

St Stephens Road Residents Association (SSRA)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 06/07/2017

Present:	Chairperson:	Moira Newlan(MN)
	Treasurer:	Jane Joseph (JJ)
	Steering Group Members:	Mike Packford (MP), Chris Hearn (CH) Hugh Finn (HF), Winston Gordon (WG), Tessa Archbold (TA) Sharan Puri (SP),
	Apologies:	Maria Walbyoff (MW), Colin Ellar and Corinna Smart, Ward Councillors
	In Attendance:	Lesley McLennan-Yeo (LMcLY) note taker, Kenneth Newlan (KN) Election co-ordinator Mukesh Malhotra, Ward Councillor, Sean Doran LBH Conservation Officer 8 additional residents signed the attendance sheet.

Agenda Item	Summary of discussion and decision	
1) Welcome	MN welcomed those present and thanked residents for attending. She further gave thanks to the current steering group for their efforts on behalf of the residents in the last 12 months especially to LMCLY who had diligently taken minutes over the year though not a member of the steering group.	
2) Corrections and approval of 2016 AGM minutes	The 4/7/16 minutes had been previously circulated. No further amendments were made.	
3) Annual Review	MN introduced the document provided and indicated the key work areas of the SSRA over the previous year as lobbying, communications and strategy. She advised that short presentations would be given to summarise the work in the last year and asked that questions from the floor be taken at the end of each section. She reiterated that the involvement of as many residents as possible in the work of the SSRA is vital to its success.	

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3a) Chair's report.	<p>MN described the main areas of work undertaken by the steering group during the year and that the number of meetings had been increased to try and keep up momentum on the issues being tackled. She described the impact of local government budget reductions and its impact on the work of the council and similar budget reductions to the police placing greater pressure on Neighbourhood Watch schemes.</p> <p>MN described the efforts of residents and steering group with regard to the resurfacing of pavements in the road. Despite valiant efforts some of the streets in the conservation area have been tarmacked even though it is against the rules for conservation areas. Ruth Cadbury MP has also written to the leader of the council regarding this. MN advised that on a brighter note a new Conservation Officer had been appointed by LBH who had already been in contact and was in fact in attendance at the meeting. Repaving of St Stephens Rd is due to start on 17th July 2017.</p> <p><i>Residents expressed their anger and concern that the council should allow the conservation area to be damaged in this way. Residents also expressed concern about how the repaving will be done and issues with access. MP advised the council has been asked to carry out the work in sections to reduce the impact on residents but there will inevitably be some disruption.</i></p> <p>Some difficulties have continued with regard to receiving the details of planning applications and decisions which impact on the CA. The RA has made comment on a number of applications emphasising the need to maintain the number of family orientated dwellings and prevent the increase of multi let properties. MN advised that the CA is being reassessed for the potential to upgrade the protection of existing features in line with "Article 4". <i>The conservation officer advised that work starts in the autumn for approval in March 2018 with the decision being given in the autumn 2017.</i></p> <p><i>Residents expressed concern about the number of potentially illegal HMO's in the road and overcrowding of rental properties. They felt that council enforcement teams gave too much notice. Cllr Malhotra advised no notice should be given. He advised sending information to the</i></p>	

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	<p><i>appropriate council officer and to ward councillors who can take up these issues as case work. Other concerns were raised about antisocial behaviour, frequent barbeques, "Upcycling" by residents leaving unwanted furniture and belongings on the street.</i></p> <p>MN reported the success of lobbying with regard to Barrier across the Tesco car park at junction of Hanworth Rd and St Stephens Rd. Further lobbying is underway to improve the safety of this junction including the entrance to Nelson Gardens. The Steering Group has been asked to debate the issue of approaching the council with regard to a Controlled Parking Zone as parking has become very difficult especially in the roads closest to the station.</p> <p><i>Some residents expressed concern that a CPZ will cause many more problems for residents, including cost, the potential loss of more front gardens and the loss of the ability to park across one's own drive further reducing parking space. Cllr Malhotra advised that he lives in a CPZ near Hounslow West Station and the CPZ has really improved things for residents allowing them to "take possession" of their road and manage issues such as dropped curbs and allocated spaces for dentist surgery.</i></p> <p>MN described the inception of the "Hello Neighbour" leaflet and its attempt to encourage considerate behaviour with regard to parking, disposal of unwanted goods and rubbish. Fly tipping is a national issue and this area has seen an increase in this as well.</p> <p>MN asked for volunteers to join the steering group and emphasised the need for support to keep the SSRA website up to date and useful for residents. She again thanked the current steering group.</p>	
4) Neighbourhood Watch	<p>Winston Gordon presented the Neighbourhood Watch report indicating that a good relationship with the local police Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) is a vital with residents being the eyes and ears of the police on the street. WG reported on local ward crime figures and initiatives. Community Speed watch has been undertaken to police the 20mph limit, with volunteer residents supporting local police officers. Many drivers have been recorded travelling well above</p>	

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	<p>the speed limit. Fly tipping and dog fouling continue to be a problem with regular reports being made via “fix my street” and the council website. CCTV cameras are in operation in some areas. A successful prosecution was carried out on those involved in the dumping of a massive amount of building waste along the holly hedge at the Hanworth Rd end of St Stephens Rd. A number of incidents of drug dealing have been reported in the area. WG also reported that there were changes to the local SNT, PCSO Daniel Cheeseman had left the team and is now a fully trained police officer, his input in the area is sorely missed.</p> <p><i>Residents expressed concern about cars which are regularly seen speeding down the road, including mopeds and motorbikes. Dog fouling is particularly bad in the Angel field area and residents asked for more “pick it up” signs to be painted on the pavements. One resident reported writing to the council about fly tipping and noise nuisance but never gets a response.</i></p>	
5) Treasurer’s report	<p>JJ directed people to the balance sheet in the annual report detailing income and expenditure. The main income generation this year was from the Musical Evening and the main expenditure was the printing costs of the “Hello Neighbour Leaflet”. In answer to questions JJ advised that no one has to pay to join the SSRA it is open to all residents. Funds are mainly raised through social events which are organised by talented volunteers so once again the more residents who can be involved the better.</p>	
6) Elections	<p>Ken Newlan took the chair to co-ordinate the election of officers and steering group:</p> <p>Chair:</p> <p>No nominations for chair had been received. MN was asked if she was willing to stand again and she agreed for one further year. She was proposed as chair by MP, seconded by TA and elected by a show of hands.</p> <p>Vice Chair:</p> <p>No nominations for vice chair had been received. Sunita Sharma has resigned. Volunteers were requested and Rajan Mendis put himself forward. He was proposed by MP seconded by CH and elected by a show of hands.</p>	

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	<p>Treasurer: No nominations for treasurer had been received. JJ was asked if she was willing to stand again and she agreed. MN proposed JJ who was seconded from the floor and elected by a show of hands.</p> <p>Secretary: No nominations were received for secretary and no volunteers stepped forward. MN thanked LMCLY who has been taking minutes for a year but has declined to undertake the role of secretary.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Watch: This is not an elected role. WG agreed to continue in the role for a further year. Existing steering group members were asked if they were willing to continue and they agreed. New members were requested and new resident Lisa Kelso volunteered and was welcomed by the chair. New resident Jennifer Craythorne was also put forward but had been unable to attend this meeting.</p>	
7) A.O.B	CH revealed that a St Stephens Rd residence may get a Blue Plaque relating to the author William Tuffnell Queux.	
8) Date of next meeting	Steering Group Meeting: 7.30.pm 25/07/2017 St Stephens Church Hall.	

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