

KENLEY AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Kenley Memorial Hall, 26 April 2016, 7:45pm

Present: Chair – Chris Stanley (Vice Chairman), Anthony Lewis, John Davenport, Geoff James, Mike van der Vord. Councillors: Jan Buttinger, Steve Hollands, Steve O'Connell.

In attendance 60 members, so consequently the meeting was quorate. Additionally, 3 visitors.

1. Chairman's welcome, apologies for absence:

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, and reminded the audience that the meeting is recorded for the purpose of doing minutes. Apologies were received from Phil Royse, Jane Highfield, Police. The agenda is given in the latest Kendra magazine but the running order is changed as the Speaker would be a little late.

2. Guest Speaker – Chris Philp, MP for Croydon South:

A bright and entertaining chat giving something of his background, and the highlights and surprises of his first year as an MP. Particular concerns: lobbying for improved patient care at Purley Hospital; holding Southern Rail to account for its appalling local service; objection to the proposed Purley skyscraper; the establishment of the Purley BID. This last is managed by Simon Cripps, to whom suggestions should be sent.

Thanks to CP were proposed by SOC, also for his energy and support at the Hawkhurst Road appeal hearing.

3. Minutes of KENDRA GM, October 2015:

The Chair explained that no minutes had been prepared for that meeting as there had been no volunteers for the position of Minutes Secretary.

4. Matters Arising:

No matters arising could be considered as there were no minutes.

5. Review of the Year:

The Chair thanked his fellow Committee members for all their efforts during the course of the year, particularly Geoff James for his work on Planning, and Anthony Lewis for his extensive understanding of Police and Local Government issues. Three members (Richard Cowper, Marilyn Poulton and Phil Royse) had had to stand down for personal reasons, and the Chair thanked them for their efforts whilst serving on the committee. Chris Stanley has stepped down as Vice-Chairman, and assumed the role of Treasurer *pro tem*.

Association Matters:

- (i) The Chair informed the meeting that the committee has made considerable efforts to attract new members and new committee members, through leaflet drops, newsletter articles, notices on the website and Streetlife. However, none of these initiatives have had the desired effect.
- (ii) The committee would like to have a Kendra Facebook page, however, this has not yet been progressed.
- (iii) The committee now has many vacancies, with only 6 members, and the Chair appealed to the audience to see if any of them could help, and to think if they knew of anybody else who might be available. This appeal was heard in a stony silence.
- (iv) There has also been a drop of 300 in Kendra members: this is largely due to there now being fewer Road Stewards and there is an urgent need for more. The Chair thanked all Road Stewards, particularly the many who were at the meeting.
- (v) Another problem is that there are now Area Stewards only for 6 of the 13 Kenley Areas.
- (vi) If Kendra cannot increase its committee size, and prevent any further decrease in membership, then there was a real risk that the Association would fold in a few short years.

Newsletter:

- (vii) We now have a solid team in place, and thanks are due to Tony Heal, Tony Avery, and Simon Lewsey for their excellent work over the last few issues.

Area Issues:

- (viii) The Association has taken part in the Airfield and Heritage Days, both financially and by having a stall at the events themselves.
- (ix) The campaign regarding the Minor Injuries Unit at Purley Hospital achieved a partial success with the promise of longer opening hours and a more comprehensive range of services.
- (x) Damage to verges is increasing, particularly on Hayes Lane and upper Old Lodge Lane. Options were discussed to provide bollards of some sort at the sides of the roads, or width restrictions: both of these have problems, and no clear course of action appeared. MVV, Mike Lott and Paul Hollis were thanked for having created a path through Betts Mead woods parallel to Hayes Lane, between Welcomes Lane and Golf Road: this will improve pedestrian safety.
- (xi) There will be further disruption, probably later this year, when work restarts on the Old Lodge Lane railway bridge, and on the Hayes Lane gas main. GJ agreed to a request to put information about these problems in the email circulars when details become available.
- (xii) Fly tipping is an ever-present problem in the area. The latest issue is that LBC will not accept tins of used paint, so these are starting to be seen at sides of roads: however, a reply stated that LBC could be phoned and they would come and pick up the tins.
- (xiii) There have been no further applications for the KENDRA Community Youth Grant, so this initiative will be discontinued *pro tem*.

Crime:

- (xiv) Kenley has become a Burglary hotspot over the last 2 years, and it is noted that this has coincided with the relocation of Police to New Addington: they are less visible than once they were.
- (xv) However, the SmartWater project has been a great success in that there have been no repeat burglaries in or near to the properties covered. AL reported that 190 kits had been delivered, with a further 90 yet to be issued; kits can be obtained at a discount from Neighbourhood Watch.

6. Reports from Local Groups:

- (i) Alan Morgan stated that the Heritage Lottery Fund money had been received, and the Project started in January 2016 with appointment of a Project Manager and an Education Officer. A volunteers' induction meeting with refreshments will be held at The Arc, Weston Drive, Caterham, at 4-6.30 pm on 11 May. In June, the Tribute will be moved 10m northwards to allow the nearby Blast Pen to be rebuilt; in July, work will be started on the Rifle Range; new signage will be installed in the autumn. Heritage Day will be 11 September.
- (ii) Mike Street stated that the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight will be Sunday 14 August this year.
- (iii) Carl Roche stated that Friends of Foxley were active, and would welcome new volunteers.

7. Treasurer - Presentation and acceptance of Accounts:

- (i) CS stated that abbreviated accounts were published in the newsletter, and highlighted that advertising and subscription revenue have fallen significantly, but that the Association continues to break even.
- (ii) Income from the Amazons affiliate program has now exceeded £2,000. CS encouraged members to use the Amazon link on the website, as each Amazon transaction generates a small amount of income for KENDRA but does not cost the user any more than going direct through Amazon.
- (iii) Acceptance of the accounts proposed by C Roche, seconded by B Reed and approved *nem con*.

8. Thanks to, and Election of, Independent Examiner:

Thanks were offered to Louise Turner for independently examining the accounts for 2015, and for agreeing to continue for the current year. Reappointment approved *nem con*.

9. **Election of Committee:**

The Chair read out the list of nominations for the Committee:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Chairman: | VACANT |
| Vice Chairman: | VACANT |
| Hon Secretary: | VACANT |
| Hon Minuting Secretary: | VACANT |
| Hon Membership Secretary: | John Davenport |
| Hon Planning Officer: | Geoff James |
| Hon Treasurer: | Chris Stanley |
| Newsletter Editor: | Tony Heal |
| Police Liaison: | Anthony Lewis |
| Website Co-ordinator: | VACANT |
| Transport: | VACANT |
| Conservation: | Mike van der Vord |
| Health: | VACANT |
| Social: | VACANT |
| Committee member: | Tony Avery. |

None of the Committee posts are contested, so no election is necessary. Approved *nem con*.

10. **Motion: “KENDRA basic subscription to be maintained at £3 per household for 2017”:**

The Committee recommended that the subscription remain at the current level of £3.00 per household. There were no questions on this issue and the motion was carried *nem con*.

11. **Motion “That the Expenditure limit should be £1,500”:**

The Chair explained that the expenditure limit is the amount that the Committee can authorise expenditure for, without getting prior approval from the membership. The limit was set at £1,500 to allow the Committee to authorise expenditure for the magazine. There were no questions and the motion was carried *nem con*.

12. **Motion to amend Rule 3.1 of the Kendra Constitution:**

The proposed amendment to the Kendra area is given on page 7 of the Spring 2016 magazine. One change clarifies the eastern edge; the other is an extension northwards to take over Densham Drive, all of Highland Road, and the southern part of Higher Drive: these last have been agreed with PWRA. Carried *nem con*.

13. **Motion to amend Rule 8.3 of the Kendra Constitution:**

The proposed amendment is given on page 7 of the Spring 2016 magazine. The change enables committee meetings to be held by electronic means even when a member cannot be contacted. Carried *nem con*.

14. **Q&A Panel, with Cllr Steve O'Connell (LBC & GLA member), LBC Cllrs Jan Buttinger and Steve Hollands, and Chris Philp MP:**

The chair informed the meeting that this evening did not coincide with the Police rota, so, though invited, no Police were present. SOC will take this point up with senior Police officers, as they should be able to give a good account of themselves.

Q. What threats to the area would arise from a Labour London Mayor ?

A. CS: The Croydon Local Plan indicated an intensification of housing density in a zone of approximately 400m radius from Kenley Station.

Q. The gaps between train and platform are dangerously large at several local stations: what can be done to reduce these ?

A. CP: Will take this up with Southern Rail management.

A. Floor: Can contact Southern before the journey and they will arrange for members of staff to place the ramps to allow safe boarding and alighting.

Q. Why is new housing permitted on Greenfield land at Surrey Golf Club ?

A. CP: Is objecting to Tandridge. Believes there are many brownfield sites available.

Q. When will the new Green Waste collection scheme start ?

A. Floor: Has started, and poll of those present showed all but one had had their waste collected on time.

Q. What can be done to reduce the serious delays and congestion at and around Croydon recycling depots ?

A. SOC: Will take this up with LBC.

Q. One attendee regretted the changes to the design of the Kendra magazine front cover, and asked if the size of the logo could be increased to its previous size ?

A. TH & TA: The size reduction is part of the modernisation of the magazine.

Q. Can the new streetlights near Foxley Road be relocated to remove the dark gaps ?

A. SOC: Will take this up with LBC.

Q. Was the meeting aware that Fairfield Halls would be closed for 2 years for refurbishment ?

A. JB: LBC has not handled this matter well. They do not yet have final plans for the work to be carried out, but Hall closure is expected soon.

Q. What can be done to protect the verges on Hayes Lane and prevent use by over-wide vehicles ?

A. GJ: Kendra is considering installation of bollards. Also have been pushing LBC to insist that all major works prepare a Construction Method Statements, which *inter alia* would lay down how materials and equipment will be delivered taking account of local road limitations.

A. Panel: Can investigate use of bollards, width restrictions, and signage.

Q. What can be done about the potholes in Park Road ?

A. JB: Pothole repair is not as good as it used to be but residents are encouraged to report potholes to LBC.

Q. Is there any news on the HEPA appeal ?

A. SOC: The appeal hearing lasted over 6 hours, followed by a site visit. Result not expected for about 6 weeks. Even if successful, could be a year before the site is cleared.

15. AOB:

It was suggested that too much information was given on the website, so there was little incentive for people to pay a sub. GJ explained that the important weekly email updates were only sent to members.

Vote of thanks proposed by C Roche to the Chairman and the committee.

Meeting Close: 10.05pm.

The Chair had informed the meeting that the Association President for the year was to be Cllr Jan Buttinger, but this was queried at the time. It has now been resolved that the President for 2016 should be Cllr Steve O'Connell.