Draft Minutes of the Autumn General Meeting of the Kenley and District Residents' Association held on Tuesday 6th October 2026 at Kenley Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m

Present: Paul Keating (PK) Vice Chairman; Tony Heal (TH); Tony Avery (TA); Simon Brew (SB); Tex Trim (TT); Stella Stocker (SS); Geoff James (GJ); Dave Munday (DM); Fareita Udoh (FU) Linda Richman (LR);
Councillors: Gayle Gander (GG); Ola Kolade (OK) and 32 members
Apologies: Sue Cotton

1. **Acting Chairman Paul Keating** welcomed everyone and read out apologies. He apologised for the guest speaker Roger Packham, Bourne Society who was unwell and unable to attend. Instead we will be showing a video from the 90s 'This is Kenley'.
2. **Minutes of Annual General Meeting – April 28th 2026 PK** said that minutes from AGM were on chairs if anyone had any comments? There were none.
3. **Acting Chairman introduced Metropolitan Safe Neighbourhood Police Team for Kenley.** Sgt Nathaniel Gates, PC Chris Woods & Karolina Aamir. Sgt Gates introduced himself with a brief description of his job. He said that Kenley was the safest ward in the Borough of Croydon with main crimes committed being Actions against person, Anti Social Behaviour, Shoplifting and Speeding, with the occasional car theft. He said about 80% of their time was spent dealing with domestic disputes. They now have new speed guns and mentioned recent incident in Hayes Lane. Due to approaching darker nights he said people should be taking more care of their property. He encouraged anyone noticing shoplifters or thefts he would encourage people to report it. Several members asked
4. about installing speed cameras. Sgt Gates said the next ward panel meeting would be on ??? PK thanked Sgt Gates, PC Woods & Karolina Aamir for taking time to come and speak to us.
5. **Save the Kenley Hotel – FU** said she was there to update the members on how far they had got in the Save the Kenley campaign since the start in April. They have a ACV (Asset of Community Value) which gives the community a 6 week pause if owner decides to sell, and a six-month window to prepare a bid. £8100 raised so far to help towards saving the Kenley Hotel. They have covered a large number of streets in Kenley delivering a survey card and had a 94.6% success rate, these amounts have increased since presentation was made. We want to make somewhere for children from Riddlesdown to go when they finish school, somewhere to hold events, have a coffee or a drink, somewhere to work etc that is used all day with an outdoor garden to enjoy.
   Gloria joined in with a quick statement saying why she joined the campaign as a fairly new resident. There is a lack of community space in Kenley.
   Robin Brownsell said he became involved as he thought he had the right background to become secretary of the group and they had legally set up and is supported by Government legislation for a Community Benefit Society and should hear in about 4/6 weeks if this has been accepted. Those who have become involved are J Mark Dodds (CAMRA), Plunkett UK, Smokin Grill (where the meetings are held), Stir Action and KENDRA. Robin said they are putting together a Prospectus and asked if anyone has any expertise in anything to do with setting up new companies they would be grateful for their help. To help to raise the £2m they think will be needed to buy the Kenley and do the necessary alterations and repairs they would sell Community Shares. Steve, a member and a publican answered a question about so many pubs closing, the breweries are going in and asset stripping not thinking of the community. PK thanked them all for the presentation.
6. **PK** said that KENDRA wants to be doing more in the community. He and GG met a new Inspector of Environment. Between them highlighted things which need doing around the area to make it look better including steam cleaning Norfolk Terrace and make it look a welcoming place.
7. **PK** mentioned to the members that he wanted to make KENDRA a Company Limited by Guarantee to protect the Committee Members. Jane Highfield mentioned as a past Committee member that this was talked about some time ago. PK replied that he thinks we started the process and it stalled, he wants to reinstate it.
   PK then introduced GG and OK with local updates. OK began with saying it is great to see the enthusiasm shown by Fereita and committee on trying to save the Kenley Hotel. Looking into intervention for more safety in Old Lodge Lane. Trying to get more investment in roads.
   GG said that she is attending a meeting on Thursday to find out more about a new Planning Officer has been recruited to try and speed up planning applications. The new ruling would mean that Resident Associations, individuals etc objections will not be taken into account. Mayor Jason Perry is trying to ensure we still retain some authority over planning. Mayor inviting Ras to meeting. Relevant to large application for bottom of Church Road.

8. **PK thanked GG and OK for update. He also thanked everyone for attending and reminded the members that Remembrance Sunday will be 8th November at the RAF Tribute**.

Meeting closed at 21.52