

PALACE GATES

RESIDENTS'

ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting:
6pm Monday November 30th 2020
Held remotely by Zoom software

Minutes of Meeting

1. PGRA Activities

Kevin Stanfield:

- Carol Singing on the Triangle. Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold our usual event this year due to the pandemic. However, the PGRA will send a £100 donation to Crisis at Christmas.
- PGRA members are encouraged to send their own donations.
- Summer Fete. We were not able to hold our usual Summer Fete this year.
- We very much hope that we can hold a Fete next year, in either June or July. This will be our 10th Anniversary

2. PGRA Accounts

Kevin: Presented the Financial Report for October 2019 to October 2020:

BALANCE AT OCTOBER 2019	£3355
Revenue in Financial Year:	

Members' Subscriptions	£30
Carol Singing Collection	£167

TOTAL REVENUE	£197
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Expenditure in Financial Year:

Carol Singing Expenses	£42
Donation to Crisis at Christmas	£167
Plants and Gardening	£249
Web hosting cost	£90
Our Street beyond Covid leaflets	£165

TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£713
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BALANCE AT OCTOBER 2020	£2839
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This year our revenue has been depleted as we have not received a gardening grant from Haringey, nor have we received the usual profit from the Summer Fete. Our members' subscriptions are also much reduced, as most of the subs are collected at the Fete.

Members are encouraged to pay their usual annual subscription of £5 for the year October 2020/2021.

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

Molly Doran:

- The Gardening Group usually 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.
- This year we have not been able to hold the usual monthly sessions. However, a number of ad-hoc sessions have taken place at both locations and also emergency watering sessions have been held during the heatwave conditions in the summer.

The large raised bed at the Triangle and also the two beds at each side of the Triangle now need a lot of work. We will be hiring a gardener for two days in December to break the back of this and hope to organise another residents' session also during December.

In past years we have been fortunate to receive plants at very reasonable cost from Dave at Crescent Hardware. As the shop is now closed, we will need to seek other sources for inexpensive plants. **Cllr Nick da Costa** suggested that we should ask Sunshine Garden Centre, who have donated quite a number of plants to the Friends of Ally Pally Station.

4. Traffic Management in our Streets – Update

Kevin: For quite some time the PGRA has been having discussions with Haringey about the continuing problems of rat-running through our streets. The main issues are *volume and speed* of traffic, which in turn lead to concerns about air pollution and safety of pedestrians and cyclists.

We have been assisted by local Councillors, but our efforts have been frustrated by many factors,

not least the frequent changes of responsibility for Traffic management at Cabinet level within Haringey Council.

The recent and rapid implementation of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) via Experimental Traffic Orders in various London boroughs during the pandemic has proved quite controversial. Neighbourhoods have been divided in strong opinions in the same way as is the case of Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs).

The PGRA is seeking to ensure that the recently announced programme of resident engagement and pre-consultation is followed by Haringey. The PGRA will seek to ensure that all residents' voices are heard

Cllr Alessandra Rossetti: Presented a Powerpoint slide show, indicating the latest information and next steps regarding the implementation of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) in Alexandra Ward and adjacent wards (Haringey Bounds Green and Enfield Bowes Park).



Presentation_PGRA
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Annabel Gregory: Described the events, which have taken place this year regarding the pressure by the PGRA and other local traffic action groups for Haringey to implement traffic measures in our area and also in the Bounds Green portion of Alexandra ward:

- A neighbourhood meeting of PGRA residents was held in February in the Sweet Tree bakery.
- A larger neighbourhood meeting was held by Zoom in October, entitled 'Our Streets beyond Covid'. This meeting was organised by the Alexandra Low Traffic Group and the PGRA and was attended by residents and Councillors throughout Alexandra ward.

Annabel suggested a further large meeting might be organised for January involving Alexandra ward residents, Councillors and Haringey representatives.

Tony Hopkins: Stressed that it appeared that the Palace Gates area was being overlooked by Haringey. A meeting should be organised between our Councillors, the PGRA and Haringey representatives at the earliest opportunity.

The recent announcement by Haringey that Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras were going to be installed to restrict traffic in School Streets to local residents during school start and end periods was an encouraging sign that ANPR cameras could also be used together with modal filters to restrict traffic to local residents in a Low Traffic Neighbourhood in our area.

Ruth Cowan: Expressed concern at the traffic problems in Alexandra Palace Way, which had been caused by double parking in the carriageway alongside the newly installed barriers in the parking bays. On occasion the W3 bus could not get through. Ruth mentioned that the night - time closure of the road during the summer due to Anti- Social Behaviour had caused the ASB to shift to Alexandra Park Rd close to the Bedford Rd junction.

Cllr Nick da Costa: Offered to follow up with Louise Stewart, the CEO of Alexandra Palace, as the road is the responsibility of the Park and Palace.

5. Update on other issues in our area

a) Alexandra Park and Palace

Kevin: The Palace has been suffering from drastically reduced income this year. It has applied for a grant from the Cultural Recovery Fund, but no news has yet been received on this. Members are encouraged to support the Palace by attending the various events, which were

allowed to start in October and will resume in December.

b) Closure of Crescent Hardware shop

Kevin: Dave has had a miraculous recovery from Covid after spending almost six months in hospital. His experience is featured in the second episode of the BBC programme 'Hospital', which was broadcast on Monday November 16th. Unfortunately, he is unable to keep the shop open. We wish him well in his recovery.

It appeared that the shop unit was going to be taken over by a Cookery school, but there has been no further news. There also does not seem to be any progress on the 'Radiator' shop next door.

c) Police and Crime Report

Tony: Representatives of the PGRA attend regular meetings 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.

This year we have only been able to meet twice, most recently by Zoom earlier in November.

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

- 11 Burglaries.
- 15 Thefts of vehicles
- 57 Thefts from vehicles
- 10 Drug offences

There has been a marked increase in Ant-Social Behaviour (ASB), including drugs offences, during the spring Lockdown and also during the succeeding period of social restrictions. Instances of ASB have been most common in Alexandra Palace Way. ASB has now been included as one of the priorities for Police action.

6. Election of Officers

The following Officers were re- elected:

Kevin Stanfield – Chair

Tony Hopkins – Secretary

Walter Macharg – Treasurer (Acting)

Walter Macharg has recently moved out of the PGRA area, but has said that he is happy to continue in his role until a replacement can be found. Alex King offered to take over the role, if a more suitable candidate can't be found.

List of attendees

Kevin Stanfield

Tony Hopkins

Annabel Gregory

Alex King

Graham Warne

Grant Gahagan

Molly Doran

Ruth Cowan

Jackie Baker

Pat McCulloch

Cllr Nick da Costa

Cllr Alessandra Rossetti