

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
KENLEY AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
HELD ON 29TH APRIL 2025 AT 7.30 PM AT KENLEY MEMORIAL HALL**

Present : 48 Members; Councillors Gayle Gander & Ola Kolade; Chairman of Kendra, Christine Heal and 7 Committee Members.

Apologies: Elizabeth Goodrich, Mike Street, John Davenport, Linda Richman

1. Chairman, Christine Heal welcomed Councillors and Members and outlined the format of the meeting and noted there were fewer members attending.
2. **Minutes of Autumn General Meeting on 29th October 2024 –**
Copies of the minutes of the Autumn General Meeting held in October had been circulated to members via the Kendra Website and paper copies were available on the chairs in the Hall. As there were no matters arising the Minutes were agreed and signed.
3. **Address by Local Police –** The meeting welcomed Detective Constable Joe Hewitt, one of the Kenley Ward MET Safer Neighbourhood Team to address the gathering.
He explained that he did his early training in Croydon with the Early Response Team and his prime interest is in forensics. He was proud Kenley is statistically the safest ward in Croydon for the second successive quarter. Regarding the Co-p shoplifting issue he said the perpetrators had become more brazen; the police have now targeted the top five offenders with some success. Vehicle crime and burglaries were the two top crimes for Kenley – chosen as 'a nice area' and a soft target, but they were still a focus for the Team. He reported that thefts of tools from vans were being carried out by organised groups and two individuals, linked to 100 offences across Croydon and Bromley, had been arrested. Cuts in funding meant that police at times have to refine their response to some crimes, for example deciding not deploying a forensic team. DC Hewitt was asked about speeding and several roads highlighted had been selected for speed checks, particularly at school run times. The Team's Sergeant, Tony Brown, was keen to carry out regular speed checks, but it was noted that sometimes these checks are curtailed because of involved safety issues.
Chairman thanked DC Joe Hewitt for his detailed contribution
4. **Chairman introduced Scott Roche, LBC Cabinet Member for Streets and Environment –** He spoke about the various projects that the Executive Mayor of Croydon, Jason Perry, was keen to get involved with, to show the Council's commitment to engender improvements across the borough
The re-focus ideas included a review of Veolia's Waste Contract monitoring, acquiring new vehicles usable in narrow road widths, more street cleaning, eradicating graffiti, heavily increased fines (up to £1,000) / zero tolerance on fly tipping, recruiting more 'teams' to investigate anti social activities, improving the borough's parks, tree planting, green spaces and upgrading playgrounds for younger children – stopping using 40 year old maps for grass cutting routines. Liaison with local businesses to keep their local areas clean..Dog walking issues and the cut back of hedging on pathways close to the Kenley Airfield. Chairman thanked Scott Roche for his very detailed account of how LBC are keeping in touch with the community,
5. **Chairman's Review of 2024/25 –** A few things we have worked on and new members on the committee – After last year's AGM Stella choose to join us. Mike had joined the committee as our Police Liaison Officer prior to that gathering. Then Simon came on board in last Summer to take over the vacant Treasurer's role. He will be saying a few words later.
 - We are now producing three magazines a year – thank you to the team for a great deal of hard work and thoughtfulness.
 - Along with our two Kenley Ward Councillors, Gayle and Ola, we have thought about making Kenley a safer place. It has taken several years of thinking, discussion, getting Croydon/TfL to listen, identifying the unsafe roads and we are beginning to win
 - with work (humps to be installed) on lower Hayes Lane.
 - With the speed limit around the airfield perimeter recently reduced from 40 to 30 mph and improved parking zones
 - In our latest magazine on of our resident's described the problems with speeding in Upper Hayes Lane Section. Do read this from Malcolm.
 - We have continued our discussions about KENDRA membership issues (you will hear more from Geoff, later). To that end we held some social and successful get-togethers with most of our Area / Road Stewards

- Early in 2024 we held a very successful 'Save a Life' day at KMH and we are trying to organise another for this summer. Thank you Paul!
- Of course we can't let this review end without giving the new Upper Hayes Lane TfL 434 Bus Route a mention. As the Councillors say in their article the 434 Bus now serves Kenley is a huge win for our community. Try leaving the car at home and, instead, take a Bus ride to either Caterham or Coulsdon. (Incidentally I first joined the committee to campaign for this service. It's taken me 12 years but other residents had been waiting for more than 40 years!)

These are just a few of the subjects we have discussed and tried to act upon and which we will continue to do. If you have any ideas to add to our agenda items, please see a member of the committee or come along to a meeting yourself. Later this year we plan to hold some of our meetings at the Old Lodge Lane Community Hub to embrace that part of the Kenley Ward.

So, could you be a committee member? There are a number of vacancies shown on our 2025/26 nomination form - and help boost our numbers!!

6. Treasurer's Report

Honorary Treasurer, Simon Brew introduced himself and reported that he had prepared the 2024 accounts. He had been appointed to this role, following Angela Morrison's resignation from the role at the April 2024 Annual General Meeting, to resolve a possible conflict of interest from her professional employment.

Simon explained that he had been given approval from the committee to update the accounting system from a 'cash' basis (i.e. reflecting the financial activities as they happened) to an 'accrual' basis (recording

items for as and when they should happen). This is particularly important with the new Member Mogo Subscription process to show receipts for future year within the correct accounting period.. The final accounts have been made available on the KENDRA website and a shortened version published in the Spring Kendra magazine. Simon offered to answer any questions, but none were raised

Simon also explained that the previous independent examiner Jerry Connor from Kenley Financial now based in Caterham was not available, so he had engaged a known contact Siva Param to review the 2024 accounts. Can we have a show of hands for Acceptance of Accounts for 2024 and that we are happy

for Siva to continue as Independent Examiner. The vote was unanimous.

7. Chairman introduced Kenley's Councillors Gayle Gander and Ola Kolade who updated members of work that they had been doing. Specific items included

- a) The new 434 Bus Route around the Hayes Lane / Wattendon Road corner appeared to be a 'pinchpoint' issue particularly at 'school run' times. The Cllrs agreed to take a look to see if it was an ongoing issue. It is anticipated that electric buses are likely to be introduced on this route As the route between The Kenley Hotel and Tesco's Purley is only a 'Hail and Ride' service – there are no intervening designated 'bus stops', there is an uncertainty for that time the bus would service Wattendon Road. TfL to be asked if they can provide more detail
- b) Planned road resurfacing works particularly Old Lodge lane and Cedar Walk later in the year.
- c) Anticipated works happening on the new A22 Crossing close to Co-op.
- d) Flats being constructed on corner of Abbots Lane/Hayes Lane, Need for more considered parking restrictions

Chairman thanked Gayle and Ola and said we are really lucky to have you and all the hard work you do.

8. Election of KENDRA Committee for 2025/26 – The Chair told the gathered assembly that we would

be losing the services of John Davenport, our long standing but now retiring, Membership Secretary. His vacancy has still to be filled so if someone is willing to take on some, if not all, of the role, then please speak to one of the Committee. The names of the current Committee who were willing to stand for the next twelve months were displayed in the Hall, including Christine Heal who had

agreed

to stay on for another year as Chair.

In addition it was announced that Cllr Ola Kolade would be Kendra's President for the forthcoming year.

There was a unanimous vote of agreement.

8. Resolutions received / Motions Voted on –

- (i) KENDRA subscription to remain at £5 per household for Year Commencing 1st January 2026
- (ii) Committee expenditure limit to be £1,500 per transaction. Above this figure approval must be sought at next AGM.
- (iii) Production of Kendra Magazine to continue until the next AGM with an approval limit up to £5000 which may be to one supplier.
- (iv) Proposed revisions to the Kendra Constitution, with the following amendments (in red)

a) **Section 3: Reclassification of Full, Linked and Affiliated**

3.2 Membership of the association is open to all residents of the KENDRA Membership Area over 18 years of age. **Members shall be either Full Members of which there shall be a minimum of one at any address in the Membership Area, or Linked Members who reside at an address which also has a Full Member. Linked Members do not have voting rights, but are entitled to receive circulars but not the magazines. Addresses which are a HMO shall have one Full Member only.**

3.4 All Members must accept the Kendra Constitution, abide by its rules, and **all Full and Affiliated Members must** pay at least the annual subscription as agreed at the preceeding year's Annual General Meeting **and are thus entitled to receive the magazine.**

b) **Section 6: Communications Change Newsletter to Magazine**

6.1 Wherever practicable, the printed **magazine** will be the primary medium for communication with the association Membership...

c) **Section 7: General Meetings GM: Voting Rights**

7.5 **Full** Members have one vote each, **and other grades of Membership do not have a vote.**

d) **Section 9: Money and Property: Change in number of signatories issuing payments on behalf of Kendra**

Note: The Hon Treasurer proposes that the Association should require two signatories of a total of four elected Committee Officers for each external payment paid out, as follows **The Hon Treasurer is authorised to manage banking arrangements on behalf of the Association. Two Signatories, out of a total of four Authorised Members of the Committee, will be required to sign off on all cheques / online external payments issued from the Association's funds.**

The above resolutions were all approved unanimously.

9.. Review of Current Local Issues

Member Mojo – The Kendra computerised Membership Scheme had bedded down well, AS/RS members listings are being handed out to assist with magazine deliveries.

Paul Keating asked if any members could help deliver extra copies, leaflets to try and tempt non renewing to re-join or new residents to sign up.

Planning – No new issues, unfortunately our Planning Officer had to leave early so could be field

any

Queries

10, Any Other Business –

Chairman, Christine Heal closed the meeting at 21.53 and thanked the Members for attending