

Eastcote Village Conservation Area Advisory Panel

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, Wednesday 11th June 2014 held at The Stables, Eastcote House Gardens

The meeting opened at 7.30.pm

Present:

Lesley Crowcroft, Linda Furnell, Joan Butfield, Rosemary Bucksey, Tony Bucksey, Jane Neave, Linda Wells, Ian Murray, Rob Cousins, Keith Barnard, Chris Groom, Cllr. Nick Denys, David Payne, Parvathy Nair, Jenny Gurdon, Susan Toms, Zoe Drewitt Gazette, Cllr. Becky Haggar, Cyril Haggar, Heather Chamberlain.

Apologies for Absence:-

Frances Hawkins, Ed Fuller, Marg Bacon, Bob Densley, Cllr. Catherine Dann Mayor of Hillingdon, Adrian Batten LBH, David Bennington, Karen Spink, Gill Hughes, Gerry Edwards, Anne Payne

1. The Chairman welcomed Nicky Denys and Becky Haggar, new Councillors, and Zoe Drewitt, from the Gazette and thanked the Gazette for all their coverage of Eastcote House Gardens.

2. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th March were approved.

3. Matters arising not on the agenda

- Hinman Shield - was presented to Field End Infants
- A new award for community based services, sponsored by Joan and Terry Butfield, will be presented on the 13th September at 6th Eastcote Scout Hut. Name for the award to be decided.
- Heather Chamberlain was asked about progress on the questionnaire for St Lawrence Church. HC stated that this had been delayed and may now be September.

4. Election of Officers

- Dr. David Payne was ratified as President. DP said how proud he was to be offered position of first President.

5. Treasurers Report

- Very little movement. Current balance is £172.91. £79.14 to Warrender Park for bulbs (WP use the EHG bank account so this money is in/out) £20. for the wreath for the British Legion and £10. for the fee for London Green Spaces Friends Group Network.

6. Rob Cousins – Friends of Pinn Meadows

- The public consultation regarding the draft Hillingdon Local Plan is scheduled to begin soon and proposes to remove Pinn Meadows (and Long Meadow and Manor Farm) from Hillingdon's Green Chain and designate it instead as Metropolitan Open Land, but stronger protection will be provided if the sites remain in the Green Chain whilst additionally designating the area as Metropolitan Open Land. The wording of the existing Green Chain policy is also proposed to be weakened in the Draft Local Plan. These issues will be raised at the next LBH Residents Planning Forum on 26th June.
- A Chrysalis application has been submitted for new footpaths and drainage on Pinn Meadows following the flooding earlier this year. An additional external grant application has also been submitted to build new wetland areas to drain the long-standing water from residents' gardens.
- The drug dealing problem adjacent to the skateboard park in Kings College Road is being successfully tackled by the Metropolitan Police who have made numerous arrests and issued many formal warnings over the past few months. The issue was discussed in detail with the police at the SNT Ward Panel meeting on 9th April.
- FoPM will be holding a Scythe Festival Picnic 12-3pm on Saturday 5th July on the east side of the Kings College Road playing fields adjacent to the River Pinn. All residents and their friends and families are welcome to attend and the Mayoress and Ruislip Fire Brigade will also be in attendance.

Ed Fuller Warrender Park (read by LC)

- Future maintenance of the paddling pool flower bed has been resolved at least in the short term. Spraying has cleared the persistent weeds and a gardening session by Friends of WP and 6th Eastcote Beavers/Cubs and Supporters has resulted in partial

planting with flowers. The Beaver/Cubs will maintain the flower bed over the summer.

- There has been a lovely and much admired display of poppies on the wildflower meadow. A very heavy infestation of the meadow by docks and hemlock which obscured the poppies has been partially controlled by an ongoing programme of selective cutting back of flowering heads to hopefully reduce future weed problems.
- We have been informed that the tennis courts are due to be upgraded during the school summer holidays.
- AB had sent the following reply: the tender for these works is currently out and is due back within the next two weeks. After evaluation the contract will be awarded and works will start on site during August.
- The 3 areas planted with poppies to commemorate the Great War have struggled with water logging of the beds due to the heavy rain, but we hope for a good display anon.
- The debris from the oak tree damaged in the winter storms cannot be cleared until the ground is dry enough to support the contractor's vehicles.
- We are looking into finance to buy bulbs for planting in the autumn

AB's written replies to further queries were read out by LC:-

- Has any information been found regarding the 106 monies that should be available for picnic benches. Andy sent the information. –AB - I am unaware of the 106 monies that should be available for picnic benches, however when the tenders come back for the tennis court project there may be some funds available for some picnic benches. If there is not I will look to see if there are any funds available for these benches.
- When LC wanted to have the toilets open for a session with the 6th Eastcote Cubs and Beavers the key could not be found. Has it been located yet? The upgrade on these toilets cost about 20K and they have only been used once in 4 years. – AB. You will be

pleased to hear that the locks have now been changed and the toilet block has been cleaned inside in readiness for this weekend's activity. A key will be provided to you shortly for your event.

- It has been reported to me that approx. 8pm on a Friday evening, disposable BBQ's are being used in WP. They are being put on the picnic tables and are scorching the wood. When told to remove them the answer was there is no notice to say we can't and the BBQ is too hot to move. AB – this has been forward to our anti-social behaviour team to follow up as BBQ's are not permitted within our parks.

Eastcote House Gardens

- Graffiti on the Sheila Liberty bridge and the walled garden seat, the first seat on the left after coming through the gate, it is the name plaque that has been painted over, again it is Sheila Liberty. AB – these two items have been reported to our graffiti team and should be actioned within the next 48 hours.
- The Shrine in Long Meadow is now creeping back, messages have been painted on the trees as well as all sorts of stuff hung on the trunk. AB – our Park Officers have been instructed to remove these items and monitor the situation.
- Disposable BBQ put into a rubbish bin on Sunday 8th June around 4pm. Set bin on fire. Members of Friends dealt with the situation. AB – this has been forwarded to our anti social behaviour team to follow up as BBQ's not permitted within our parks. Thank you to the members of the Friends who dealt with the situation.
- The blocked gully/drain at the Field End Road entrance – what news? AB – this has once again been reported to our facilities management team to action and concerns have been raised at the unacceptable length of time that this has taken and still not resolved.

7. Safer Neighbourhood Team Report

- LC and RC attended the meeting where they were shown a map of crimes. RC queried about informing people of crimes committed near their homes.

- Car owners should be aware that a generic key is being used to open cars.
- LC pointed out the problems at EHG . If people see a crime being committed ring 999; 101 for crimes already committed.
- There will be street meeting organized by the SNT near to the Skate Park

8. London Green Belt Society

- IM said no meeting since March and hardly any news. We should be aware of developments in areas close by, Headstone Lane – a caravan park and Stanmore Woods another development.

9. Friends of Green Spaces Network

- Martin Cartwright member of FoPM attends the FoGSN representing the Local Friends Groups of this area. The aim is to set up Forums within each London Borough. Through this contact EHG took part in London Tree Week. A guided walk 31st May. This led to recruiting two extra volunteers and some donations for the Restoration Fund.

10. Planning

- Pembroke Park – CG stated that it has always been agreed that a memorial plaque telling the history of RAF Eastcote, home of the now Bletchley Park, would be placed at the site. All buildings and roads have names connected with the war time use of the station. ST passed round the wording of the plaque.
- DP asked for news on the garage. LC confirmed that there had been no further news.
- Cllr. Michael Markham is now Champion for Heritage and Ecology; he is interested in the projects at EHG, Long Meadow and, hopefully Pinn Meadows.
- Yeading Valley Working Party – 100 mtrs. of Yeading Brook are in Eastcote so LC and RC able to attend meetings and keep Pinn in

forefront. The last meeting updated everyone on the activities of all groups concerned.

The Meeting closed at 8.30.pm