

# **KENLEY AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

## ***MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING***

**Kenley Memorial Hall, 24 April 2018, 7:45pm**

Present: Chairman – Chris Stanley (Treasurer), Anthony Lewis, John Davenport, Geoff James, Mike van der Vord, Tony Avery, Jane Highfield. Councillors: Jan Buttinger, Steve O'Connell.

In attendance, Our MP Chris Philp, 2 Councillors as noted above, 3 Members of the Local Policing Team and 57 members, so consequently the meeting was quorate.

### **1. Chairman's welcome, apologies for absence:**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, advised attendees to be aware of Fire Exits in case of need and reminded the audience that the meeting is recorded for the purpose of doing minutes. He also mentioned copies of the Accounts and Minutes of the Autumn General Meeting were available for any who wished to look at a copy. Apologies were received from Sheila and Brian Morris, Councillor Steve Hollands and Friends of Foxley. The agenda is given in the latest Kendra magazine as follows, but starting with an additional guest speaker our local MP:

### **2. Guest Speaker 1) Chris Philp, MP for Croydon South**

CP recounted that he had addressed the AGM two years ago as a newly elected MP. He is aware of Kendra being one of the prominent southern RAs and thanked the committee and the local Councillors for their energetic activities to protect, support, and encourage the environment and its surroundings. He focused on the three issues he had discussed last time:

1. Purley Hospital. A 'win' situation in getting the Croydon Clinical Commissioning Group to increase its opening hours from afternoons only to all day (8am – 8pm) every day 365 days a year.
2. Purley Skyscraper. Although a 17 storey building was approved by Croydon Council and Mayor of London, the decision was called in by the Government Housing Minister for a public enquiry. This enquiry lasted 8 days in January at which CP spoke and was cross examined for 2.5 hours. The outcome should be known by late summer/early Autumn.
3. Southern Rail/Network and particularly GTR's incompetence at running this service. Ongoing Driver/Guards strike actions now largely resolved in this region, Cancellations, timetable issues, journey delays because of pinchpoint areas within this Southern region of London and signal failures – the age of outdated equipment. He mentioned that London Bridge would soon be fully re-opened to boost their intake of trains. He has also lobbied the Transport Minister and has secured a commitment for a 300million upgrade for the Central rail network to commence in about one year. A larger £1billion tranche to improve the 'Windmill Junction' area would have to wait.

Questions put to CP included: a) New timetables showing Caterham trains only going to London Bridge, and not Victoria so changes needed at East Croydon b) Lack of Rail staff available to assist disabled passenger (even having been told of pre-advised travel arrangements) and c) Possibility of transport to reach all areas of Kenley (CP will liaise with SOC, who had received a similar recent enquiry)

### **Guest Speaker 2) Geoff James, Kendra Planning Officer**

GJ addressed the meeting to explain in detail the Kenley Focused Intensification Zone ('FIZ') that is being adopted under the Croydon Local Plan 2 (CLP2) as a follow on from the initial approved CLP. He told the meeting of a) the history b) where it is now and the envisaged effects when the final FIZ is in operation over the next 20 years or so. When the original FIZ was suggested, Kendra raised various objections and the plan was amended slightly. The FIZ area is shown as an area within a 400 metres radius of Kenley Station with few exceptions, notably any properties with high risk flooding. Within the FIZ there are currently 306m dwellings (accommodation units, i.e. single or multiple apartments, semis or detached properties). These numbers of dwellings need to be increased to 1200/1600 dwellings(!) and by using slides, and 'blown up' hard copy prints computer images he was able to indicate what our streets/roads may look like in 7 or 15 years, particularly, 3-4 storey properties, flatted apartments, less room for cars, fewer trees etc. Some of these changes seem improbable for Kenley, but if schemes fall within the scope of CLP2, then the infrastructure will have to follow, rather than be in situ ahead of such developments.

He commented that previous considerations for turning down plans, e.g. lack of parking, size of buildings and change of character, would be very much in the background.

Although the foregoing summary is centred around the FIZ, properties outside would also be affected by this change of planning/thinking. Extent of development in the area will need to be aligned to the Mayor of London's desire to increase the number of dwellings across London by 14.5K in 10 years and 30K in 20 years. However there is little narrative within all these proposals so we will have to await more detailed discussions the Council's Planning Executive.

The Chairman thanked both Chris Philp and Geoff James for their informative and enlightening, but perhaps somewhat disheartening contributions to this evening's meeting.

**3. Minutes of KENDRA GM, October 2017:**

The Chairman explained that minutes had been recently posted to the Kendra website and hard copies were on chairs in the room. They had been reviewed and the committee were happy to accept them as an accurate record.

**4. Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising

**5. Review of the Year:**

The Chairman thanked his fellow Committee members for all their efforts during the course of the year, in their respective areas of expertise, as well as the Councillors regular attendance at our meetings and for the dialogue and feedback they provided. However he re-stated that more Committee members were needed to ensure we can continue to serve the area as we wish to. He also thanked Helen Bartholomew for allowing this meeting to go ahead in place of their Heavenly Hoops class. He also suggested that members, if they are not already, should sign up and receive the weekly Planning Table email ([planning@kenleyra.co.uk](mailto:planning@kenleyra.co.uk)) to keep abreast of any proposed new developments in their immediate roads.

**Association Matters:**

- (i) The Chairman commented on the following items:
  - a) 20 mph limit now operational (numerous new signs have been erected recently)
  - b) A22 Godstone Road – Red lines and Parking – Some revisions suggested by Kendra but result of TfL consultation still awaited (delayed until May's Council elections)
  - c) Local Ward Boundaries (slight reduction will mean Kenley will have only 2 Councillors after May). Steve Hollands (who will contest Old Coulsdon Ward in May) was thanked, in his absence for his time as a Kenley Councillor.
  - d) Notice Boards to help publicise Kendra will be erected outside the Co-op and at the Railway Station – funding to come from the Councillors – again after May's election
  - e) Litter picks have continued through Paul Keating and with Council assistance
  - f) Claire, Booking Secretary for KMH, has advised that they are looking to raise, including grants, £30,000 to improve the Hall's Car Park. Any donations greatly would be appreciated.
  - g) We also need more Road Stewards – we now have fallen below 100 so if attendees know of anyone who is willing to assist us please let Kendra know. A recent effort was made to recruit help in the Old Lodge Lane area.

**Newsletter/Magazine:**

- (ii) We now have a solid team in place, and thanks are due to Tony Heal, Tony Avery, and Simon Lewsey for their continuing excellent work over the last few issues. Advertising revenues, under TA, now covering the printing costs for each production

**6. Reports from Local Groups:**

- (i) Alan Morgan was pleased to report that the planned restoration works was now 2/3<sup>rd</sup> complete. All the 'physical changes, i.e. Blast Pens, Rifle Range and Fuel Dump areas were taken care of, but some unwelcome graffiti and crumbling cement works needed attention – as a listed property it had to be dealt with correctly. There will be another Festival later in the Summer and plans are being finalised (to be submitted to Croydon Planning) to erect 44 signs in the shape of Spitfire and Hurricane wings as well as tabletop displays to provide a detailed history and experience of the Kenley Airfield. He also informed that the MOD who own most of the Airfield needed a fence installed (plans still to be submitted) but that was required

to allow Air Cadets to be able to train/fly safely at the Airfield. Gates would be closed (but not locked whilst flying in progress), but left open at other times to allow the public access at other times. They planned to develop a Travelling Exhibition to present the restored Airfield to schools, and other venues e.g. RAF Hendon and even KMH. Volunteers were still welcome to join in and more details can be found on [www.kenleyrevival.org](http://www.kenleyrevival.org).

- (ii) Mike Street stated 2018 is another special year being the RAF's centenary. The Battle of Britain Memorial Flight will be Sunday 19 August - time to be announced
- (iii) The Chairman advised that Friends of Foxley were not able to give a report at this meeting, but would provide a update at the October Autumn General Meeting.
- (iv) Without more offers of help, it was mentioned that an annual Funday (organised by Dominic Sheppard) is unlikely, although there may be an opportunity to combine it with an Airfield Heritage Day.

**7. Treasurer - Presentation and acceptance of Accounts:**

- (i) CS stated that abbreviated accounts were published in the newsletter, and the detailed set posted to the Kendra website so will not need to explain further activity. Income has increased and Expenditure Lower generating a £2K profit for the year.
- (ii) The Kendra magazine is now on a sound footing with advertising revenue allowing the publication to be self-funding after a number of years of deficit.
- (iii) Acceptance of the accounts were proposed and seconded from the floor and approved *nem con*.

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

Thanks were offered to Louise Turner for independently examining the accounts for 2016, and for agreeing to continue for the current year. Re-appointment approved *nem con*.

**9. Election of Committee:**

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

Chairman:	VACANT
Vice Chairman:	VACANT
Hon Secretary:	VACANT
Hon Minuting Secretary:	Tony Heal
Hon Membership Secretary:	John Davenport
Hon Planning Officer:	Geoff James
Hon Treasurer:	VACANT (Chris Stanley to stay until Dec 2018), pending finding a replacement)
Newsletter Editor:	Tony Heal
Police Liaison:	Conor Campion
Website Co-ordinator:	VACANT
Transport:	Christine Heal
Conservation:	Mike van der Vord
Health:	VACANT
Social:	VACANT
Committee members:	Tony Avery, Jane Highfield, Anthony Lewis.

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

The Chairman informed the meeting that, by rotation, the Association President for the year was to be Cllr Jan Buttinger.

**10. Motion: "KENDRA basic subscription to be maintained at £3 per household for 2019:**

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 produce the Kendra Magazine' Rule 9.4 of the Kendra Constitution:**

The Chairman advised that the Committee needed delegated authority to continue to produce the Kendra Magazine until the next AGM with anticipated 4 editions and expenditure of approximately £4,000 which may be with one supplier. Carried *nem con*.

13. **Q&A Panel, with Cllr Steve O'Connell (LBC & GLA member) and LBC Cllr Jan Buttinger**

**A. Police Issues (with PCs Ben Hurst and Jay Howlett and PCSO Janice Tomlinson):**

**Q. What is the Police response times to reports of a burglary?**

A. BH: All reporting is now controlled centrally, If a crime number is allocated then a home visit is not likely. If no crime number, expect local contact within an hour.

**Q. 20mph: Are the Police able to enforce these new speed limits.**

A. BH: No. We do not have the resources. It would need Police Traffic Division to co-ordinate/help. However we have local roadwatch teams who will carry out 2hr camera sessions to speed check roads we consider where action is needed.

**Q. What is your current focus within the Ward?**

A. BH: a) Anti Social Behaviour (Costco OLL area); b) Burglaries; and c) Vehicle Crime (Caterham end of Valley Road).

**Q. Do you have advice for securing vehicles – particularly with keyless fobs?**

A. BH: Place fob in a Metal tin/Faraday pouch even in your fridge, but away from front of your property. External computers can pick up such signals.

Following this exchange the Chairman thanked the Police for their attendance this evening

**B. Other issues**

**Q. What is happening to improve pedestrian safety in lower end of Hayes Lane?**

A. SOC: As it stands Council will do nothing. A survey 3-4 years ago was inconclusive for introducing one way traffic. A more recent suggestion has been to have a pathway over the top edge of Oaklands – so that pedestrians could avoid using the road itself. More research would be needed to investigate this possibility – but would Council financing be available for such a project. Probably not!

**Q. What is impact of the impending Ward Boundary changes.**

A. CS: As mentioned earlier, Kenley will have two only Councillors from May, with public representation more evenly spread between all Croydon councillors across the borough.

**Q. Trustees required for Kenley Memorial Hall?**

A. As a recently installed trustee of KMH, SOC advised the meeting that there were vacancies for more trustees as well as a secretary of this Hall and would welcome enquiries.

14. **AOB:**

As a final gesture and a surprise to the Chairman, GJ presented CS with a 'stepping back' gift. During his 9+ years in Kendra, CS had been Acting Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer as well as doing the two latter roles together for some of the time. He was thanked for his guidance, experience and insight by his fellow committee members and also for his in depth knowledge and involvement with the wider Kenley community.

**Meeting Close: 9.55pm.**