



Vartry Residents' Association
www.vartry.org
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
6:30-8:00pm Thursday 2 September 2010
Woodberry Down Baptist Church
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Guests: PS Tom Smyth (Police Safer Neighbourhood Team), Charles Mugenyi (Pastor, Woodberry Down Baptist Church), Chris Bell (Officer, Resident Involvement Team, Homes for Haringey)

Residents: RS, PL, GB, DB, DC, AB, NB, JF

Committee: HF

Apologies: CC

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the last General Meeting & matters arising

The Minutes of the last General Meeting of 29 April 2010 were read. A vote was taken that they be accepted as a true record and unanimously agreed.

Matters arising from the Minutes were discussed as follows.

DB asked whether there had been any further developments regarding St. Mungo's Hostel's proposed extension. CM replied that the original proposal to erect more accommodation units on the site had been modified to a plan to construct a temporary structure referred to as "the new extension" in the garden area for meetings and communal space. DB asked him to keep us informed of progress.

PS Smyth was asked for an update regarding prostitution. He reported that, while they had to look at their priorities again, they had continued to focus on this issue. There had been progress on the problem of the grassy area near the top of Franklin Road alongside allotments used by sex-workers and drug users: the wall had been painted white and Haringey Council had installed a "No Litter" sign. Street Enforcement Officers were patrolling. Moving the allotment fence closer to the road was suggested. He reported that there was sex-worker activity in Candler Street and Manchester Gardens, and suggested that residents notify police.

2. Annual Report (Chair)

The Chair's Report was read, verified and agreed. Much has been achieved in this past year. A vote of thanks to Claire Cammarata was recorded.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was given and agreed. From our start-up grant supplied by Haringey Residents' Involvement Team of £430, the sum remaining is £126. Various opportunities for applying for other funding had been followed up without success. CB suggested that we should

apply for a grant offered by Homes for Haringey entitled "World On Your Doorstep" to encourage new residents' groups. He also drew attention to a website entitled "GRANTfinder" to find appropriate grants. Haringey "Making a Difference" grants are still available. Ways of funding the website were discussed. We would be receiving our next tranche of our Annual Recognition Grant soon which covered meetings and their costs.

4. Election of officers/committee members & street representatives

HF, JF, DC, DB and RS volunteered for the committee. A vote was taken and all were approved unanimously by the AGM. Technically the committee, not the AGM, has to appoint officers. HF volunteered to continue as Treasurer, which was welcomed. The committee will select officers at its first meeting and report back to the next general meeting. The constitution allows for a maximum of eight committee members so more members may be co-opted during the course of the year, in which case a future general meeting will be asked to confirm their co-option.

GB offered to be responsible for photocopying.

Street reps: AB offered to do Vartry Road, HF offered to do Heysham and St. Johns Road, GB offered to do Richmond Road.

5. Proposals for changing the name of the Association

After discussion it was agreed to put two proposals to the vote:

1. To leave the current name as it is.
2. To change the name to Vartry Community Residents' Association.

The second proposal was agreed by majority vote.

6. Discussion of priorities for the next year

JF proposed the planting of hanging baskets in the streets and planting flowers on bare earth beneath trees, offering various suggestions connected with the proposals. There was also a proposal that the Friends of Paignton Park be asked to leave unmown areas where wild flowers could grow. There was a proposal that something might be done about planting up front gardens. A grant can be applied for to plant up window boxes. It was proposed that we should use gardening help to establish contact with older people and the idea was strongly supported by CM. Proposals for involving local teenagers via gardening were discussed and it was agreed to consult Yemi Akimsenwa, Haringey Youth Outreach Worker.

The Triangle Centre was discussed as a potential place for future meetings. It was proposed that we should invite representatives of this Centre to our next General Meeting to discuss this and other issues.

It was suggested that we should make contact with the Bridge Renewal Trust.

It was suggested that we should aim to close off the Stamford Hill rail station end of Vartry Road in order to move traffic away from areas used by children playing. It was agreed that it would be necessary to consult with Haringey Highways Department before taking this further. PS Smyth asked if there had been road accidents locally: CM reported that a car had run into the St. Mungo's Hostel fence. Two other accidents had taken place on Seven Sisters Road adjacent to the top of Vartry Road, one involving a cyclist and the other the destruction of the wall of a front garden.

7. Any other business

PS Smyth drew the meeting's attention to the police registration scheme entitled "Immobilize Property Register" for electronic equipment. Full details of this are supplied in the booklet "Haringey Crime Prevention Guide" and on the Haringey Council website.

The meeting wished to express its thanks on behalf of Vartry Community Residents' Association to Charles Mugenyi was continuing partnership help and assistance.

Date of next meeting: The next General Meeting will take place on Saturday 4 December at 11 am