**PALACE GATES RESIDENTS’ ASSOCIATION**

**Annual General Meeting:**

**7pm Wednesday October 30th 2019**

**Held at Hobarts Estate Agents**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**1.PGRA Activities**

**Kevin Stanfield:**

* Carol Singing on the Triangle. A great success, which will be repeated this year on Wednesday December 11th. Proceeds from the collection are donated to Crisis at Christmas.
* Summer Fete. A great success again. Next year will be the 10th Summer Fete, so we plan to make it special. Money raised at the Fete contributes towards the PGRA’s annual expenditure.
* The Gardening Group meets at 11am every first Saturday of the month, except during the depths of winter, to maintain and improve the beds on the Palace Gates Triangle and the beds at the mini-roundabout at the junction of Crescent Rise and Albert Rd. Emails are sent in advance with information of what work will be done. All volunteers are welcome! Anyone interested in joining the Group should contact Molly Doran or Hilary Reynolds.
* Last Sunday a group of local residents, joined by Cllr Nick da Costa, got together to clean the war memorial outside St Saviour’s Court in preparation for the Remembrance Sunday service to be held there on Sunday November 10th at 3pm.After removal of large amounts of surface dirt and grime, inscriptions became visible, which had been obscured for many years.

**2. PGRA Accounts**

**Kevin:** Presented the Financial Report for October 2018 to October 2019

Accounts:

**BALANCE AT OCTOBER 2018                          £2830**

Revenue in Financial Year:

Members’ Subscriptions £160

Fete Net Proceeds £662

Carol Singing Collection £191

Haringey (Gardening) Grant £1175

**TOTAL REVENUE £2188**

Expenditure in Financial Year:

Carol Singing Expenses £40

Fete Tables purchased £343

Donation to Crisis at Christmas £191

Plants and Gardening £740

Web hosting cost £90

Christmas lights £114

Neighbourhood Survey costs £145

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE £1663**

**BALANCE AT OCTOBER 2019                 £3355**

PGRA subscriptions for 2019 /2020:

**Kevin:** The annual subscription of £5 is now due for the year October 2019/2020. A number of members have already paid the 2019/2020 subscription in advance.

It should be noted that Haringey Council require that registered Residents’ Associations maintain a list of paid-up members.

The simplest method of making payment is by

direct bank transfer to the PGRA’s account:

Barclays Bank

Palace Gates Residents Association

Sort code 20 32 00

Account no. 70796956

Members paying by direct bank transfer are requested to confirm their payment by email to Kevin Stanfield (Kevin.stanfield@btinternet.com) and Walter Macharg (wsmacharg@gmail.com).

**3. Projects to Improve the Environment in the PGRA Area**

Maintenance of the beds at the Palace Gates Triangle and at the Crescent Rise mini-roundabout:

**Molly Doran:** The Gardening Group consists of a small core group of regular volunteers.

This year considerable effort has again been concentrated on watering the beds during the various periods of hot, dry weather. Thanks are due to John and Indijana Harper for their hard work carrying buckets of water across the road to the large bed at the Triangle. Thanks also to those who managed to keep the hanging baskets regularly watered. Thanks also to David Rennie for keeping a check on the state of the trees

We have recently been cutting back and tidying the shrubs at the beds on the Triangle. We have also been planting winter bedding plants.

We are grateful to Dave at Crescent Hardware shop for supplying plants at very reasonable cost. It was suggested that we should approach Muswell Hill Horticultural Society for cuttings.

For next year we will have to seriously consider replacing some of the box shrubs in the large bed on the Triangle, which are affected by box blight. Hebes have been suggested as a good replacement.

**4. Neighbourhood Street Survey – Update on Results**

**Kevin:** Presented a Powerpoint slide show, illustrating the following principal items.

(The complete Powerpoint presentation will be made available on the PGRA and Alexandra Park Neighbours websites).

Reasons for Survey:

* Explore attitudes and opinions amongst the wider community.
* Assess the extent to which residents want to be engaged and involved.
* Provide a credible platform to take to Haringey Council to achieve traction and recognition of local issues.

A total of 179 responses were received, which is a high response rate by comparison with response rates to formal consultations.

Principal concerns raised:

* Speeding traffic
* Success of local shops
* Air Quality
* Safety of children
* Volume of traffic

Detailed comments related to these issues:

* Speeding traffic
* Parking
* Uneven and broken paving stones
* Litter and fly-tipping
* Success of local shops

**Nick da Costa:** Commented that he would be following up with Cllr Seema Chandwani, the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, to find out further details about a circular letter recently distributed in her name to a number of residents in Alexandra Park Rd, Crescent Rd and Palace Gates Rd. The letter states that ‘Haringey Labour’ will be tackling HGVs by installing weight restriction cameras in Alexandra Park Rd and Crescent Rd, as a result of pressure from local residents. However, no residents present at the AGM were aware of any dialogue taking place between Haringey Council and local residents’.

**5. Proposed abolition of Alexandra ward**

**Alex King:** Provided a summary of the consultation carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC) during the summer.

The LGBC reviews ward boundaries at intervals based on specific criteria:

* Equalise proportion of voters per Councillor
* Respect community identity

The current review is based on a presumed population increase in Haringey of 10,000 by 2024, mainly in the east of the borough.

The LGBC has proposed that Alexandra ward is abolished and is split between Bounds Green ward and a new Muswell Hill South ward. This would allow for the creation of an additional ward in the east of the borough, maintaining a total of 19 wards with 3 councillors per ward.

A number of other changes to ward boundaries and names were proposed.

Objections were submitted to the proposals, largely from Harringay and Alexandra wards.

Most of the submissions from Alexandra were based on suggestions from Alexandra Park Neighbours (APN), under which Alexandra ward would be retained with minor changes with a reduction to 2 councillors. The principal reason for objection was to maintain the identity of the existing ward and the active community connections across the ward.

**Cllr Nick da Costa:** The previous date of December 3rd for LGBC to publish its final recommendations has been postponed to mid-January due to the General Election.

**6. Update on other issues in our area**

1. Alexandra Park and Palace

**Cllr Nick da Costa:** Advised that a consultation would be carried out shortly on the introduction of parking charges for the use of the large car parks at the Palace.

1. Yard next to Dave’s hardware shop

**Kevin:** Dave has advised that he has the legal right to remain until September 2020.

1. Planning proposal for residential development in Crescent Mews

**Tony Hopkins:** This planning proposal was published in April this year. Earlier this month a further ‘Re-consultation’ letter was distributed, advising of various changes to the planning proposal to address some of the objections, which had been raised to the original proposal. The end date for this Re-consultation period was October 29th.

Quite a number of further objections have now been submitted, particularly re-iterating the original concerns about the following issues:

* Density of the social housing, insufficient daylight
* Safety of pedestrians crossing the narrow roads leading out of Crescent Mews with limited sightlines and an increase in vehicles providing services to the residents.
* Parking provision. Only ’blue badge’ spaces are provided in the development, resulting in other cars being parked in the limited space in the Alexandra CPZ or surrounding roads. The developers’ claim that Haringey will not allow residents to apply for CPZ parking permits does not seem realistic.
* Insufficient space for children’s recreation.
* Restricted access and manoeuvrability for Fire Service vehicles.

**Cllr Nick da Costa:** Advised that the planning proposal will be on the agenda for the next Planning Subcommittee meeting on November 11th. He will be speaking to object to the details of the proposal, not to the principal of the provision of additional housing stock.

Meanwhile it is still possible to submit further objections, as the deadline of Oct 29th is not hard and fast. It is expected that a site visit by Haringey planning officers will take place w/c 4th November

1. Police and Crime Report

**Tony**: Every 3 months representatives of the PGRA attend the meeting of the Alexandra Ward Safer Neighbourhood Team panel together with members of the local Police and local Councillors. These meetings are an information-sharing forum, where the public have the opportunity to hear about local policing issues, express their concerns and agree priorities for police action in the local area.

We are pleased to hear that we live in a ‘relatively’ crime free neighbourhood ward. Latest crime statistics from our local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) for the last 3 months are:

- 15 Burglaries.

- 16 Thefts of vehicles, mainly mopeds.

-21 Thefts from vehicles, mainly builders’ vans

We have been advised to be vigilant when using mobile phones or tablets in the street, as brazen theft by moped drivers is an increasing problem in London

There has recently been a spate of bogus telephone callers, purporting to be utility or phone/internet providers, attempting to obtain personal banking data.

The Police urge residents to call 101 to report anything suspicious.

e) Pinkham Way

**Tony:** The long drawn out process of finalising the North London Waste Plan is continuing. The next important stage, the Examination in Public by an Inspector from the national Planning Inspectorate, is scheduled for November 20/ 21.

Its outcome has the potential to determine whether or not a waste processing plant is built on a location, which has already been designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. (SINC)

**Susie Holden:** The Pinkham Way Alliance (PWA) will have representatives at the Public Examination. The PWA also expresses its thanks for the generous donations, which have enabled it to keep up the ongoing campaign

**7. Open Discussion and Future Ideas**

1. Residents in Dorset Road

**Indijana**: Some residents in Dorset Rd have enquired about joining the PGRA, as this road together with Bridge Rd and Terrick Road do not belong to any residents’ association. These residents consider themselves part of our local community, as they cross the bridge to visit the shops and food and drink outlets. They also join in our activities, such as the Carols and Summer Fete. It was suggested that they could join the PGRA as ‘affiliate’ members.

1. Shuttle buses operating from Alexandra Palace station to Spurs stadium.

**Cathy Daniels:** Expressed concern about the large number of cars, which park in Palace Gates Rd and surrounding roads on match days. The leaflets distributed by Haringey last year stated that the football supporters would be traveling by train to Alexandra Palace station

**Cllr Nick da Costa:** Haringey Council has been requested to conduct a further consultation on this matter

**8. Election of Officers**

The following Officers were re- elected:

Kevin Stanfield – Chair

Tony Hopkins – Secretary

Walter Macharg – Treasurer

The PGRA General Committee consists of the 3 Officers above plus the following members:

Alex King

David Rennie

Molly Doran

Grant Gahagan

Jackie Baker

**9.Any Other Business**

**Kevin:** Thanked Chris Devonport and his team at Hobarts for their ongoing hospitality and generous support of the PGRA.

**List of attendees**

**Kevin Stanfield**

**Tony Hopkins**

**Indijana Harper**

**Annabel Gregory**

**Alex King**

**Graham Warne**

**Grant Gahagan**

**Molly Doran**

**Walter Macharg**

**Michael Solomon-Williams**

**Cathy Daniels**

**Ed Allen**

**Kathryn Dean**

**Susie Holden**

**Tessa Thomas**

**Cllr Nick da Costa**