

Minutes of ARA committee meeting held on 21st January 2014 at Alexandra Nurseries.

Present: Lucy Smith (Chair), Jess Farrand (Note taker), Jane Doxy, Brian Braddon, Sarah Garcia, Shirley Homewood

Apologies: Jane Ching, Jenny Czezowski, Sally-Ann Hodge

Guests: Ian Hayton, Anna Taylor

Actions from previous minutes

Received an acknowledgement from Nick about the contribution to the Living Well project.

Minutes of meetings are on the website: It was agreed that minutes should go on the website

Alexandra pub

Planning permission has been applied for and the deadline is 31st Jan, but no notice is up on the pub itself. Andy, Jane Ching and Lucy met with the developers last year to find out more about the plans. Current planning says average occupancy of 30. Concerns: lack of parking (however close to public transport); over intensification of use- new classification as 'hostel'- could say that this is too many hostels in the area (reduce the number of rooms). Also applied for change of use from pub (A4) to restaurant/ pub(A3) (could look at reducing the hours of use). Sarah feels there is strong community interest in a good pub (community asset status could be considered as a lever here). Current plans do not have space for a cellar or a large kitchen for catering.- needs adequate space to be viable as a pub. Quality of finishes is also important- major public building adjacent to a conservation area- e.g. all external finishes being signed off by the developers- eg. Windows and signage.

Actions:

Jane Doxy to approach the council to find out who the key council planning officer involved to put in a complaint to the planning department and to the local councilor about the lack of time allowed for consultation ask for a delay to ask for necessary time to consult and to object to the change of use.

Lucy will send an email to residents with a link to the planning and invite comments to the ARA and encourage individuals to submit comments too.

Mural

Actions:

Lucy will email residents to let them know of the opportunity to see the mural designs on 26th Jan at 2.30. Jess will provide tea and coffee.

Agreed that the mounting of the mural should be Sunday 2nd March. Jess will check with Esther about the date

Community Garden

Anna Taylor came to update the committee. Plans to plant up the bank opposite Alexandra Nurseries, who think it is worth investing in. Alexandra Nurseries would be happy to provide planting in that area. Thyme, oregano, marjoram, lavender and lots of ground cover. Anna considering 'Awards for All' funding for the rest of the beds on the estate and will co-ordinate this with Sarah.

Volunteers- Anna is doing a push for more volunteers. Considering a children's activity for the gardening days.

Actions:

Sarah will discuss with John about Alexandra Nurseries leading on the bank opposite the estate.

Sarah will go round all communal areas of the estate to cost out what the cost would be for a funding application

Anna and Sarah will work on 'Awards for All' application

Promote community gardening club on all forums newsletter, porcupine post and facebook page.

Brian to put up flyer on noticeboard and Sarah to put up in the Nurseries

Porcupine Post

Lucy will alert road reps that the Porcupine Post is due out at the end of Jan. Brian suggested that something about restoration could go in the next Porcupine post. All agreed a good topic.

Looking for a new art worker for the porcupine post.

Action: Jess will put a request for help in the porcupine post.

Treasurer Report

Money available to use is £1,744. £200 outstanding to be paid to Esther on completion of the project.

Action

Insurance is due agreed Shirley to pursue and renew.

Social Committee

Future events. Jane D and Jane C had put a lot of ideas to the committee in August 2013. The barn dance and harvest festival ideas are completed. Yard sale will be Sunday 27th April. £2 for stalls. Music festival idea would need more help in order to take forward. Thinking perhaps to do this in the autumn but will need extra hands to organize.

Action:

Lucy will email re: ideas for social events and volunteers to take it forward.

Jane D and Jane C will focus on planning for a music and arts festival in the autumn.

'Meet the neighbours' event, perhaps at the Alexandra Nurseries 22nd March 2014.

Action:

Sarah will check with Late Knights to see if they can cater for 'Meet the Neighbours' Lucy to promote to residents via email and facebook.

Jane D and Jane C to do a poster for the yard sale and will check with Anna what other points need to be organized for the yard sale. It was also agreed that this could be advertised outside of the Estate, eg Library Church Hall

Reps meetings

Are there meetings that we should send people to go to as ARA reps?

- Bromley Federation of Residents Association- Jane D and Jane C attended and felt its worth an ARA rep attending regularly

- Safer Neighbourhood meeting ?

Penge Forum- have to pay to join the forum ? Get reports from the councillors about what is happening locally. Meet 3 times a year. Provides an insight into what is happening in Penge. Next meeting is Christchurch Anerley 12th Feb. (the Crystal Palace project to be discussed at this)

- Conservation group (Ian Hayton goes as the ARA rep)

New Penge library to be open in June 2014, however no meeting place is currently available within those plans.

Action: to consider Penge Forum membership. Contact Chris Dorum, secretary.

Road Reps

Carrie left and Helen has taken over on one side, Peggy has been approached to her side. May need a new road rep for Victor road (the current list says Brian at 143/Jane 153 and Sarah 112)

Action:

Can Brian clarify this information who has left or not able to do and also identify new Road reps for Victor Road.

We may change constitution as this states that Road reps are also committee members, this will need to go to the 2014 AGM.

Will discuss road reps at the next meeting.

Welcome Packs

Remains web-based for peoples information. Decision taken not to update paper copy as too much administrative burden and no one really keen to take on.

AGM

Renovation talk could take place at the AGM

AOB

Penge East Community Centre: Council considering redeveloping it. Will keep a watching brief on it.

Buster will be leaving the estate shortly. Viv is organizing a farewell party on 6th Febuary 2pm, Holy Trinity Church.

Date of Next Meeting: 25th March 2014 at 8pm at Lucy's 9 Hardings Lane.