

Minutes of the 77th Eastcote Park estate AGM held on 12th of May 2015

Chairman Gerald Edwards

Apologies for absence: Peter Ryder, Sheila Welch, Fred Greenstreet

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record and were proposed by Audrey Harrington and seconded by Mark Lemon. There were no objections.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Gerry reported that the previous street parties had gone extremely well and there appeared to be positive response from residents with regard to the possibility of doing another one in 2016.

The Chairman reported that the year had been positive for the estate so far with many of the roads being resurfaced.

Members of the committee and in particular Chris Head were still in communication with the council in regard to the defective state of the pavement and curbs. The situation is exacerbated as there is still a significant amount of parking on the curbs causing damage.

TREES:

At the previous AGM the Association produced a map of the proposed position of new trees. These were circulated to residents and some of the tree locations amended to suit particular requirements. We had agreed with the London Borough of Hillingdon to contribute towards part of the cost and this was sent to the local authority who agreed to plant 10 trees. The local authority went ahead with the planting schedule completely ignoring our original map although did not ask for the 50% contribution. There is a possibility therefore if we have these funds retained we may be able to convince them to plant further trees next year.

No trees were put in Pamela Gardens despite the lack of trees in this road and the request on our plan. The chairman suggested that we make the offer back to the council to fund more trees in 2016. Gerry was also going to write the council to thank them for the trees planted in the current year.

EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS:

The official opening was on 12 May although it is not expected that the tea room would be open for another six weeks. Our local councillor Nick Denys was involved in the development and has been keeping the Association abreast of developments.

It was reported that the cafe opening hours would be Monday to Saturday 8 AM to 4 PM and there would not be an alcohol licence.

A park warden had been appointed by the name of Nick Porter and he would be on site permanently. There is a significant amount of CCTV within the park and this is monitored in the park warden's office. The walled garden it is currently locked of an evening.

A suggestion was made to invite the park warden to the next AGM.

THE GLEN:

Members of the Glen raised the issue that their roundabout was not being looked after by the council. It was suggested by the committee that this was probably a good thing as the council were renowned for passing this out to subcontractors who would doubtless cut back all the vegetation and flowers to minimise maintenance. It was felt that members of the Glen would keep this in far better condition themselves.

SOCIAL EVENTS:

The quiz was set for 21 November and the committee asked if there are any volunteers to run this. There appeared to be no response to this!!

There should be an Easter egg hunt next year it having been deferred this year to due to the condition of the park and the ongoing works.

ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS:

2014 was another good year in financial terms with a surplus for the year of £276.89 and a closing fund of £3,382.93.

It is of note that we have yet to make any payment in respect of an agreement to contribute up to £500.00 to tree planting as agreed at the 2014 AGM.

Subscription remained at £3.00. They were raised from £2.50 in 2005. There is no proposal to increase further.

Membership was exactly the same in total as for 2013 with 230 members. This was again due to hard work by our Road Stewards and residual collections by Chris Head in December. This gave an income of £690.00 with 91% of the estate being members. It was off note that, going back 14 years, memberships has always been over 75%

£577.00 donations were also collected. This was supplemented by donating the profit on the summer event of £195.14. This enabled us to donate £386.07 to each of our two charities

The major items of expenditure were:

- Public liability insurance of £227.15 (without which the committee could not arrange events). This premium is unchanged since 2011

- The road stewards evening supper of £171.69. (2013 £165.30)

It is worth noting again that the road steward's evening supper is a gathering of road stewards and committee members as thanks for the time and the effort they spend during the year. An appeal was made for new road stewards

We had a profit on Plants and estate management of £83.00 due to a refund of £100.00 in respect of our 2013 contribution to Eastcote lights. No contribution was made in 2014 but we expect to contribute again for 2015.

Events showed a profit of £659.05 with the biggest contributor being the raffle profit of £89.88 at the quiz night.

Thanks were expressed to Audrey Harrington and Arthur Wilson who have audited the accounts again.

Thanks were expressed to Bennett Holmes for sponsoring the newsletter which saves a considerable amount of money. .

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:

Chris head reported that all residents should check their cars at night some have been left open.

Chris is on the Eastcote Ward panel to consult with the police and set objectives for the police. Nick Denys was also a member.

It was highlighted that residents should always report crimes by wing ringing 101 as this affects statistics and resources. Chris noted that he had obtained some additional neighbourhood watch signs.

Mark Lemon highlighted that he still has the anti-graffiti kit so should be contacted if any is seen.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE AND AUDITORS

Robin Pyburn resigned from the committee. Sam Wren was nominated and voted in as a member.

Auditors Arthur and Audrey Harrington confirmed that they would continue to stand as auditors for next year.

FRONT OF ESTATE ROUNDABOUT:

Margaret Bacon was responsible for organising planting on the estate roundabout and although there were some complaints about this it was generally felt that her efforts should be rewarded by a vote of thanks and this should continue although Margaret did highlight that there only ever appeared to be the same people involved in this and she would welcome additional assistance, especially from those who had complained it was untidy.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS:

It was hoped that we would again have the Christmas carols and Nick Denys would host the after Carol drinks.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The issue of a petition for a crossing opposite St Thomas more was raised. It was noted that Janet Gray prepared the original petition for two potential crossings and St Lawrence was the result as the Council considered the St Thomas one dangerous due to the bend in the road.

Nick Denys would ask the council if a crossing opposite St Thomas could again be considered although it would need at least 21 residents to produce a petition in support.

The chairman suggested raising this at the Eastcote residents Association as he would be going to this the day after the EPEA meeting.

Ash Dhir raised the issue of an illegal extension at the corner of dovecot which the council were completely failing to take enforcement action on. It was noted that this was not something the committee could assist with although Nick Denys our local councillor noted that he had spoken to the council officers today and hoped that they would escalate the matter.

A number of residents spoke in favour of the installation of yellow lines at the entrance to the estate although this was not something that was universally popular and the committee would review the situation and consider it at the next AGM.

End