



Alexandra residents Association
8pm, Wednesday 27th June 2012, Crooked Billet

1. Chairman's welcome and apologies

Apologies: Chair: Carrie Ridley, Neil Ridley, Helen Hayton, Winsome Pinnock, Adrian Rotheray, Sarah Garcia, Lynne Boone (Neighbourhood Watch)

Present;

Richard Asbury, Taking the Chair for Carrie Ridley

Shirley Homewood, Treasurer

Brian Braddon, Shed

Alex Fuller, Secretary

Jenny Czezowski, Committee

Sally-Ann Hodge, Committee (arrived later)

Total Committee members present: 6

Visitors: John Getgood, [Penge & Cator Ward Councillor]

Anna Hughes, Tennyson Rd.

Total Visitors present: 2

Olive Beadle

Peggy Moore

Owen Moore

Lilian, Mountjoy

Jo Smith

Jane Doxey

Margaret Roles

A M Barnfield

Matthew Farrand

Jessica Farrand

Gill Wade

Mavis Sherman

Jackie Wilson
Jane Ching
Jane Guernier
Peter Dunn
Gill Phillips
David Phillips
Anna Taylor
Andy Peake

Total members Present: 20

Total Present: 28

Approval of 2011 minutes

No objections and approved by Jill Phillips, Seconded by Jackie Wilson

Action: email AGM minutes to all members in addition to publishing them on the website.

2. Matters arising

None

3. Financial report 2011-2012

Presented By Shirley Homewood

Money has been raised from a variety of activities.

£201 donated to The Candle Project from 'Come Dine With Me' events.

HSBC were charging us to put money in to account, so a Barclays account has been opened and we are closing down HSBC.

Shirley pointed out that there was no income from the shed in the year 2011-12. The £71 recently given to her by Brian would be shown in the 2012-13 accounts.

Money raised by some events and the cards has helped to finance others which many have enjoyed i.e. jubilee party.

Post 31st. May, expenses for the Jubilee Party have amounted to £351.00 leaving a current available balance of £1725.65p.

Jubilee Party Expenses so far £351. A loss but there is still plenty of money in the account.

Jill Phillips accepts accounts, Margaret Roles seconded.

Alexandra Group – Shirley is standing down from organising this. *Action: Shirley to discuss this with members at next Alexandra Group Meeting*

4. Report on social events

Richard Asbury on behalf of Adrian Rotheray who is resigning from the committee

Come Dine with me – Very enjoyable but difficult to organise, so agreed not to repeat this. Raised lots of money for charity

Taste of the cottages - Successful – ‘a triumph!’ all agreed to repeat this.

Halloween Pub gathering– unpopular perhaps because on a Monday agreed to take a year off this.

Market stall - Jane Doxey: a lot of work, needs more planning and more people to be involved, need to promote earlier. Could have priced cakes higher as sold out quickly. Our community was reaching out to the wider community.

Action: Jane Doxey willing to help with another stall at the Christmas Fair if more people are prepared to get involved.

Food events prove very popular.

Panto, very enjoyable for those who took part and audience. *Action: Agreed to ask Adrian and Franco to do this again.*

Come Dine with me Finalé – very high standard of food. Over £200 pounds to Candle Project.

Jubilee Street Party - Triumph despite the ‘drizzle’! Good turn out.

Jane Ching – asked ARA to thank Adrian officially and all agreed for *ARA buy a token something to say thank you.*

Franco is continuing with the website

Look at the website for photos of the events.

Future Event Open Gardens June/July next year. (Month of May was too early)

All agreed the events were important were an important part of the estate community.

5. Social events for the next 12 months

- a.) Feedback from questionnaire; Disappointing return of questionnaires. 1st week : 8 out of 180 returned eventually 39 returned.

Street Party most popular and pop-up stall.

- b.) Panto – Adrian and Franco have offered to help with another Festive Panto event in January if we would like. Hall is provisionally booked for 12th Jan
- c.) Ideas and suggestions for future events:
- Olympics Sunday 29th July 3-5pm: (Presented by Jo Smith who is currently planning this event with Alex Fuller) emphasis on children in host gardens with cake and adult races at the end of Victor Rd. to finish. Over 40 children on the estate so should do something specifically for them. Sold bags to raise money. 3 distinct groups of children. Torch parade, host gardens (not pristine)

Churches are offering activities. Need host gardens, sandwiches, cakes, request for £100 from ARA other expenses will be met by bag sales. Tug of war : Street vs street? Hat and Handbag walk marathon. E.g. 11.30am? Games suitable for children appreciated. Tug of War, raffle with sports theme more prizes wanted, Action: Sally-Ann offered to do dance with the children. All agreed for a magician to be paid for out of funds (£100).

- **Market stall/Holy Trinity** Agreed to hold one at Christmas time
- **Slow food/harvest time event** Instead of taste of the cottages a slow food event. *Action: Andy Peake to co-ordinate with Sarah.* Estate house doing well and we should support them as a great asset. Jenny says the nursery is happy to offer premises for our meetings.
- **ARA Table top sale** (Anna) to get rid of excess clutter all agreed a good idea. Minimum of four sellers needed; (Anna, Jackie), Careful with outsiders coming into homes so need to take care over advertising. – leaflet drop. Hold in front gardens/church hall/ garages tbd. *Action: Anna to co-ordinate with support from ARA.*
- Burns night – winter event Jan 28th Caley in church hall suggested. All agreed this was a good idea. *Action: Richard, Andrea and Jane to help organise this.*

6. Publications

Greetings cards – *Action: all agreed that we should continue making and selling these and make Christmas ones.*

- a. **Porcupine Post** – Thanks to Adrian and Franco for co-ordinating this. Tom at No. 55 has volunteered to take over organisation/editing with Helen Hayton, from Committee and Jo Smith is happy to continue to help with articles. Interesting to find out what others on the estate are doing and the History of the estate. Thanks to the contributors. Perhaps include interviews with members?
- b. **Newsletter** - Thanks to Shirley who compiles and prints these when there is news to share. Give news to Shirley, new babies, people unwell ask reps to feed this info. Back. *Action: Jack, Princes Rd 22? (Alex ask Shirley address) send card as he has been unwell.*
Road reps currently collecting subs.

7. Neighbourhood Watch update -Lynne sends apologies

Police changes, new systems being put in place by the new Gov,
The PCSO's have gone though their exams and have moved on to be PC's in various boroughs.
This leaves us with –Two PCSO's and one PC and 1 sergeant who will have their work cut out.
We need to be more vigilant as police are elsewhere and have been trimmed down.

The Hardings Lane- Burglar caught with finger prints - and excellent news in the year of the Queens Diamond Jubilee he is at Her majesty's Pleasure.

Burglary on Edward Road –Lynne asked police why the burglar chose that house - maybe because front garden needed weeding and a little TLC and house next door was slightly over grown uncared for next door house had smart water stickers in window. Police found Mobile phone and DNA /blood in the house so looking positive.

The estate has not been hit as hard as other areas. - Kings hall Road had a terrible time.

Success of Smart water - maybe time to do round two we had 40 people first time now time to ask again who wants it. No positive convictions as burglars stay away from Smart water properties
Ladders !! Ladders !! Ladders !! Please lock them up.

Anyone wanting to help NW as Lynne needs to step down due to work commitments. She has done an amazing job big thank you to her. *Action: Get her a thank you token for her hard work*

8. Planning/Conservation

Alexandra Cottages Plaque

Carrie is going to have the original moulds collected and sent for new plaques to be made from cheaper, less desirable material, about £150 from per plaque. Remaining original plaque to be displayed in the Estate House

nursery where it should be safer. Thanks to Carrie for her hard work chasing up this. George has given us £40 towards new plaques and agreed for next fund raiser to go towards new plaques.

Victor Rd/Tennyson Rd.

The situation concerning a development on Morland Rd. which backs on to houses on Victor Rd. Andy Peake from Victor rd continues the fight against the Developer. Grand Central developments have violated any number of building regs. He is trying to get local press cover. This has gone to appeal. John Getgood advises appealing against appearance of balcony and the fact that it is overlooking. *Action: Andy Peake to draft a letter on behalf of ARA to support an appeal.*

Shed land ownership in question.

Discussion over possible need to secure ownership of that land. There is documentation (A trust deed) that each cottage owns a part of it. This was signed by all cottage owners many years ago who have since moved away. This is something we should clarify to avoid developers moving in. Perhaps get it for pro-bono. *Action: Jess to look into this.*

Fire in Bycroft Street a few years ago. Now site is used for storage again. – not van storage as originally suggested. Fire hazard objects stored. Jane Ching has approached environment agency who agree this is happening again and have taken photos and have contacted National rail. *Action: Please keep an eye on this. And email John Getgood if we have no response, he will also get into this.*

9. Community Gardening

Thanks to Anna and all the Gardeners.

A reminder that Gardening club continues the 2nd Sunday of every month, 11am-12 noon.

Remember to keep all gardens looking good for London in Bloom Competition in July.

10. New committee members

New road rep. needed for Victor Road. *Action: Will ask for volunteers in next newsletter. Sarah Garcia has joined committee to replace Pauline Collins who stepped down earlier this year.*

11. Election of Officers and examiners

All present agreed to re-elect existing committee members en masse.

12. Local Councillor, John Getgood Q&A

Anna Taylor thanked him for his work in improving the Hardings Lane walk way.

Large cuts continuing. First wave to schools and youth services, second wave to libraries, the elderly and housing. More people from central London moving out into Bromley area applying for help with housing.

Cuts include: Citizens Advice bureau to no-longer have a building.

Currently no town centre manager but job has been advertised (to share with Beckenham) Penge received some money from Lord Mayor of London for flowers/benches in high street.

Positive changes this year: Sale of estate house went through after pressure was put on previous owner to sell since empty for 30 years.

New Penge Sign including representation of Alexandra cottages. T-shirts for sale in the print shop

Some drainage work has been carried out.

Plea for ARA to continue to support the surrounding area. Penge is improving e.g. fewer empty shops than in Beckenham.

Mon 23rd July Olympic Torch to come through Penge High St. From 9.15am. Trade association in Penge is hoping to brighten up the town centre for this and will try and get local press interest.

Edgingtons:

Current Plans: 2nd floor: flats, 1st floor: Church, Ground floor: current planning permission for a gym, but still may be a new Penge Library, but Anerley library would have to close in order for this to happen. This would be an improvement to Penge as two and half times larger area than existing library.

Old Police station

This has been sold to a local developer, locally listed so difficult to convert for modern uses. May eventually be converted to flats but currently empty and attracting fly tipping. Environmental Health are getting involved to encourage owners to do something with it to avoid this.

Cranbrook Court

This has been converted into temporary accommodation for homeless households. Council will have some control over it as it is being let to Bromley residents through Bromley management companies. Local schools are aware of it.

Action: John Getgood suggested adding a link from ARA website to Penge and Cator councillors website for residents to keep up to date <http://pengeandcatorcouncillors.wordpress.com/> (Alex to ask Franco to add this)

Moorland Rd Flats

Andy Peake thanked John Getgood for his support. Bromley has refused permission of terrace and developers have the right to appeal. *Action: when planning inspector visits, must make sure they view flats from Victor Rd Gardens. ARA to submit objection to terrace even if it has frosted glass.*

Garden Waste Collection

This is about to be extended to Penge. It is possible to share bins with a neighbour to save space and money. *Action: Jane Ching to forward info. to all ARA especially Shirley who will put it into a newsletter.*

12. A.O.B.

ARA Greetings cards on sale at Alexandra Nurseries

Meeting Closed at 9.50pm