



# MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015 AT DORSET ROAD SCHOOL.

### PRESENT

Laurie Bell - Deputy Chair (LB)	Sally Bettesworth (SB)
Robert Blanks (RB)	Astrid Chklar (AC)
Jane Cornish (JC)	Margaret Henderson (MH)
Ross Howie (JH)	Liz Keable – (In the Chair) (LK)
Richard Mainwaring-Burton (RM-B)	Rebecca Young (RY)

### IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr David Cartwright (DC)  
PC Peter Wilkinson (Bromley ) (PW)

### APOLOGIES

Cllr John Hills	Krishna Patel
Mayur Patel	Cllr Charles Rideout
Margaret Southam	

### MRA 15-131 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.

The Minutes of the Meeting of 19th November 2014 were approved as a correct record subject to the correction of a duplication.

### MRA 15-132 MATTERS ARISING

- 14-121-1** Contact with Eltham College  
LB has agreed to take over liaison with Eltham College and has asked the new Head to either join the Committee or nominate another member of the College to do so. DC advised that he recently met with the Head to discuss parking in Mottingham Lane. The Head is very aware of the problem and has promised to try to do something about it.  
*(Post meeting Note: Eltham College have designated Mr Edmund Cavendish, Master of the Junior School to join the Executive Committee.)*
- 14-121-2** Happy Child Nurseries: as no contribution to the Festive Lights appeal was received no acknowledgement had been sent.
- 14-121-4** SB advised that work on the new shop was progressing but the new shopkeeper was negotiating to acquire the freehold which she is pleased about. DC advised that he was keeping a close watch as there were potential fire hazards that needed to be dealt with.
- 14-126** Facilitating e-communications: RM-B advised that no progress has been made to date.
- 14-130-5** Skills recruiting: No further progress to date.

## **MRA 15-133 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

### **133-1 Bromley Police**

PC Wilkinson gave a brief summary of local crime and advised that, as forecast, there was an increase in burglaries around Christmas. In some cases residents advertised their new acquisitions by leaving packaging out for everyone to see.

There has also been a dramatic increase in the theft of Mopeds and Motorcycles probably for spare parts. In most cases the vehicles had been recovered near the borough boundaries often burnt out. This was not specific to Bromley as the same problem has occurred in neighbouring Greenwich and Lewisham.

DC raised the issue of relocating problem families and PW confirmed that two such families had been moved on recently.

### **133-2 Greenwich Police**

With no representative from Greenwich police present RH advised that the problems described by PW in relation to Bromley applied to Greenwich as well. The Greenwich SNP has only just got going but will be a much smaller and hopefully more manageable panel than its predecessor.

DC raised the issue of speeding in West Park, RH agreed to take this up with Cllr Hills.

### **133-3 Bromley Federation**

RH advised he had not been able to attend the last meeting due to a clash of commitments. He planned to attend the next meeting on Feb 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **133-4 Planning – Bromley**

LK advised that the appeal regarding the Elms had been rejected.

The application re 52 Grove Park Rd had also been rejected but will be going to appeal.

### **133-5 Planning Greenwich**

RB advised that no new applications of note had been listed on Greenwich's website although he was not too confident about its accuracy having raised some concerns with the planning department as yet without response.

RB also advised that Cllr Hills has requested the Planning enforcement office to close down the new shop at 282-286 Court Rd pending submission of an appropriate planning application.

## **MRA 15-134 THE FESTIVE LIGHTS COMMITTEE (FLC)**

RB advised that few donations were received this although a general appeal had not gone out as we had received a significant grant. Due to the incorrect wiring of one lamp column the tree near William Hills had not been lit up as planned but everything else seemed to be OK. Remaining funds of £3566.70 will be carried forward to next year.

## **MRA 15-135 THE PORCUPINE PUB - UPDATE**

Having noted that Lidl's appeal had been rejected, we now await Lidl's next move.

RB confirmed that the PDC was alerting prospective Brewers and Pub cos to the situation and getting ready to respond quickly to any opportunity that comes forth.

It was confirmed that finding a suitable buyer was the priority and attempting to run the pub as a community asset would be a last resort. LK confirmed that she had asked Bromley to issue a section A4 direction although some confusion existed as to whether this would lay them open to claims for compensation.

### **MRA 15-136 FINANCIAL POLICY**

The amended draft was approved as a statement of policy to be reviewed probably every three to four years. RB raised concern about reference to Financial Guidelines of which he had been unable to find any trace. It was agreed that some brief guidelines should be incorporated into the Policy Document itself. RB to consider this.

### **MRA 15-137 AGM**

It was agreed that we would cover the details of the AGM at the March meeting however thought should be given to whether or not we should have a speaker. It was agreed that we should and the topics of The Red House (deferred from last year) or a presentation on the history and recent development of the Tarn would be good topics. LK to organise.

Members were asked to suggest names for new Committee officers to be considered at the March meeting with particular emphasis on the Chair as the current Chair would not be standing for re-election.

### **MRA 15-138 NEWSLETTER.**

Every effort should be made to have this ready for distribution by September 1<sup>st</sup> which means final discussion on the topic at the July meeting. AC agreed to speak with Charles Barnard who agreed to do an article on Floristry although had not been able to meet the deadline for the last issue.

RM-B agreed to approach a local cricketer re a possible article to fit in with the 100 year anniversary of W G Grace's death at Fairmount, Mottingham Lane. LB advised that he might have a copy of W G Graces obituary that could be included. RM-B would also speak to someone about a possible article on the Band or the Barbershop group the 'Kentones'.

It was suggested that a list of local organisations be included but it was pointed out that this was usually included with the AGM Notice.

DC noted the ad hoc performance by two local opera singers at the recent retirement of the Head of Dorset Rd School and thought they might be approached to do something similar at the AGM.

### **MRA – 15-139 CHAIR'S REPORT**

LK drew attention to the threat to the Library and reminded everyone to submit their comments to Bromley Council pointing out that the Library was an important part of the local education system as well as being used for a local surgery by both Police and Councillors.

### **MRA 15-140 TREASURER'S REPORT**

In the absence of Krishna Patel who is still unwell there was no Treasurer's report.

### **MRA 15-141 MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT**

RM-B raised concern about the apparently convoluted process for dealing with paperwork on Membership and undertook to review this. The difficulty of obtaining access to the flats between Mottingham Road and Beaconsfield was raised again as there are some 80+ households that are not represented. It was suggested that we resort to mailing letters to each flat and ask for volunteers to act as 'Road stewards' in each block.

## **MRA-15-142 LOCAL ISSUES AND MEMBER'S CONCERNS**

MH advised that one resident had approached her about the parking of Vans at Mottingham Station. It was also noted that the Car Valeting service operating from AVA cars was also causing a problem as water running down the road quickly froze in this weather making things very treacherous. RH will draw the matter to the attention of Cllr Hills.

DC drew attention to the 'Fix my Street' facility on Bromley's website as it tended to produce quick results.

RH raised concern about the disappearance of the waste bin at the bottom of Beaconsfield Road. DC advised this was deliberate as it was being misused with several people dumping household rubbish in or by it. RB drew attention to the email from Nicola Musto regarding clean up dates that was circulated with the notice.

## **MRA-15-143 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

LB warned of substantial cuts coming up on Youth spending by Bromley. DC pointed out that Bromley was being hit harder than most other boroughs by Budget cuts and this coupled with the increase on the number of areas where they were statutorily obligated to provide services meant that discretionary spending was being hit harder. It was suggested that some Youth projects could be funded from the Lottery money granted to the Castlecombe area although this was out of our control.

(Post meeting note: The Lottery Funds are not allowed to be used for projects previously funded by the Council)

DC also drew attention that Dorset Rd School was currently sharing a Head with 2 other schools as no applications for the post had been received following the retirement of the last Head. There was also one teacher vacancy still open. It was noted that, due to population growth, within 5 years there will be inadequate school places in London generally and Bromley specifically.

It was noted that the next meeting on March 26 clashes with a meeting of Bromley Community Action Panel. (Post meeting note: the CAP meeting has subsequently been moved)

## **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS.**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November

AGM Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015

	<b>When by</b>	<b>By Whom</b>
<i>14-126 facilitating e-communications</i>	<i>ASAP</i>	<i>MP-RM-B</i>
<i>14-130-5 Skills recruiting</i>	<i>29 Jan 2015</i>	<i>All</i>
<i>15-133-2 Speeding in West Park RH to take up with Cllr Hills</i>	<i>ASAP</i>	<i>RH</i>
<i>15-136 Redraft Financial Policy RB to consider 'safeguards'</i>	<i>ASAP</i>	<i>RB</i>
<i>15-137 AGM speaker</i>	<i>ASAP</i>	<i>LK</i>
<i>15-137 Nominees for officers</i>	<i>ASAP</i>	<i>ALL</i>
<i>15-138 Ideas for the 2015 Newsletter</i>	<i>March 26</i>	<i>AC, RM-B</i>
<i>15-142 Parking and surface water at Mottingham Station</i>	<i>ASAP</i>	<i>RH</i>

