

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

held at the Irish Centre, Thursday, 16 July 2009

### **Present:**

Committee Members: Sandra Dystant, Pat MacGowan, Maeve O'Connor, Ed Lee

Co-opted and Chairing the meeting: Frances Lee

18 Residents

Cllr Roger Robinson

Lynsey Shields, Jane Pelly (for Places for People)

### **1 Treasurer's Report**

The accounts were seen and approved

### **2 Annual Report**

This was given and approved

### **3 Election of Committee**

Sandra Dystant, Pat MacGowan, Maeve O'Connor, Ed Lee were elected unopposed

Pat MacGowan will continue as Treasurer and Ed Lee as Secretary

Frances Lee will continue as a co-opted member

Jackie Churchill was not present to confirm whether she is willing to continue being co-opted with responsibility for the Neighbourhood Watch scheme; the Secretary will check.

There were no volunteers to join the Committee.

### **4 Bus services**

Cllr Robinson gave a statement that TfL are now planning to re-route the 46 bus down St Pancras Way. He will ask for a stop at the end of Barker Drive.

He is also requesting a Plus Bus service for Camley Street

### **5 Dumping of rubbish**

There had been complaints from residents about this matter. There is no reason for this to happen. Residents can contact Cllr Robinson and the numbers which have been regularly given in the Newsletter and much rubbish will then be removed promptly and at no cost. This also applies to fly tipping. . In the case of heavy goods there is a charge of £20 for 3 items, but recyclable objects are not charged for, and pensioners also get the service free.

### **ACTION**

**This information will again be publicised through the email list, website and Newsletter.**

### **6 Adoption of roads**

The Chair summarised the situation, and described the conflicting messages. Jill Eckersley produced a map and document which demonstrated that adoption had taken place, and which supported other evidence sent to the Secretary by residents.

The Secretary proposed that it was not time to put a stop to this irritating evasion and to make a formal complaint against the Council for faulty record keeping. Cllr Robinson suggested a way forward and the meeting agreed on the following steps:

#### **ACTION**

**(1) Cllr Robinson will arrange a meeting with Andrew Maugham of Camden Council. At this, he and EVTRA will attempt to get a quick and amicable settlement.**

**(2) If this does not produce the required results, the Secretary will write to PFP asking them for a written statement of how they understand the position**

**(3) He will then write to Peter Swingler who deals with formal complaints against the Council**

**(4) If this does not produce a satisfactory result, EVTRA will complain to the Local Government Ombudsman.**

**Where relevant, EVTRA will use the Freedom of Information Act to obtain documents.**

#### **7 Noise nuisance**

The Chair outlined the rise in disturbance to residents caused by noise from late night parties. The Committee now felt that the Council's responses were ineffective, and that they appear to be failing in their duty to provide a 24 hour service.

David Powell commented that he had used the system effectively, but that persistence was needed. After 3 complaints the Council sends out a formal letter. The relevant official, Rachel Stoppard, had done this within 24 hours. However, it is also essential to compile evidence by keeping a noise diary.

Lynsey Shields told the meeting the PFP can and do take action through their Community Safety Officer. Residents should therefore also complain to them.

Mr Powell kindly offered to be a focal point for dealing with such complaints.

#### **ACTION**

**The Secretary will notify residents about these options, and ask them to send in complaints to him. He will then forward them to Mr Powell, to take action as appropriate.**

#### **8 Window replacement**

Lynsey Shields explained that she had had a query from residents who wished to replace their windows with UPVC ones. The issue was what colour should be chosen or permitted. David Powell commented that the question of style should also be taken into account. Elm Village was unique, and the aesthetic element was important; it not only increased the satisfaction of living here - it also had a cash value for the many prospective purchasers who shared this view.

It was agreed that the UPVC windows should be white (which was what the relevant residents had requested).

It was agreed to minute the statement by Lynsey Shields that whereas PFP need to continue to insist on being consulted before such changes are undertaken, they are always seeking in principle to approve such requests. With regard to colour and style “it will always be a condition that the changes fit reasonably into the wider environment”.

## **9 Asbestos hazard**

Clive Kellerman raised concerns that he had been advised that the Artex ceiling materials contained asbestos. There was discussion and agreed action. However, since the AGM further tests have shown that Mr Kellerman’s property (and presumably) all others do not contain this hazard. The minuting of this item has therefore been made redundant.

## **10 AOB**

**10.1** It was suggested that vehicles are being parked illegally in the spaces reserved for the disabled residents of 44 St Pancras Way.

**ACTION Lynsey Shields will investigate this and if necessary act upon it**

10.2 Mrs Deedee Levine pointed out that the wall close to those spaces was crumbling and was both unsightly and a hazard.

**ACTION Lynsey Shields requested to look into this and arrange repairs.**

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the presentation by PFP and the Garden Society of the final proposals for the Green Spaces project, and will be minuted by them.