



**MINUTES OF THE 84th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
HELD AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL
WEDNESDAY 27th APRIL 2016**

Richard Mainwaring-Burton, in the Chair, opened the meeting with a welcome to all and particularly Cllrs Cartwright, Hills and Rideout once again paying tribute to their unstinting support of both the MRA and the Community they represent. He also welcomed PCSO Sue Kennedy from Bromley Police, Guy Sanderson, Headmaster of Eltham College and our guest speaker Megan Tanner from the National Trust.

APOLOGIES: Laurie Bell, Jane Cornish, Ross Howie, Mayur Patel, Krishna Patel, Mary & David Stevens and Greenwich Police.

MINUTES OF THE AGM ON 29TH APRIL 2015

Proposed by Andrew Pain, seconded by Fay Gosbee and it was resolved unanimously:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 29th April 2015 be and are hereby approved as a true record.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Richard Mainwaring-Burton introduced himself as the current Chairman of the MRA having taken over from Liz Keable following the last AGM. He paid tribute to Liz for her tireless work both for the MRA and the Community and thanked her for her support since he took over the Chair. He again thanked the Councillors who support not only the MRA but numerous other local organisations often attending meetings which almost always happen outside their normal working hours. He also paid tribute to the local Police teams from both Bromley and Greenwich. Both parts North and South ends of the Village are 'low crime' areas in London terms for which we are grateful.

Supported by a short slide presentation the Chairman referred to the two main topics carried forward from last year being the Porcupine and the Library. The former appears to be making progress with Lidl having decided to sell and the PDC, which is linked to but operates independently of the MRA is now examining its options and preparing for the next stage. An appeal was made for additional support for the PDC especially from people with relevant skills.

As regards the library, Bromley Community Links has been named as the preferred bidder although they have to re-submit their bid as it failed to meet the specification.

The Chairman advised that the MRA carefully monitors planning applications for the area and often identifies issues before they appear on the Council websites. This last year we have successfully defeated plans for a telecoms mast on the corner of Grove Park Rd and Mottingham Lane and encouraged the removal of an unlicensed flower-selling operation at the Court Rd/Sidcup Rd junction. We continue to monitor the situation regarding the 'academisation' of Bromley Schools and will report any developments affecting Mottingham as widely as possible. The MRA is committed to seek the best for the education of the Children in North Mottingham.

Thanks were also expressed to the other members of the Executive Committee, particularly Laurie Bell who has stepped in by taking on the Treasurer's Role in addition to his role as Deputy Chair and has also shared the Membership Secretary's functions.

He also thanked the residents for their support, especially those that turned out this evening and concluded by asking residents to consider joining the Committee.

THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT was also presented by Richard Mainwaring-Burton and began by thanking the 7 Section Leaders and 32 Road Representatives who manage to deliver all our newsletters, other documentation and collect our subscription. They manage to cover 1735 of the total 2028 homes in our area the others being homes that we are unable to access usually due to the nature of the property. Of the 1735 households covered, 981 (56%) have been enrolled to membership. A request was made for people to come forward and boost the number of Road Representatives particularly in those roads not currently covered, particularly the “Everest Expedition” blocks of flats which have protected entry.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of the Treasurer the Chair referred to the Treasurer's report and accounts which were available for collection on entry a copy of which is attached to these minutes for record purposes.

Although we are not always meeting our aim of adding £500 to our reserves every year they are climbing gradually and The Executive Committee recommends holding the subscriptions at the current level of £2.50 for a further year.

There being no questions on the accounts **Colin Couves proposed, Seconded by Sally Bettesworth that:**

The Audited accounts for the Financial Year ended 31st March 2016 be and are hereby received and adopted.

Duly carried nem. con.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

At this point the Chairmanship of the meeting was passed to Liz Keable who explained that it was not appropriate for Richard Mainwaring-Burton to preside over the next part of the meeting as he was standing for re-election in the next two posts.

The Position of CHAIRMAN

There being no other candidates coming forward **Andrew Pain proposed, seconded by Sally Bettesworth that:**

Richard Mainwaring Burton be and is hereby reappointed Chairman of the MRA for a further year.

Duly carried nem.con

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

There being no other candidates coming forward **Astrid Chklar proposed, seconded by Barry Gardner that:**

Richard Mainwaring Burton be and is hereby reappointed Membership Secretary for a further year.

Duly carried nem.con

At this point the Chair was passed back to Richard Mainwaring-Burton for the duration of the meeting.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

There being no other candidates coming forward **Liz Keable proposed, seconded by Edmund Cavendish that:**

Laurie Bell be and is hereby reappointed Deputy Chair for a further year.

TREASURER

There being no other candidates coming forward **Colin Couves proposed, seconded by Ted Rowlands that:**

Laurie Bell be and is hereby reappointed Treasurer for a further year.

Duly carried nem.con

SECRETARY

There being no other candidates coming forward **Ted Rowlands proposed, seconded by Colin Couves that:**

Robert Blanks be and is hereby reappointed Secretary for a further year.

Duly carried nem.con

AUDITOR

Proposed by Astrid Chklar, seconded by Sheila Blanks that:

Mr Bernie Hawes be and is hereby appointed Auditor for the coming year.

Duly carried nem.con

Following the election of Officers it remained to re-elect the remaining members of the Executive Committee. The Chairman advised that four members of the Committee had decided not to stand for re-election this year. Mr Krishna Patel who is still recovering from illness, Prof. Mayur Patel who is travelling too much with work to be able to provide the commitment he would like. The chair wished Krishna well and thanked both of them for their valuable support over the years.

Also deciding to step down, Mr Ross Howie after some 15 years on the Committee, part of which as Secretary, although he had agreed to continue to represent the MRA on the Bromley Federation of Resident's Associations and Margaret Southam who if records are correct joined the Committee in the year 2000. Thanks were expressed to both Ross and Margaret for their valuable contribution to the Committee and the Community and a small bouquet of flowers was presented to Margaret Southam as a gesture of appreciation.

All four were given a round of applause.

The remaining Committee members are all standing again and it was agreed to consider their re-election in one block.

Ted Rowlands Proposed, seconded by Andrew Pain that:

**Sally Bettesworth, Edmund Cavendish, Astrid Chklar, Margaret Henderson
Liz Keable, Jane Cornish, and Rebecca Young,**

Be and are hereby re-appointed as Members of the Executive Committee for a further year.

Duly carried nem.con

The formalities having been concluded the Chairman called for:

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Ms Eileen Glover asked to advise the meeting that she chaired the Safer Greenwich, an independent board which serves to liaise with such as the Safer Neighbourhood Panels and holds the police to account. A similar organisation operates in Bromley although that operates under the Council. She was available to provide further information should residents require it.

In response to a question from the floor the Chairman advised that the MRA monitors both Bromley and Greenwich planning applications, tries to ensure that all affected are aware of them and lodges objections where appropriate. The Secretary added that whilst the MRA does not have a written position on any particular matters we have opposed any development on Metropolitan Open Land as to let one through may open the floodgates.

The Chairman then asked the Councillors whether they wished to address the meeting recognising that the forthcoming elections may restrict what they could say.

COUNCILLOR DAVID CARTWRIGHT (Bromley) spoke on behalf of the three Councillors confirming that the Councils have no policy to build on MOL although there were ways around it.

He confirmed that crime was still coming down in the area thanks to the efforts of the local police noting that there is only one real problem, an unacceptable level of Anti-social behaviour particularly on the Kimmeridge Rd area which has been designated as a deprived area and thus getting additional support. Some Anti-social behaviour has manifested itself in motorbike joyriding and he gave a plea to residents to report any incidents they become aware of by calling 101 and subsequently advising the Councillors so they can follow it up.

Cllr. Cartwright also gave thanks to his colleagues Cllr. Rideout (Bromley) and particularly Cllr. John Hills (Greenwich) with whom they work very closely.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Following a break for refreshments the Chairman introduced Megan Tanner from the National Trust who proceeded to give a presentation of the Red House in Bexleyheath, the home of William Morris.

The meeting thanked her for a very interesting talk and there being no other Business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.50.