

Minutes of ARA Committee meeting held on 25th March 2014 at 9 Hardings Lane.

Present

Lucy Smith  
Jane Doxey  
Sarah Garcia  
Shirley Homewood  
Brian Braddon  
Jess Farrand  
Jane Ching

Minutes of last meeting

Accepted.

Matters arising:-

- Welcome Packs. It was confirmed that version on web site still needs updating. It was agreed that we do still need an updated version of the welcome pack to give as a hard copy to new residents. **Jane Ching agreed to try to do this and produce an updated simpler version. Brian Braddon will deliver copy of present pack to Jane.**
- Yellow Pages it was agreed we would ask if anyone is willing to take on the task of updating this at the next AGM.

Constitution Review and Amendments

This item was raised at the last meeting in relation to a rep. from each road needing to be on the committee. At present we do not have a representative from Princes Road on the committee. Also noted that Jenny has had to resign due to personal commitments. Agreed need to increase numbers on committee and invite all road reps. to attend if they are able, rather than amend the constitution. **Jane Doxey agreed to approach a resident in Princes Road to see if they are willing to join committee. Jane D also agreed to represent Princes Road in the meantime. Shirley also agreed to ask for volunteer road reps. for Princes Road and Hardings Lane in the next Newsletter.**

**Lucy to formally thank Jenny C for her past work on the committee.**

Events Feedback and future events

Big thank you to Jess for her organisation and management of the Mural Project. All pleased with the result and suggestion that we may be able to add to it in the future. The estate will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2016, so this may be an occasion to further add to it.

Meet the Neighbours event

This went well with some new residents from most roads having attended. It was noted that some residents still were not aware of it, even though advertised on web site and Facebook and e-mails sent to all residents that have signed up to receive information in this way. (Further discussion regarding ongoing communication issues on today's agenda)

Yard Sale

This is the next event planned for Sunday 27th April. Opportunity for residents to buy and sell goods from tables at their front gardens. ARA will advertise event and produce flyers for estate. We would like to specify a £4 per seller donation to ARA funds, who will also arrange for a local charity to collect any unsold/unwanted items at the end of the day, as this worked very well last time. **Jane Doxey will also provide a refreshment stop (tea and cakes) at her cottage (47). Cake donations**

**welcome.**

#### Arts and Music Festival

Jane C had sent e-mail to test interest in this as a possible event in the early autumn of this year. Very good initial response, with 12 people interested in attending a meeting to share ideas and make a decision on whether we go forward with this and in what format. Meeting will take place at Jane Ds (47) on Wednesday 2nd April 7.30pm. Shirley suggested possible poetry competition to be included.

Suggestions for possible future events for 2015 include Open Gardens, return of Taste of the Cottages, Summer Barbecue, Childrens' Christmas Party. Jess also said that some of the young parents on the estate are considering a "Play in the Lane" event after the success and enjoyment of the play session during the mural Launch.

#### Alex Pub Developments

Planning application by present owner was turned down by Bromley Council, but it is felt a revised version likely to be presented. Quite a lot of residents shared their views during the application process. **Sarah agreed that she would communicate with the owners to see if they are willing to share their present intentions, as it is agreed that empty building looking a blight on immediate area.**

#### Crystal Palace Developments

Consultation issues are on web site. Lucy will e-mail Joel Taylor who is a resident interested in the progress of the proposed developments & The Alex and ask Joel to alert ARA to any potential concerns.

#### Snow Co-ordinator

Council had contacted chairperson regarding lack of named ARA person in this role. Lucy as chairperson feels residents all supportive in helping when needed. Brian confirmed good supply of salt in shed. **Therefore no action proposed on this at present.**

#### Communications

Discussion on this perennial subject of how to ensure communication with all residents remains as good as it can be.

Electronic communication via web site, e-mail address and Facebook all in place and kindly supported by Franco. Need to ensure all new residents aware they can sign up for e-mail listing. **Brian suggested e-mail address be added to this years' membership cards. Felt to be good idea.**

Hard copy Information. Agreed following:-

- Welcome pack for new residents to continue when updated. **Jane C**
- Newsletters to be produced 3monthly and delivered by Road Reps. **Shirley**
- Notice Board on Shed at end of Victor Road to be 'resurrected' in its use.

**Brian to post relevant flyers and notices and Shirley to alert residents to this as another way of being kept informed.**

- Porcupine Post will continue to be produced by Jess and Matthew aprox. 2x year. Next edition will be planned for publication in July 2014. Theme will be 'Restoration and DIY'. **Lucy will send reminder e-mail for articles to Jess by end of June. Shirley to ask Chair of Conservation Group if he would like to contribute and whether he might speak at the AGM.**

#### Community Gardening

Sarah reported back on her and Anna's assessment of the various communal beds/sites on the estate. Sarah feels more planting of perennial plants would be less labour intensive and she has kindly used her expertise in making a list of suggested plants to buy. She would be able to obtain for max. total cost of £150. This

expenditure was agreed by all committee members.

It is suggested that the bed in Parish Lane by the railway hoardings be planted with wild flower turf which would be low maintenance and only need mowing occasionally. Could not raise any funds for this as the land does not belong to us. **Sarah will price this and consider how funding for it might be achieved.**

#### Financial Report

When mural payments completed there is £1468 at present. Sarah gave £13 made at Meet Neighbours event. Shirley also said church hall payment for Busters leaving do still to be paid (Aprox £20)

Short discussion on need to keep funds at approx. £1000 in case of problems around shed maintenance/insurance etc., but no desire to have any great build up of funds in account.

#### Federation of Bromley Residents Association.

ARA remains a member of this. Jane C and Jane D rep. assoc. at these meetings. Jane C attended recent AGM and following meeting. Issues covered included Health Services, Transport, Conservation, Planning, Biggin Hill Airport Developments, and Road Safety. (May be informative for minutes of these meetings to be added to our own web site.) **Lucy and Jane C to discuss**

#### AGM

Date for this years AGM set for 24th June 2014. Brian to try to book function room at Crooked Billet. **When this is confirmed Shirley to put on newsletter and Lucy to e-mail residents to alert to date.**

**Next ARA Committee Meeting to be held on Tuesday 20th May 2014 at Alexandra Nurseries at 8pm.**

**Jane Ching.**