

ADDINGTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of 2019 Annual General Meeting

held 28th May 2019 at 8.00pm in Addington Methodist Church Hall

Committee Members present:

Wiktor Molleskog, Alan Chitty, Mike Bond, Geoff Jordan, Keith James, Malcolm Graveling, Paul Bearman, Gina Stoneman, Geoff Hopper, Terry Belsey, Aline Antoine.

Elected Representatives:

Cllr Jamie Audsley (for Sarah Jones MP), Cllr Helen Pollard.

Apologies Received:

Salli Ransom, Sarah Jones MP.

35 residents were in attendance.

1. Minutes of 2018 AGM Approved

Proposed by Alan Chitty, Seconded by Keith James.

2. MP's Report

On behalf of Sarah Jones, Cllr Audsley presented. Topics covered included:-

- Greenfields / Pioneer Place
- Supporting vulnerable residents
- Instability of Government through Brexit period
- Knife Crime (and preventative measures)
- Her role as Shadow Housing Minister (and Croydon's success with post-Grenfell cladding)
- Veolia street-cleaning (and fly-tipping issues)
- Future of the Westfield development
 - current retail outlook changed from 2010/2017
 - John Lewis, Marks & Spencer and CineWorld remain committed
 - St George's Walk redevelopment proceeding, with new Town Square
 - but concerns from the floor that Croydon Council has no "Plan B"
- Proposed platform expansion at East Croydon railway station

Wiktor Molleskog offered the Committee's thanks to Sarah Jones for her recent attendance to review issues at Greenfields Pioneer Place.

3. Matters Arising from 2018 AGM Minutes:

- Letter received from Cllr Tony Newman stating that it may be possible that the backfield at Greenfields Pioneer Place might be taken back into public ownership. The Addington Residents Association have undertaken to maintain the field should this happen
- Greenfields Pioneer Place, Waterworks Cottages, Silverwood Place and Farleigh Dean Crescent falls into Selsdon Vale & Forestdale after the electoral boundary change
- We have had good co-operation with the Councillors for this ward

- No further action concerning the Forestdale Arms
- Possibilities of creating facilities for Park & Ride
- Croydon Council's approach to repair of Potholes
- Inconsiderate parking in Falconwood Road

4. Chairman's Report

- The Croydon Development Plan has now been fully implemented by the Council, but the London Plan is different in that it demands a greater number of houses be built.
- We have received many messages concerning the delayed start of the new Westfield shopping centre, the announcement that John Lewis & Partners is going to be the anchor store, and that the Council have received funds from the developers for the Compulsory Purchase orders. We will have to wait and see if it is going to happen at all.
- Fairfield Halls is supposed to be opening this Autumn, some 2 years late and £12 million over budget.
- Greenfields Pioneer Place off Featherbed Lane is going to be sold by the Jehovah's Witness organization. The congregation there have been told they have to be out by September. We have met with Jehovah's Witness representatives, but they would not give any indication of their intentions, other than they feel they have a duty to get as much as possible for the site. We did receive a reply to a letter we sent a year ago, but it says nothing new other than to invite us to enter the bidding process for the site.
- During the year, committee members have attended meetings and the AGM of the London Green Belt Council, met with our local Conservative councillors, and attended a Protest meeting at the Town Hall against Croydon Council's Planning procedures.

5. Treasurer's Report

Thanks to Winston Leeks for auditing our Accounts, which are available separately. Note that approximately 45% of available households contribute, for which we thank you.

6. Resignation and Election of Committee Members

Proposed and Seconded from the floor, with all current committee members being willing to stand for a further year, the Committee were re-elected en-bloc.

7. Any Other Business

a. Green Corridor

The existing natural green corridor from The White Bear pub to Lloyd Park needs to be preserved as Green Belt

b. Greenfields Pioneer Place

After the Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Trust organisation dispose of the site, any redevelopment as a nursing home or community centre would be less unacceptable than indiscriminate housing; we need to continue to make this site a more unpopular opportunity for any potential developer than other areas. Note that Jehovah's Witness profit from the site is most likely to be repatriated to their Kingdom Hall parent organization in the USA.

c. Frylands Wood Scout Camp site

The Scout Association lease on this site may not be renewed by Lewisham Council, who own the land. The adjacent field is privately-owned, and the owner has stated that he only replaced the gates to deter traveller access; he intends allowing horses to graze there.

d. October House Group approach

A developer wrote to several home-owners in and near the Intensification Zone around

Forestdale Shopping Centre, with different offers and in some cases, erroneous facts. We are not aware of any developments there. If anyone receives further correspondence concerning their whole property or just parts of their garden, we are here to help.

e. **Quail Gardens, Selsdon**

At the time of the meeting, Croydon Council had not made a decision concerning the proposed new build of 15 homes on a single large garden adjacent to the Nature Reserve. This is typical of the kind of over-development that we feel is detrimental to our area.

f. **Yellow Lines**

Completion of the parking restrictions in Huntingfield and Featherbed Lane outside the church remains on the Council's task list, but no dates have been advised.

g. **Addington Park facilities**

The council have funds for improving the children's playground, but no dates have yet been advised.

The AGM closed at 9.13pm

At a brief Committee Meeting held directly after the AGM concluded, the existing Officers were re-elected to their same positions for the next year, Proposed by Keith James and Seconded by Malcolm Graveling.

Chairman – Wiktor Molleskog

Treasurer – Alan Chitty

Secretary – Mike Bond