

**MINUTES OF THE KENDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Held in the Kenley Memorial Hall on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

**Present:** Sheila Morris – Chairman, John Davenport – Secretary and various other Committee Members and about 55 residents.

**Apologies:** Steve Gayfer from Streetscene; Carole Streeter and Andy Spencer-Jones from the Committee.

**1. Sheila Morris** opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and outlined the agenda for the evening.

**2. Tree Preservation in the Borough of Croydon – Robert Snodin Tree Preservation Officer**

Robert opened his presentation by explaining that this would cover; i. Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)/Conservation areas, ii Trees and Planning. He provided a legal definition of a tree as being a large plant made of wood with branches high from the ground, this applied to a variety of plants.

i. Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas–

- TPOs were made by the Local Planning Authority and this prohibited the cutting down, lopping and uprooting of trees without permission of the Authority. These Orders could cover individual trees, groups of trees and even complete areas in which everything was protected. Decisions on making an order on trees involved their visual amenity, their being in good health and condition – and therefore worthy of preservation – and that they could be under threat of removal or excessive pruning.
- People can object to TPOs but this must be within 28 days of their issue and they must have good reason - such as the tree is dying or dangerous. People can also support the issue of TPOs. A TPO will be confirmed after 28 days unless there are two or more objections in which case the Planning Committee has to decide. The Committee can confirm the Order with or without modification.
- Trees can be exempt from TPOs if they are either dead or dangerous; can be felled as part of full planning permission; or that they come within a statutory undertaking such as an infrastructure project.
- The London Borough of Croydon takes the preservation of trees in the Borough seriously. Fines up to £2,500 can be levied for illegal pruning and up to £20,000 for destroying a tree. There are unlimited fines for removing a preserved tree.
- Trees in Conservation Areas – these are areas of special interest and are designated by the Local Authority. Any work on trees requires 6 weeks notice in these cases.

ii. Trees and Planning Applications

- When considering Planning Applications and the effects on the trees is a consideration, the Local Authority can modify the conditions to take account of them. TPOs can also be used to protect trees during the development work.
- As part of the planning process a survey and categorisation of the trees can be undertaken and pre-application discussions can take place. The outcome of this is a tree preservation plan.
- At the design stage of the development a tree protection plan has to be produced which includes a construction exclusion zone, approved tree retention and removal and a requirement for new trees to be planted.
- The Local Authority can serve an enforcement notice on the developer to ensure that the trees are preserved. However the process requires cooperation between the residents, the developer, the landowner and the Local Authority.

iii. Answers to questions from the floor

- The number of TPOs in Croydon number 4720.
- There is no solution to the leaf mite and the bacteria infecting Horse Chestnut trees; concern was expressed given trees in Kenley are affected by these.

**3. Minutes of the General Meeting October 2008**

Approved - It was noted that the minutes had not been printed in the latest edition of the KENDRA Newsletter although these were available on the website.

#### **4. Matters Arising from the General Meeting**

- Fly tipping and litter Old Lodge Lane is a continuing problem.
- The Newsletter was widely distributed in April with the aim to increase membership. A report on the outcome will be given at the October meeting.

#### **5. Chairman's Review of the Year**

Sheila Morris reported on the main activities of the Committee over the past year:

- **Planning –**
  - Geoff James had been keeping people up to date on applications in the area and there had been a number of successes in opposing developments.
  - There had been a Planning Workshop in February but this had attracted a poor turnout.
- **Environment -**
  - Litter in the area has been a problem over the last year and David Hooper attended a committee Meeting to put residents concerns to Councillors. Of particular concern was the amount of litter in the Old Lodge Lane area and around the Kenley Arms and Norfolk Terrace. A "litter pick" was organised by Councillors along the airfield on February and there will be another along Old Lodge Lane on 16<sup>th</sup> May.
  - There has been concern about the speed and amount of traffic along Hayes Lane. Pot holes around the area had been dealt with quickly by the council although there were still some problems with these along Hermitage Road.
  - There had been discussion about the value of the Purley and Kenley Neighbourhood Partnership to the residents of Kenley. However after some debate in the Committee it was felt that it was worth continuing to be involved as what happened in Purley affected the residents of Kenley.
  - There had been successes on Policing in the area although there was still concern about the increase of burglaries and car crime.
- **Social events –**
  - The Committee had supported a number of local activities through contributions, including the Kenley Common Fun Day in 2008, the Kenley Airfield Friends Group and the Friends of Foxley Woods. The Committee intended to support the 2009 Fun day which may include a Spitfire landing at the airfield.
- Sheila expressed the committee's thanks to Chris Baguley who was standing down as a committee member to give him time to pursue other interests. He had been involved with KENDRA for 20 years and in appreciation for his efforts the Committee had agreed to give him a gift of book tokens.

#### **6. Motion for Proposed revisions to Subscriptions**

Sheila reported that although they were having a drive to recruit more Area and Road Stewards, there were difficulties with finding sufficient people to take on these duties. They were therefore reorganising the arrangements so that residents, if they wished, could receive the Newsletter by post where was no Road Steward to deliver it. For this the Committee proposed that with effect from 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009 the annual subscription rates should be:

- New members £2 per household
- Existing single members £1 per household
- Postal membership £3 per household.

After discussion the meeting proposed that there should be a flat rate of £2 per household from 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009 for all members receiving the Newsletter by Road Steward. This was carried by 38 votes in favour. A revised proposal for £2 per year for all members and for £3 per year for postal members was therefore carried by 45 votes for with 2 against.

#### **7. Presentation of Accounts for 2008**

The auditors had had some issues about the Treasurer's revised presentation of the accounts which conformed to more modern accounting practices. Although the accounts had been produced in the old format for this year, in 2010 they would be produced in a more appropriate format for accounts reporting. The meeting had no objections to this new approach.

## 8. Independent Examiners

Tony Lowe would be standing down as an auditor and the Committee would be finding a replacement. Carl Roche had agreed to continue subject to conditions. A letter from him was read to the meeting saying that it depended on who replaced Tony but that he thought that a professional auditor should be selected. The Committee would be looking for a new auditor during the course of the year.

## 9. Election of Committee

The Committee proposed the meeting elect the officers and members of the Committee through a block vote. The following were elected by 42 votes in favour with no objections.

Chairman:	Sheila Morris
Vice Chairman:	Ian Waite
Secretary:	John Davenport
Membership Secretary:	Keith Inglis
Treasurer:	Carole Streeter
Planning:	Geoff James
Minutes Secretary:	Brian Morris
Conservation:	VACANT
FOSCRA:	VACANT
Newsletter Editor:	Roger Sharp
Planning Assistant:	John Payne
Police Liaison:	Phil Royse
Public Relations:	VACANT
Social:	VACANT
Website Co-ordinator:	Andy Spencer-Jones
Member:	Chris Stanley

## 10. Q&A Panel

The Panel was formed of Cllrs Steve O'Connell, Steve Hollands and Jan Buttinger; PC Simon Packham; Jane Gosnell, LBC/Streetscene; Geoff James, KENDRA/Planning

1. Concern was expressed about the **state of Norfolk Parade with litter and rubbish** from the shops and flats. Some flower baskets could help improve the looks of the Parade. *Steve O'Connell said he would into this and will report back through the Newsletter.*

2. The state of the **road surface at the end of Hayes Lane** where it meets Buxton Lane. Tandridge Council were due to complete the surfacing of Buxton Lane however part of Hayes Lane at the Council boundary was the joint responsibility of both councils. Jan Buttinger said that both councils had yet to meet to arrange the completion of the resurfacing.

3. The **speed of traffic in Station Road** coming from Hayes Lane was a concern as there was a fear that eventually there will be an accident. PC Simon Packham said they would need to focus on that road although this would be difficult as Traffic Officers were stretched. There was a road monitoring scheme which included residents and this might be one way forward. If driver were caught speeding under this scheme then they would be sent a warning letter.

4. A resident said that Valley Road had **problems on Friday and Saturday nights with unruly behaviour by youths who leaving rubbish and beer cans in people's gardens. Vandalism of cars was also a particular problem.** Kenley Lane was also affected with litter being left in people's gardens up as far as St Winifreds. Cars speeding in the area were also a concern. Others mentioned similar problems in Roke Road. PC Simon Packham said that the police have to catch these individuals at it in order to prosecute. Car crime was a priority for the force but residence should ensure that their cars were securely locked with no valuables (such as SatNavs) left in them.

5. The council had recently been **using large trucks to collect recyclable rubbish** which were damaging trees. They had been using smaller trucks before so could they go back to these. *Jan Buttinger said that she would look into this.*

6. **Fly tipping in Old Lodge Lane** was a continuing problem and more severe penalties were needed and advertised on the site to tackle this. Jane Gosnell said that the council were frequently dealing with this and

that that Probation Service was using individuals as part of the Community Payback scheme to clear up the litter. Steve O'Connell said that the areas should be getting a Neighbourhood Enforcement Officer by the end of the year to help tackle this problem.

7. **Kenley Airfield parking on the bend in Hayes Lane again.** PC Simon Packham said that signs had been put up but had been removed. They were looking at the possibility of using a permanent sign.

8. Residents expressed concern about **the closure of the footpath between Betts Mead and Driftwood Drive.** Steve O'Connell said that he had been involved with the owner of the land which was private. He suggested that residents could apply to have it made into a Right of Way although the legal process could be expensive and possibly fruitless.

## 11. AOB

1. John Davenport pointed out that not all residents were receiving copies of "Your Croydon". *Jan Buttinger was looking into this.*
2. The Committee were asked about their position on the future of Kenley Memorial Hall. Sheila Morris said that their position was as users of the hall only. It was up to the Trustees to decide about its future. Chris Baguley thought that as the Hall was at the centre of the community the Trustees should show leadership on the issue.