

DRAFT FOR APPROVAL AT 2018 AGM

Minutes of the PRARA Annual General Meeting held on 24th October 2017 at The Hurlingham Club, London SW6 3PR at 6.30pm

24 members were present plus the speaker Gavin Simmons, the Principal Arboricultural Officer at London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

1 - Apologies had been received from Marjorie Simons-Gooding, Sue Pierson , Tanya Massey and Jeremy Gilkes.

2 – The Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting were approved and signed by the Co-ordinator.

3 - Co-ordinator's Overview

Sue Oriel presented a brief review of the committee's involvement in local issues over the past year, chief of which were:

- Proposals to restore the Castle Club building for school use and build new premises to the rear of the site.
- Monitoring proposals for the new community centre in the north west corner of South Park.
- Responding to the latest planning application for changes to the business premises at 14/16 Peterborough Road.
- Challenging the installation of electric car charging points in Clancarty Road prior to planning permission being obtained.
- Further, ultimately unsuccessful, attempts to persuade the Council to pollard the trees in South Park where branches are overhanging gardens of houses in Settrington Road.
- Jeremy Gilkes continued in his role as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, attending NW police meetings and passing on via our e-mail list relevant information, including warnings about the vulnerability of front sash windows.
- Arranging traffic and parking enforcement action at peak school times outside Marie d'Orliac school in Clancarty Road.
- Held a very successful Christmas Party on 7th December at 21 Clancarty Road, with the new head teacher of Marie d'Orliac, Blaise Fenart, attending.
- Protested again about the disruption and inconvenience caused to residents by the RideLondon cycle event

The committee met four times during the year.

4 - Treasurer's Report

The Hon. Treasurer, Jonnie Godfrey, reported that in the last year we had received donations of £185 and there had been expenditure of £113.50. Currently there is £122.20 cash in hand.

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5 – Member’s questions

The main issue raised concerned the planned Community Centre in South Park. Whilst there was wide support for the Centre, current plans presented so far do not appear to be satisfactory in spite of a Council design budget of £450,000 plus a contingency of £50,000. The Committee intends to make an appropriate submission to the current planning application.

6 - Election of Officers (the Standing Committee)

The standing committee, with all those present being identified, were unanimously re-elected with the exception of the role of Hon. Secretary which is currently vacant. An appeal by the Co-ordinator to the members present for a volunteer to take over the role did not elicit any volunteers. It was noted that Tony Bell is now acting as PRARA pub liaison.

7 - AOB

On completion of the formal business, Gavin Simmons explained how he and his team works. He has two officers beside himself, one deals with all planning applications which involve trees and the other inspects trees where works are needed or requested. There are just short of 10,000 trees in the Borough.

He then asked his audience a series of questions to determine by a show of hands what type of tree they would like to have in their street. He then ran through a list of practical matters that he has to ensure are considered when choosing a tree. Inevitably these two sets of requirements have conflicts which makes the actual selection difficult.

Mr. Simmonds was thanked for explaining his role so well and his attendance was much appreciated.

Three additional members arrived in time for this talk, so total attendance at the meeting was 27.

Signed..... (Co-ordinator)

Date.....