



## MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

### MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD AT 8pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 AT THE CHRIS MUMBRA Y HALL.

#### PRESENT

Laurie Bell (LB) - in the Chair      Sally Babi (SB)      Robert Blanks (RB)  
Carol Borhani (CB)      Edmund Cavendish (EC)  
Liz Keable (LK)      Richard Mainwaring-Burton (RM-B)

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr David Cartwright (DC)      Astrid Chklar (AC)      Cllr John Hills (JH)  
Ted Rowlands (TR)      Cllr Will Rowlands (WR)

**APOLOGIES**      Ian Conway (IC)      Jane Cornish (JC)

Cllr Roger Tester (RT)

**The Chairman welcomed both Astrid Chklar and Ted Rowlands to the meeting; AC having indicated her willingness to rejoin the Executive Committee, LB proposed, seconded by RB and it was agreed that she be co-opted onto the committee with immediate effect.**

#### MRA 20- 395 MINUTES OF MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings subject to the following insertions:

MRA 19 391 Para 1, line 3 after the word 'without' insert the word 'notice';  
MRA 19 391 Para 4, line 6 after the word 'pupils' insert the words 'in that class'.

#### MRA 20- 396 MATTERS ARISING & ACTION POINTS (not covered elsewhere)

**392-5** In the absence of RT, JH confirmed that he was still pursuing the issue of the costs of installing speed humps in West Hallowes and would get back to us as soon as he can obtain the information. It was also noted that the new pavement arrangement at the entrance to West Hallowes was dangerous making no allowance for the partially sighted with the pavement now continuing unchanged across the road. There are no signs indicating any changes, one way or the other. The matter has been reported to the appropriate personnel at Greenwich. (*Post meeting note. Information subsequently received*)

**MRA 20-397 DRIS** It was noted that milk still appears to be being delivered to the closed school and that rubbish was accumulating in the grounds.

LB drew attention to the consultation document issued by the Spring Partnership Trust (SPT). It was noted that Sir Bob Neill MP had indicated that he could not support keeping

DRIS open as have DC and WR. DC asked whether the response that he had sent to the Chairman had been circulated, if not it should be and that committee members read it before responding to the consultation.

There was further discussion about the quoted cost of repairs (£500k) and it was confirmed that the parents were proposing to have their own survey and estimates prepared.

DC confirmed that if DRIS does close the asset reverts to Bromley Council but if the site is sold the proceeds could only be spent on Education. The likely consequence would be that SPT would seek to obtain this to cover the costs of educating the DRIS pupils at Castlecombe.

RB advised that whilst he was happy to support the parents' efforts to keep the school open, he felt it to be a lost cause. LK disagreed maintaining that the small, close community that DRIS provided was more beneficial especially to the more needy children which are currently the focus of efforts. SB noted particularly that children with Asperger's Syndrome will find it hard to succeed in a large environment such as Castlecombe.

It was noted that Castlecombe was 1.4 miles from the village with buses only going as far as Dunkery Rd leaving quite a walk to the school. DC also reported that there was currently spare school capacity in this part of the borough and that Mottingham School now had vacancies at Junior level and he agreed to provide further details of numbers.

## **20-398 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**398-1 Bromley Police** In the absence of Bromley Police, DC advised that he will be meeting with them shortly and will be requesting information on manning levels which he believes is now up to the specified levels although with no capacity to cover absences. There has not been an effective meeting since June 2019. It was noted that the Chairman of the Chislehurst CAP had also resigned in frustration.

It was noted that the number of burglaries in the area, and across London generally, had increased with a spate of them in Court Farm Road.

**398-2 Greenwich Police** With no Police representative present JH reported that he also would be meeting with the Police reps next week but understood that Greenwich have a full contingent and were working well under the new arrangements with Eltham.

**398-3 Bromley Residents' Federation** SB advised that she was unable to attend the recent meeting. RB undertook to circulate copies of the Minutes of the meeting when received.

**398-4 Bromley Planning** As undertaken following the last meeting LK monitored the use of the Eltham College Lights during December and reported that the lights on the 3 multi use pitches adjacent to the cricket nets are on every day, including Christmas Day, school holidays even though the pitches were not in use.

**398-5 Greenwich Planning** There were no new applications of concern. JH advised that he had visited 509 Sidcup Road and agreed that the intended access was far too limited. He was also of the opinion that two houses on such a small site was serious over-development.

JH confirmed that there had been no movement regarding the proposed development of the garage block in Porcupine Close nor the area between the shops and Sycamore Close.

The owner of 35 Hartsmead Road has designated the property as a Church.

The situation re the Royal Public House was on hold. JH advised that RT had not followed up with his request for conditions on any new licence as the interested party had agreed with all of them anyway.

**398-6 Festive Lights** Most of the lights have now been removed but we are still awaiting confirmation that Festive Decorations will store the spirals and what cost will be involved in storage and putting them up each year. There were two lamp columns in Bromley and two in Greenwich that did not work. These will need to be investigated for next year. LK agreed to provide the Councilors with the lamp column numbers so they can follow up.

RB reported that there had been a significant use of Electronic Funds Transfers direct into the bank although remitters rarely followed up with the covering forms which made it difficult to be sure from which addresses they came.

The tree lights still need to be removed as none of them work any longer. DC asked that we put in a request for a funding grant as soon as possible.

LB agreed to write to LBB about the need for a timer on the War Memorial lights.

## **MRA 20- 399 CHAIR'S REPORT**

Nothing to add that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

## **MRA 20-400 PORCUPINE UPDATE**

TR, Chairman of the Porcupine Development Committee, gave an update following notification that the planning hearing for Lidl's latest application is scheduled for next week and that the Council have been recommended to allow it. TR then went through some of the report pointing out serious errors and omissions and said he had never seen such a poor example. It was also noted that the Consultation on Bromley's website still appears to be open for comments although it should be closed 7 days before the hearing.

It was agreed that TR and the MRA would both write to the Chief Executive of the Council with a copy to the chair of the planning development committee complaining at the apparent abuse of process, lack of consultation and poor quality of the report and insisting on an adjournment of the hearing to allow time for reasoned responses to be made.

*(Post meeting note. The Lidl application was subsequently withdrawn from the agenda for the January meeting and will now be considered on March 18<sup>th</sup>.)*

TR advised that Wayne O'Neill is preparing a professional critique of the Council paper and it was suggested that we need a professional representative to speak at the hearing especially given that each speaker is only given 3 minutes to make their case.

DC and WR both requested to be copied on any submissions and or letters so that they could follow them up.

TR left the meeting at the close of this item.

### **MRA 20- 401 TREASURER'S REPORT**

An updated financial statement (copy attached for reference) was emailed out earlier in the day. There has been very little movement since the last meeting.

Alternative methods of paying subscriptions; It was agreed to allow residents to pay up to three years in advance and to allow payments direct into the bank account following the success of the Festive Lights experience. It was agreed that bank account details would not be put on the website however Road Stewards could be provided with cards containing the details for anyone wishing to pay that way.

### **MRA 20-402 MEMBERSHIP SECRETARIES REPORT**

AC agreed to take over the Road Steward responsibilities for Court Farm Road following Lex Huxley's retirement. A number of roads still need new coverage and RM-B agreed to prepare a letter appeal to be delivered to members and residents in the roads concerned as experience shows that Stewards that live in the roads they cover have much greater success.

### **MRA 20-403 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

It was agreed that we would experiment with not having a speaker this year. Opening the AGM at 7.45 for 8PM for the AGM then breaking at or about 9pm for coffee and general discussion/mingling with the intention of closing between 9.30 and 10pm. Raffle tickets will be sold as usual with the draw taking place at the coffee break and the meeting will be asked their opinion on the structure of future AGMs.

It was suggested that the MRA might work with Horticultural Society on joint speaker events through the year.

### **MRA-20-404 LOCAL ISSUES AND MEMBER'S CONCERNS**

None

### **MRA 20-405 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

RB asked to record a vote of thanks and appreciation to Nicola Musto of Bromley Council who regularly goes out of her way to help resolve issues. In this instance she has helped on a number of occasions to resolve matters regarding missed waste collections and previously in organizing better clearance of overhanging greenery and blocked gutters particularly in Mottingham Lane.

It was noted that the Business Hub shop in the village had already closed.

Dates of future meetings:

26<sup>th</sup> March 2020; 28<sup>th</sup> May; 23<sup>rd</sup> July; 24<sup>th</sup> September and 26<sup>th</sup> November.

AGM Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April

There being no other business, the meeting was drawn to a close at 22.05

ACTION POINTS		When by	By whom
<b>397-DRIS</b>	Obtain numbers of vacancies at Mottingham School	ASAP	DC
<b>398-6</b>	Investigate lamp columns not working	August	LK
<b>398-6</b>	Make a Funding application to Bromley	ASAP	LK
<b>401</b>	Produce cards with Bank information for EFT transfers	June	RM-B
<b>402</b>	Produce letter to residents appealing for new road stewards	31 March	RM-B

## Appendix 1 – Financial statement

### Mottingham Residents Association

P&L 2019/20

#### Opening balances @ 1/4/19

Barclays	1723.14
Nationwide	14020.50

**Total** **15743.64**

#### Expenditure

St Andrews Church Mtg hire x 4	120.00
Summer Newsletter printing	
Membership Cards	75.00
Keegan & Pennykid, Insurance	191.37
Remembrance Wreath	20.00
Festival Lights	500.00
Bromley Residents Federation	10.00
Gift - Flowers R Young	34.95
Funeral flowers	59.95
AGM Speaker & Donation	75.00
AGM Equip cost	22.65
AGM notice Printing	120.00
AGM Raffle costs	30.00
AGM Hall Hire	60.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1318.92</b>

#### Receipts

AGM Raffle (net)	80.00
Nationwide Interest	7.11
AGM Refreshments	22.30
Subscriptions 2019/20	1692.50
Donations	12.50
adv subs	2.50
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1816.91</b>

#### Closing balances @ 23/1/20

Barclays	1234.52
Nationwide	15007.11

**Balance remaining** **15743.64**    **14424.72**    **16241.63**    **16241.63**