

ARA Committee Meeting held on July22nd at alexandra Nurseries

Present

Lucy Smith
Jane Doxey
Andy Peake
Brian Braddon
Shirley Homewood
Jess Farrand
Helen Millar
Tim Walby
Linda Power
Steve Grafham
Jane Ching

Apologies

Sally Ann Hodge(resigned)

Lucy welcomed new members to the committee and thanked them for attending. She confirmed that Sally Ann Hodge has resigned as a committee member feeling that her work and personal commitments do not allow her to be a pro-active member. She has confirmed her willingness to remain a member of the association and offer help when she can. Lucy formally thanked Sally for her past support to the committee and the association events.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Jane C confirmed that she would not be able to do anything to welcome pack/letter until after September as much work involved in planning September event at present.

Lucy confirmed that this years sub. collection and membership updates will also ensure we have updated details of present residents, and this should ensure they receive all relevant communication from ARA.

AGM seemed to go well and some issues from this on today's agenda.

Request for new committee members has had positive response.

No one able to attend most recent BRFM. Need dates of future meetings so we can ensure a rep attends.

Power point presentation by Chief Planning Officer of Bromley to BRF now on web site for residents info/interest.

Flyer from water board regarding blocked sewers was included in the last newsletter.

Street Lighting

Discussion took place regarding Councils recent notification of replacement street lighting on the estate. This has been delayed due to public concern expressed at the style of lighting proposed which many feel is inappropriate for the conservation area. Anna Taylor's e-mail was read out that gave some possible suggestions on ways forward. Some long standing residents were able to confirm the history of the 'victorian style' lights put in the lane area. Shirley remembered a grant being made for these, possibly from the Council whose finances had allowed it at that time. It has been stated that victorian style lights would cost aprox.£800 more per lamp. Also noted that each road has a varying amount of street lights and not certain why there is this variation.

Agreed following actions

- Take up offer of meeting with Cllr. Smith/Mrs. Rogers/ Ian Patenslan Coombs/Robert Buckley (relevant council officers)(Lucy)
- Request 'walk of estate' with relevant officer so that questions can be answered regarding specification and costings etc.(Lucy)
- See if we can confirm cost of lighting in lane when they were installed.(Tim)
- Contact BFRA to see if other conservation areas in the borough have received grants towards such costs.(Jane D)

Feedback from AGM

Discussed need for strengthening of committee and various roles of members. Discussed roles of Road Reps. and helpful for them to be on the committee as original terms of reference for ARA stated. Present list of reps. reviewed/confirmed. After some debate and confirmation that we now with new members having joined the committee have all roads covered following was agreed:-

- **No longer need separately agreed road reps.**
- **Following Committee Members agreed to represent residents of each road:-**
- **Hardings Lane- Lucy Smith(9) and Andy Peake(141).**
- **Lucy to communicate with present named rep. Jenny C (13)her position.**
- **Albert Road- Jane Doxey,(47) Jane Ching(28)**
- **Jane C to clarify if Helen Hayton (27) wishes to join Committee**
- **Edward Road -Jess Farrant(83) Verena (73)**
- **Princes Road- Trish Monk**
- **Tim W to invite Trish to join committee.**
- **Victor Road - Helen Millar,(107)Steve Grafam Graham and Linda Power(154)**
- **Jane C to check whether Jane at 153 who is a present rep. also wishes to join committee**

Need to update this on web site when confirmations from those not present obtained. (Jane C)

Neighbourhood Watch

Andy Peake offered to take on the role of Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for the Estate. Lucy expressed gratitude for this as she feels she has not had time together with her chairperson role to give sufficient attention to this. Andy to contact local Safer Neighbourhood Team and consider invitation to our local officer to attend future meeting.

Some discussion on a few previous crimes reported by residents and slow response from police on occasions. Linda and Steve have also recently experienced theft from their garden of an original fireplace in their garden waiting to be installed as part of their ongoing work on recently renovated property.

Treasurer

Helen Millar will talk with Shirley Homewood about potentially shadowing her as treasurer this year as Shirley would like to retire from this role next year if possible.

Social Committee and Planning for Arts/Craft and Music Festival Sept.20th

Report of recent planning meeting shared with all members of committee to update them on planning of event and progress since last meeting. Both Janes spoke to aspects of report and answered questions.

Steve confirmed his ability to be able to help with printing of advertising/newsletter/flyers/ticket materials for event, which will be great help. Jess confirmed that Alex Fuller definitely helping with children's musical instrument making that now will be incorporated into Saturday afternoon events at Holy Trinity. Discussed need for 'all hands on deck on the day' for some practical tasks and general support to help event run as smoothly as possible. Committee also approved a rough figure of further £150 spend from funds towards this event. Spend approved £60 for slates and pencils for Victorian school which will be a ticketed event and hopefully get enough interest to recoup these costs. £30 towards materials for community quilt workshop. (Jane D providing much of this with no additional costs) Rest for proposed refreshment costs during afternoon and evening. As no further full committee meeting before the event any additional spend to be requested via Chairperson and Treasurer. Treasurer reminded everyone of the need to produce receipts for all spend. Planning so far accepted by committee and a few more members may attend next planning meeting to assist in final planning details. (much appreciated.) Both Janes will relinquish roles as social events organisers after this event, so committee will need to consider how such events can be organised/managed in future. It was suggested that some individuals may offer to take on the planning of one event. Noted that 2016 will be a special year for the cottages as they reach their 150yr. anniversary, so this should go on future agenda. Open Gardens also may need planning for next year.

Finance

Shirley presented financial report.

Annual subs. being collected at present in all roads. Only £146 banked so far, but most roads still to be collected. (Generally adds approx. £400 + to funds annually).

Account still healthy with £1608.20 in credit.

£230.05 of this restricted to the Older Peoples Group from a specific external grant awarded to them last year.

Shirley to also provide extra membership cards needed by some of the sub. collectors.

Community Gardening

A big thank you to Iris in Albert Road for her donations of plants from "Street Life" (Community web site) Also to John from the Alexandra Nurseries for his donations of herb plants. Continued thanks to all residents quietly planting and watering the communal sites on the estate and keeping our environment so attractive. Jane D. made video of last working group in operation which will go on web site.

Anna is following up Bromley/Penge in Bloom to see if a front garden competition still open could be judged by their judges as the deadline for application to 'London in Bloom' was missed this year.

Additional volunteers are always needed and welcome to the planting working group. but also informal support with ongoing watering of communal beds during hot dry weather also essential. (There is a tap by the garages in Edward road so requires people to use watering cans)

Communications

Porcupine Post-

Jess reminded items needed by end of July for next edition. Just one received so far. Perhaps highlight again via mail out. Theme is DIY/ Restoration.

Newsletter

Shirley can still get yellow paper from a private source but not yet obtained quote for costs. Next newsletter planned for Oct.2014.

Google Mail Account

Lucy asked for assistance in monitoring this account where residents and others sometimes communicate and require a response from committee.

Jess agreed to share this with Lucy.

AOB

Conservation issues.

Some discussion about recent planning applications and also need to obtain copy or electronic copy of Neil Coe's booklet produced some years ago that offers good guidance to residents. This would be useful on web site. Neil recently delivered some paperwork to Shirley but she was not able to clarify what this was and will call on him to see if he has electronic copy of his original document.

Agreed need to put conservation on main agenda for a future meeting and also see if a Bromley Conservation officer could also come to a future meeting.

Damage to mural

Small damage has occurred to mural. Brian/Jane D will ask Danny Monk to fix broken tile that has been removed.

Concern regarding severely overgrown garden in Victor Road

Impacting on neighbours at front and back. If informal approaches to tenant not successful to see if help required, neighbours could contact council by reporting via the Fix My Street web site. for advice assistance on what can be done.

Goldsmith Arms

Pub in Penge being taken over by new management group called Antic Pubs . Launch due August 9th. Inviting members of local community groups to attend. Lucy said group seems to have a good reputation for managing their premises well, so will be interesting to see developments there.

Next Meeting

Next Committee meeting date set for 8pm, Tuesday September 30th. (venue to be confirmed)

Jane C.