

Minutes of ARA Committee Meeting held on 12th November at 'the School House'

Present

Lucy Smith   Jenny Czezowski   Jane Doxey   Sarah Garcia   Sally Ann Hodges  
Shirley Homewood   Brian Braddon   Jane Ching

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted and many matters arising are on today's agenda.

Lucy confirmed that Health Watch would like to attend a future meeting, but in meantime leaflets have been distributed throughout the estate informing of the organisations' role and details.

Communication Strategy

Franco still willing to maintain web site.

Twitter account has been deleted from website but Facebook account to remain. (Adrian and Franco hold the password for this.)

Shirley happy to continue newsletter production as and when felt appropriate and assisted by road reps. who distribute them.

**Action:** Agreed following information to be included on December newsletter;- Harvest Appeal Outcome, Barn dance, Alex pub update, Farewells and Welcome to departing and new residents, local Christmas Market dates. Also carol singing in Alex Rec. on 8 Dec at 3pm.

Porcupine Post

Next edition will be in New Year. Reminder has been sent out by Lucy for articles with a 'garden theme' to be sent to Jess.

Welcome Packs and Yellow Pages

Still to be updated.

**Action:** Agreed meeting to be arranged early in New Year dedicated to this task.

Google Mail Account

Lucy as chairperson is happy to continue to monitor and where necessary respond or forward relevant enquiries.

Financial Report

Shirley produced written report. September bank statement showed £2215.83 Since then there has been spending on mural, further £200 to be paid for this, and upcoming social event-Barn Dance. (It is hoped this will end up self financing by ticket sales.) Also small amount of spend for flowers/planting in alleyway. Total funds available at this time are £1653.08.

**Action:** It was also agreed at this meeting that Shirley apply on behalf of ARA for a financial business card in order for the Association to have easier access to cash.

Social Committee Report

Harvest Appeal

Thanks to all residents who contributed food or money to the local 'Living Well' work by HT Church during our harvest appeal. This was greatly enhanced by a resident on the estate who teaches at a Bromley school and whose pupils donated £150 from allotment produce that they grew and sold in aid of the charity. (Big thanks to Tom in Albert Road)

Sarah has offered to continue to promote the local work and needs of Living Well by

displaying a poster at the Alexandra Nurseries should Nick Read feel it appropriate.  
**Action:** Jane C. to mention this in an e-mail to Nick asking if he could also acknowledge receipt of goods and money for mention in the next ARA newsletter.

### Barn Dance

Social committee has continued to meet since the last Committee meeting and the planning for the next social event is well underway. Jane D. outlined work undertaken so far. Venue and live band booked, estate leafleted in advance and tickets now being sold. Ticket selling has taken place by door to door visits in every road in order to give residents first opportunity to buy tickets. Tickets remaining after 15th November will be offered for sale to non residents/friends of residents as are aiming for this event to be largely self financing.

Jenny leading on shopping and catering for supper, but willing volunteers to assist on night would be of help to social committee members.

### Christmas Event

Lucy has spoken to 'Friends of Alexandra Park' who are holding their annual carol singing in the park at 3pm on Sunday December 8th. Very happy for any residents of ARA to join them. There is a Christmas Market at Alexandra Nurseries over that w/e, so friends and neighbours would be welcome to congregate for a Christmas drink after the carol singing in the park.

### Shed

Lucy, Anna Taylor and Brian cleared undergrowth from shed frontage. Brian confirmed the shed is still used as a resource by residents and generates a steady small flow of income.

### ARA Mural

Discussed ideas for opening/unveiling. (Suggest keep fairly low key in case any planning issues surface. )

**Action:** Lucy to get update from Jess on timescale for completion and whether costs paid include installation.

### Conservation

Heritage lighting not going to be provided as costs will not allow LBB to do so and costs too high for ARA to consider fund raising.

Suggested lighting issue left as they are at present and only back on agenda when council plan to replace.

One application received for frontage and side renovations on a cottage in Albert Road.

Again raised issue of Helix Housing still not having addressed issue of broken wall on one of their properties. Lucy confirmed they are aware of it and on their work waiting list.

**Action:** Sarah said Helix staff do go into the nurseries so she may be able to make a further enquiry.

### AOB

#### ARA representation at local meetings.

Some discussion took place regarding local council and other organisational meetings. It was suggested that this could go on the agenda for a future committee meeting to see how attendance at such meetings where ARA is /is not represented should be considered and reviewed.

### Alexandra Group

Continues to meet and had Victim Support come and talk to them at their last

meeting. Shirley said they gave very helpful information, and she will share some of this in next newsletter.

Alexandra Group has also received a grant from the Older People's Network of £400 for their use. (This will be held within the accounts of ARA but restricted for the use of the Alexandra Group.)

#### The Alexandra Pub

Sarah reported that she has heard via Errol who rents the lock up next door to the pub that he has communicated with the new owner. He informed Sarah that the new owner is French nationality and from Hampstead area of London. According to Errol he would like to meet with rep. from ARA to discuss his plans for student accommodation on the upper floors and a bistro/pub/rest. on g/f.

**Action:** It was agreed that Sarah ask Errol for contact details of owner to be sent to Lucy so that she as chairperson can communicate direct and confirm willingness of ARA to meet with him and invite him to the next Jan.meeting. This seems a positive development as a new owner willing to engage with the local community.

#### Next Meeting

Tuesday 21st January 8pm at Alexandra Nurseries.