

Smalley Road Estate - TRA Meeting + Enhanced Meeting – Wed 22 June 2016

Present: Lucy Serjeant, Mary Laughlin, Janice Desler, Olani Adesina (Hackney Homes), Barry Faulkner, Tony Slater, Michelle ?, Kirsty ?, Rosa Reske + one other lady (Simone?).

Point of order – this meeting was attended by 8 people and there should be 10 people to form a quorum but has agreed for this meeting to go ahead.

Annual General Meeting

1. Introductions

2. Chairpersons Report

3. Treasurers Report

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|-----------------------|-----------|
| 2015 June balance | £3,674.66 |
| 2016 June balance | £3,327.17 |
| 2014/2015 income | £ 750.00 |
| 2014/2015 expenditure | £ 991.90 |
| Current balance | £5,069.07 |

A cheque that was drawn for Fiona Whitty (film project) to the value of £1,000.00 but never presented and has expired has been written back. Expenditure is a positive therefore because of the written back cheque.

4. Election of TRA Committee

Chairman – Lucy was nominated and seconded. All agreed.

Vice Chairman – Andrew Grillett – nominated and elected in his absence.

Treasurer – Mary nominated and seconded. All agreed.

Secretary – Janice nominated and seconded. All agreed.

Committee members – Tony Slater, Barry Faulkner, Rosa Reske

Enhanced Tenants & Residents Association Meeting

1. Update on issues from last meeting

Dampness in front bedroom ceilings from flats above. After having had contact with Rachel Tracey on this subject just before the last meeting we have heard nothing more from her and haven't had any contact direct from other residents with the same sort of problem either directly or via the website.

Action: Janice will email Rachel again to see if she has had any update from the people who had contacted her as we do not have contact details for them and only addresses for some of them.

The plants supplied to us under the EIB budget have been received and distributed and the ordering of sleepers for raised flower beds is being dealt with by Lucy and she has advised where they are to go.

2. Environmental Improvement Budget /184 Funding 2016 – Walk around

The 184 budget is for repair of things that need them but not for improvements. Most things asked for in this respect are done.

The lamp in the big playground at the corner of Brooke Rd still needs to be seen to.

The question was raised about when the bin chamber doors in Cottage Walk and Smalley Close will be done.

The question was raised about the poles that used to hold up the old parking times and other information and it was asked when they are going to either be removed or re-used.

The light in the alleyway by the old persons' block has been seen to.

Playgrounds – repair has been carried out at the large one at the corner of Brooke Road – the resurfacing needs to be put right.

The potholes in the roadway by Cottage Walk need to be dealt with.

3. Community events

There was a planting day on the 4th June where Busy Lizzies, Geraniums, Marigolds and Lavender plants were supplied under the EIB budget and the estate was leafleted, notices put in the both the notice boards and website. All the plants were given out to the residents.

The website is now up and running and any news is put up as soon as possible as well as notices put in the notice boards as necessary.

The craft/knitting group is still running although poorly attended. Janice has decided to carry on but the lack of engagement by the residents has been noted.

4. Parking

At the last meeting Olani was not able to give a conclusive answer as there was about to be a meeting in Council. We requested the new signage should be more descriptive but Olani told us it is Council policy to use the signs saying "Permit Holders Only".

Parking Permits – Rosa Reske is concerned that her visitors parking permits have the date of issue rubber stamped at the bottom of each one and that the permit says they are valid for 6 months from the date of issue. Olani confirmed these can still be used as there are no expiry dates any more and also said that any permits with “expired” dates on can be exchanged if she is concerned but that the wardens are aware they are to take no notice of the expiry date. The important thing is to ensure the full date is scratched off and the car registration number filled in.

Parking Wardens – Olani told us that the wardens sometimes have “surges” of inspection but this is usually done when residents request it. It was stated to him that wardens have visited after 9pm and Olani said this was new to him.

5. Filming in summer

Fiona and Jenny’s film has the go-ahead as they have got a grant for it and filming will be carried out in August. The film will be about the history of the area and 10 or so young people will be needed both for interviewing and filming, editing etc. When finished there will be a showing at the community flat and it will also possibly be available to view online.

6. AOB

Estate Surgery - A resident has a copy of a form showing the times for the estate surgery dated 2015 and asked if it was still valid. Mary explained that the lady who ran the surgery is now doing a different job at the Council and the surgery is no longer one of her responsibilities and Olani informs that the surgery has been withdrawn. We asked if the position can be clarified and he will find out for us.

He said that after the restructuring things should settle down and hopefully the surgery will resume at some time.

Note: The idea was put forward that the repairs surgery should be changed to a general surgery and it was put to Olani that the service is still needed which was confirmed by Rosa who explained that she finds it easier to speak directly to a person rather than on the telephone as she is not otherwise always understood clearly due to her thick accent.

Bread put out for pigeons - There has been bread put out for pigeons which is attracting rats, mice and foxes. We have asked that a letter from Council telling people not to do this should be sent out to all residents. Barry has actually seen rats so this is a matter of urgency. There is also evidence that the local high street restaurants are dumping their rubbish in/around our big rubbish bins which is aggravating the problem.

Flytipping - Janice raised the issue about local businesses using our bins (see previous point) and asked whether they should be paying business waste rates and using that service instead.

Graffiti – Eray is to be told about the graffiti on the wall by Etem’s plaque. (Note – between the meeting and the typing of these minutes this has been painted out).

Insurance – Mary has been trying to get quotes for this and will continue to do so.

Mary attended a meeting and reported to them that the slope near Lawrence Court is being used as a toilet as well of the drug dealing that is going on there. A police patrol is needed again. Olani said that according to their figures we are not a drugs hot spot.

Decent Homes – note, this is now the Hackney Investment Programme.

Nick Walker has been brought in and Richard Hazard is the manager. We are told that if works are not completed properly and signed off the contractors will not be paid.

Rewiring – there are not yet any dates for the rewiring of Clevedon and Garnham closes.

Other works – nothing yet in the pipeline.

Mullaley have been giving quotes but now obtaining quotes from Waites as Mullaley are too expensive.

Skyvacs purchased so now gutters can be cleaned without the need for scaffolding. Child officers have been appointed.

Neighbourhood Watch - Mary and Janice attended a police open day in June and were approached by a lady who was trying to get neighbourhood watches set up. This is a good idea but only if residents take active part in it as this is how they are be run. A notice about it will be put on the website to see if any interest is shown.

7. Dates of next meeting

Wednesday 14 September 2016

Wednesday 18 January 2017

Wednesday 12 April 2017

Wednesday 21 June 2017 (AGM)

All at 7.30 pm.