways of improving disabled access were being explored; lifts were needed at Alexandra Palace station. The policy on filming and photography was to charge professionals. Ms Stewart was thanked for her presentation.

11. Katherine Gallagher: a celebration

The evening concluded with poems introduced and read by Katherine Gallagher, a long-term resident of Bowes Park and supporter of the Association, who was celebrating her 80th birthday, and the publication of a new book of her poems, *Acres of Light*.

Attendance list

Helen Baker	Emma Killick	Chloe Mahon
Sue Baylik	Kari Koonin	Alessia Mosci
David Bevan	Sarah Laurie	Neil O'Shea
Anna Blackburn	Chris Lawler	Vicky Olliver
Roy Collett	Bernard Londeix-Gallagher	Joyce Sullivan
Daniel Cowan	Katherine Londeix-Gallagher	Nadine Wagner
Kate Franzmann	Ila Mazumdar	
Sarah Harris	Susan Mears	