

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HANGER HILL (EAST) RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY 2019

7.45PM CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

MINUTES

The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking everybody for attending. He then apologized for the fact that late publication of the Spring Newsletter meant that the three weeks notice of the meeting required by the Constitution was not effectively given. Due to the efforts made by the residents to attend the meeting the Chairman suggested that the meeting continue should there be no formal objection. There were no formal objections and a majority show of hands enabled the meeting to go ahead.

There were approximately 65 residents present.

Apologies for absence were received from Dr Robert Gurd.

1. Chairman's Report:

I began my report in 2018 by saying that it had been a quiet year for the Association and for your Committee. 2019 has been very different for all the wrong reasons.

In September we suffered the first of four very distressing aggravated burglaries, the last of which occurred in January, accompanied by a series of thefts of motor vehicles, and a heightened awareness of other forms of less serious but still disturbing criminal activity. This generated a high level of anxiety among many residents and calls for action to improve security on the estate. Working together with the Alert! The Haymillers WhatsApp group moderated by Shashi Gossain, and local residents Amarjit Singh Dassan and latterly Tarun Wasan, your Committee facilitated two public meetings in December and January attended not only by well over 100 residents, but also our local Councillors, MP, London Assembly Member, and senior Police Officers, who listened to, and attempted to respond to our concerns.

Our local Police team is under strength and stretched very thinly over the Ward. There was therefore a strong desire expressed in both meetings and on the WhatsApp group to explore employing a private security patrol on the estate, an idea previously explored in 2014 but taken no further due to minimal levels of support. Your Association facilitated a fresh consultation in February and March of this year covering the whole of the Haymills estate. This consultation did not meet the minimum number necessary to make the proposal for two cars to patrol for 12 hours a day financially viable. However there was still sufficient support to suggest that it would be possible to employ a patrol for a shorter period on a trial basis. This proposal continues to be developed and we will have an opportunity for a more detailed update later in this meeting. I would like to record my thanks to those residents who have put much time and effort into

researching this proposal. To those who have complained that this seems very slow and that the authorities have not acted decisively I would say two things. Firstly financial constraints upon the Police Service and the Council have resulted in cuts in personnel and funding and there is little more that either can do. Secondly both the Executive Committee and concerned local residents are all volunteers willing to give up their time for the benefit of the local community around, in some cases, demanding jobs and family commitments. Please be patient.

If there is anything good to come out of all this it is that there is a greater level of communication and togetherness in our multi-cultural neighbourhood than I have known at any time in nearly twenty-five years. This is witnessed not only in the fact that we have a number of new nominations for your Committee, but also in the way in which people are watching out for each other's homes and property.

As a result of the urgent need to address security concerns other local issues have had to take a lower priority. Your Association has objected strongly to the Shared Use Parking Proposal which would allow estate parking bays not in front of houses to be used by other motorists. We feel that not only does this undermine the purpose of the controlled parking zone but it also makes it easier for criminals to use cars to access the estate. The long-running discussion about putting a width restriction into Boileau Road has had to be abandoned for now as there is no funding at all available for such a project. Your Committee will however be taking up renewed concerns about speeding and misuse of roundabouts in Corringway. I should however note that the most recent roundabout offender I observed was a resident of Beaufort Road – we need to put our own house in order as well as complaining about through traffic.

We continue to monitor and respond to concerns about Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs), and we have been given assurances that more robust action will be taken to prevent irresponsible dog owners from causing fouling in Vale Lane. It is a matter of personal regret that I have not had time to make use of the £1,000 we voted last year to improve Hanger Hill woods as a local amenity. They remain a pleasant and safe place to walk but sadly mistreated by fly-tippers and drinkers.

Having stepped down as your Chairman in 2015 after six years in the role, I reluctantly took it up again in 2017 to ensure the smooth continuation on the Association. I have informed your Committee that due to an increase in my workload both locally and in wider responsibilities I will not be available for re-nomination as Chair of your Association. I will of course continue to support all members of the local community and the work of your Association in any other way I can.

I would like to thank in particular several members of your Committee: Margaret Martin as Vice Chair, Sally Clarkson as Treasurer and latterly also Secretary, and Anthony Lewis who compiles the twice yearly newsletter. I would like to put on record my apologies for fact that I have not in the past year been able to deal as thoroughly as they deserve with some Association matters, but also my thanks to the many of you who have expressed your appreciation for the work which has been done in these difficult times.

2. Estate Matters (excluding crime and security):

Concern was expressed regarding the **removal of the bus shelter on Hanger Lane** between Audley Road and Corringway. Residents wanted to know why it has been removed. Nobody knows anything about it but we will find out and so it will be added to the Agenda of the next meeting.

Concern was also expressed that **night street-lighting has been reduced** to such an extent (50% cut) that security is compromised. It was also mentioned that the abundance of tree foliage on Boileau Road means that light cannot get through to the pavements, thus also compromising security. Both will be added to the Agenda of the next meeting.

It was mentioned that **large bins are being left on the pavement** all the time and this is causing a hazard. In addition there is quite a bit of foliage hanging over garden walls which impedes residents as they pass by. The Chairman concluded that the Association has no power over this but it would be advisable to encourage good behavior by having a quiet word with neighbours on the topic.

There are insufficient **litter bins** placed around tube stations (Hanger Lane and Park Royal). Councillor Sumner advised residents to email him regarding litter/fly tipping concerns and he will pass concerns onto the appropriate department.

The Chairman reminded residents of the **Love Clean Streets** App which enables reporting of fly tipping which the Council then quickly has cleared away.

A resident enquired as to whether there is a **street tree pruning** programme. Councillor Sumner advised for an email to be sent to him which he will send on as appropriate.

Advice was sought as to whether **planning permission** is required for the installation of garden gates and grilles. The Chairman directed residents to the Conservation Area Management Plan to which there is a link on the HHERA website as this sets out planning rules in relation to our conservation area. He also pointed out that garden gates are encouraged on the estate and Geoffrey Sumner clarified that they can be up to a metre from the ground in height before planning permission is required (as set out in the Permitted Development rules, which apply in this instance).

3. Crime and Security – update and discussion:

Tarun Wasan provided the following update on the security consultation:

The private security patrol consultation document was circulated to approximately 750 residences across the Haymills Estate. It was distributed between the 9th and 14th of Feb 2019 and residents were requested to provide a response by the 28th of Feb 2018. It was subsequently agreed with Simon Reed and Amarjit Singh Dassan that the response time would be extended to 10th March to accommodate the school half term break.

Responses were received from 197 households, of which 160 were in favour of private security. 37 declined and were not interested in private security. Of the 160 interested households, 79 consented to contribute up to £60 per month and 81 consented to contribute up to £40 per month. The highest response rate was from Corringway, Beaufort Road and Audley Road. It is believed that the response rate was affected by the high number of short term rented properties, vacant properties and flat blocks on the Estate.

Reasons given by residents not interested included not being able to afford the subscription, a belief that the scheme will make no difference to crime levels and that the police and local council should be addressing the issue of crime.

After the closing date of responses, Simon Reed, Amarjit Singh Dassan and Tarun Wasan, had a follow up meeting to determine the appropriate action. It was decided that there were sufficient respondents to further investigate the possibility of implementing an 8-hour patrol. Accordingly, a 2 car/8 hour proposal has been put forward to the interested residents and responses awaited. It was reiterated that the scheme is for the benefit of the whole estate. It was also noted that the scheme should be administered by a small group which would comprise a small number of HHERA committee members and other interested residents. The details of the scheme would be established in due course.

Since then, a number of security companies have been approached to provide quotes. A two car scheme is required to provide effective security across the estate. To date, five companies have provided quotes and details of services provided. Two companies offer a canine unit (guard and a dog) per car while others offer a guard with a car. It is intended that once up and running the scheme will run for a trial period during which the drop in crime will be monitored and long term feasibility assessed.

Aleksander Turner spoke to inform the residents of the OWL system, which details crime that has occurred and provides preventative advice. She also handed out stickers advertising Neighbourhood Watch and the crime prevention booklets recently issued by the Council on behalf of the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

4. Treasurer's Report:

The receipts and payments account for the year to 31st December 2018 were presented to the meeting.

Excess of receipts over expenditure	£276.25
Donations	£155.00

Proposed: S P Jain
Seconded: M Black

5. Appointment of Independent Examiner:

Colin Easton has signified his willingness to continue auditing the accounts. Thanks were extended to him.

Proposed: A Sahni
Seconded: A Dassan

6. Election of 2019/20 Committee:

The following nominations had been received:

AMIN, Hemal, The Ridings
CLARKSON, Sally, Ashbourne Road
DASSAN, Amarjit Beaufort Road
GILES, Valerie Marryatt Court, Green Vale
GURD, Robert Beaufort Road
HANZA, Ayssar, Ashbourne Road
HOPKINS, Elisabeth Beaufort Close
JERJES, Khalid Chatsworth Road
LEWIS, Anthony, Boileau Road
MARTIN, Margaret Gilbert Court, Green Vale
PENBERTHY, Valerie, Connell Crescent
REED, Simon Beaufort Road
SUMNER, Geoffrey, Thackeray Court
SURI, Harprit, Corringway
THUKRAL, Raj, Corringway
UPPAL, Inder, Beaufort Road
WASAN, Tarun, Corringway

According to the Constitution, the committee should consist of a maximum of 11 members. A paper ballot was conducted and the following members elected:

CLARKSON, Sally, Ashbourne Road
GILES, Valerie Marryatt Court, Green Vale
GURD, Robert Beaufort Road
JERJES, Khalid Chatsworth Road
LEWIS, Anthony, Boileau Road
MARTIN, Margaret Gilbert Court, Green Vale
REED, Simon Beaufort Road
SUMNER, Geoffrey, Thackeray Court
THUKRAL, Raj, Corringway
UPPAL, Inder, Beaufort Road
WASAN, Tarun, Corringway

7. Any Other Business:

There was none.

**Sally Clarkson
May 2019**