ADDINGTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of 2018 Annual General Meeting

held 29th May 2018 at 8.00pm in Addington Methodist Church Hall

Present:

ARA Committee :	Wictor Molleskog, Alan Chitty, Mike Bond, Keith James, Geoff Hopper,
	Paul Bearman, Gina Stoneman, Geoff Jordan, Terry Belsey
Croydon Council :	Cllr Helen Pollard, Cllr Robert Ward
Other Residents :	17 residents attended

- 1) Apologies had been received from Malcolm Graveling (committee member).
- 2) Minutes of 2017 AGM were read by Wiktor Molleskog. Noted that these should be available in printed form for future years. The Minutes were adopted (proposed and seconded from the floor and carried unanimously).

3) Matters Arising from Minutes of 2017 AGM:

- a) Croydon Development Plan
 - i) The CDP has been adopted by the Council, incorporating most of the recommendations proposed by the independent Planning Inspector.
 - ii) The Intensification Zone boundary around the Forestdale shops area was redrawn in the final version.
 - iii) A potential conflict remains between the CDP target for Croydon to build 30,000 homes within the next 20 years and the London Mayor's edict for Croydon to deliver 20,000 homes within just 10 years.
- b) Greenfields Pioneer Place
 - Letters were sent to Croydon Council and Kingdom Hall Trust seeking to clarify plans for the 7+ acre site and to ask the Council to consider bringing it back into public ownership.
 - ii) Plantlife, a wild plant conservation charity, are producing a maintenance plan to preserve rge wild flower and other natural amenities
- c) The 20mph speed limit for residential areas across Croydon has now been implemented borough-wide, with most roads under Council control included; TfL-managed bus routes are generally excluded.

4) Chairman's Report 2018

The last year has been quite challenging with the Croydon Development Plan, Greenfields Pioneer Place and the Forestdale Arms.

With respect to the Croydon Development Plan we have attended various meetings and made representations on behalf of our residents. We are pleased to see that the fields

along Huntingfield have been given better protection than before and that Falconwood Meadow has been given greenbelt status.

Greenfields Pioneer Place is an ongoing concern. We have written to the Leader of the Council Tony Newman to seek assurance that the site will not be developed and to see if it is a possibility to get the backfield back into public ownership. This field was sold by Croydon Council to the Jehovah's Witnesses for £9000 without any public consultation. We have not got a written answer from Mr. Tony Newman, but at a Question & Answer session which we attended we got a verbal assurance from Mr. Newman that the site would not be developed on his watch.

We have also written to Kingdom Hall on this matter but have not received an answer. We made an objection of the development of a drive-through Restaurant on the Forestdale Arms site and are pleased to say that the development was refused. We have also supported a motion by Forestdale Residents' Association to have the Forestdale Arms declared an Asset of Community Value.

We have also attended various meetings with our councillors during the year. We have got the Noticeboard up and running and anything of importance will be posted there and on the Addington Residents' website.

Some residents have expressed the opinion that The Addington which is our quarterly Magazine is a waste of time. These people are entitled to their opinion of course but the Magazine gives us revenue and puts us on the map. However the Magazine does not write itself and we owe great thanks to Salli our Editor. I would again ask that any resident who feels able to contribute with articles or short stories for the Magazine to please get in touch with Salli. Please remember Addington Residents is your Association and the Magazine is your Magazine and your input can help to make them both better.

5) Treasurer's Report

(awaiting formal report from Alan Chitty) reported total funds at the end of our Financial Year of £10,136 – the Accounts were audited by Mr. Winston Leeks and are appended to these Minutes. Our thanks to Winston. Keith James reiterated how important subscriptions and donations remain for our financial wellbeing. The Accounts were adopted (proposed and seconded from the floor and carried unanimously).

6) Resignation & Re-Election of Committee members

a) As Louise Bond has moved out of the area, she has not put herself forward for reelection, but all other members of the current Committee have agreed to continue. A new member volunteered, Mrs. Aline Antoine and, together with the remaining existing members, all were proposed and seconded from the floor and elected unanimously. The current committee members are Wiktor Molleskog, Alan Chitty, Mike Bond, Keith James, Geoff Jordan, Geoff Hopper, Terry Belsey, Gina Stoneman, Malcolm Graveling, Salli Ransom, Paul Bearman and Aline Antoine.

7) Any Other Business

- a) Paul Bearman expressed the view that the Committee would like to see the Greenfields backfield site made more widely accessible, but with the wild flowers and wild-life protected; the Committee will continue to pursue this.
- b) Cllr Helen Pollard advised that the new electoral boundaries now split ARA's catchment

into two different Council wards. Most residents continue to fall in Selsdon & Addington Village, where the representatives are Cllr Helen Pollard and Cllr Robert Ward, but a few streets now fall in Selsdon Vale & Forestdale, where the representatives are Cllr Andy Stranack and Cllr Stuart Millson (all Conservative). At least one councillor will try to attend all of our meetings.

- c) Cllr Robert Ward advised that obtaining Asset of Community Value status for Forestdale Arms will require on-going maintenance and community effort. He noted that several community activities are scheduled regularly in the Pub.
- d) Some discussion took place, led by residents present, as to possible Park & Ride solutions to encourage more use of Trams and Buses locally, and to promote healthier living. These will be discussed by the Committee soon. Note that the small portion of the field on Kent Gate Way has the National Grid access building to the Croydon Cable Tunnel, but the remainder of those fields are protected to some degree.
- e) Similarly, there was some concern expressed from the floor that Croydon Council were reluctant to mend potholes in a timely manner but were also reluctant to pay compensation in cases where cars had been damaged. Cllr Pollard agreed to take up these issues with the appropriate Council department.
- f) Residents also expressed concern with the parking in Falconwood Road, worrying that inconsiderate parking may prevent emergency vehicles gaining prompt access. The Committee will monitor this, and an article will be published in The Magazine to remind residents.
- 8) Meeting closed at 9.25pm.