

# **ELM VILLAGE TENANTS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
Held at the Irish Centre, Camden Square  
Thursday 15 July 2010

*Present:*

EVTRA Committee: Sandra Dystant, Ed Lee, Frances Lee, Pat McGowan  
Apologies: Maeve O'Connor  
Plus 10 residents

The Chair was taken by Frances Lee

## **(1) Treasurer's Report**

The accounts were presented. Expenses were slightly higher than income, but there was no cause for alarm.

## **(2) Report from the Chair**

Frances summarised the report, the full version of which is attached.

The main points were:

The development of the open spaces through the Green Spaces project has now been completed.

This led to the formation of the Community Garden Society which is now thriving.

EVTRA and other TRAs have joined with Councillor Robinson to monitor the situation at the Jubilee Centre, which is being refurbished.

Various residents have drawn attention was drawn to the state of the pavements (this was again stressed in the comments by residents after the presentation of the report).

Our views have on the proposed new bus route have been put to TfL.

There have been a few instances of late-night noise. EVTRA has urged residents to report cases where there is regular disturbance. This has happened and Camden has acted, with the desired effect.

The email list continues to be a popular and useful service.

Another successful Carol event was held in December in the Constitution Cellar Bar.

## **(3) Election of Committee and Officers**

The present members (Sandra Dystant, Ed Lee, Pat MacGowan, Maeve O'Connor) were re-elected unopposed. The offer of Peter McGinty to join the Committee was warmly and unanimously welcomed by both the Committee and the residents. Frances Lee was again co-opted.

Ed Lee was re-elected as Secretary and Pat MacGowan as Treasurer. The post of Chair continues to remain vacant.

## **(4) Garden Society**

Peter McGinty gave an account of developments, with pictures. The allotments were working well, and the greenhouse was overflowing with plants.

An official event (mainly a barbecue) to launch the project is to be put on by PfP on September 11.

The gardeners were planning to follow the suggestion made at their inaugural meeting last year that the plots should be worked communally rather than as private plots.

The issue of how surplus produce should be dealt with was raised. It was agreed that the current situation was not really working. Speakers felt that the idea of selling the produce should be re-visited. The concerns of Mike Jackson about possible complications of becoming a commercial venture did not seem insuperable. Ed Lee suggested that a system of donations, such as that used in certain types of performance, would solve the matter. The produce would not be sold, but the person taking it could be invited to make a donation to the Garden Society. David Powell suggested that another way forward might be a system of swaps.

**The meeting therefore requested that the Garden Society and Mike Jackson should review this matter.**

#### **(4) North Entrance wall**

Ed Lee read a report on behalf of the Committee, summarising the main stages and exchanges, and expressing concern that the main request made by residents (that the gateway be blocked up with a wall, for security reasons) had not been met. Peter McGinty amplified the comments of Jane Pelly of PfP, arguing that the only practical solution had been the one which is due to be implemented: a metal fence, flush with the wall. In his opinion this would be a very successful deterrent.

No further action was proposed by the meeting.

#### **(5) PfP contribution**

Since no PfP representative had appeared this item was not taken up.

#### **(6) E-mail list**

Ed Lee commented on some useful results for residents and invited anyone not on the list to join.

#### **(7) Councillor Robinson**

Ed Lee gave the Councillor's apologies for absence, which was because he had recently undergone a serious operation. The meeting expressed its best wishes for his recovery.

#### **(8) Issues raised by residents**

David Powell spoke about the Big Lunch project and thought it would be a very suitable activity for EVTRA. Ed Lee said that he was playing at one of the events; he would make enquiries about what was involved and report back.

The meeting ended at 7.50 and Frances was congratulated on her efficient chairing of the meeting.