



AGM Minutes

Alexandra residents Association

8pm, Thursday 27th June 2013, Crooked Billet

1 Chairman's welcome and apologies

Chair: Lucy Smith (Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator)

Apologies: Jessica Farrand, Anna Taylor, Adrian and Franco, Jane Guernier and Peter,

Present:

Brian Braddon	Lucy Smith	Linda Power
Steve Grafham	Mavis Sherman	Gill Wade
Sarah Garnia	Diane Brown	S. Wilson
R. Bird	S. Homewood	J. Czezowski
Jill Philips	David Philips	Debbie Graham
No. 15. ?	Patric Lennox	Jane Ching
Jane Doxey	Andy Peake	Gary Patridge
Katherine Smitton	Jack Hilton	Alex Fuller
Sarah Garcia	Particia	Stuart
Peter Fookes (non-member)		

2 Approval of 2012 minutes

Jenny Czezowski and Jane Doxey approved the minutes and signed by Lucy Smith acting as Chair.

3 Matters arising

None.

4 Report on social events

Alex Fuller (Secretary) reported on the past years social events:

Children's Olympics, July 2012; Thanks to Jo who led this event and funded it from The Alexandra Cottage Bag Sales,

Yard Sale, September 2012; Thanks to Anna Taylor and Jane Doxey for organising this. Especially good idea to have a Red Cross van to collect unsold items at the end. *Action: Agreed to repeat this sale.*

Taste of The Cottages, October 2012, A successful event. Thanks to those who opened up their homes and cooked for everyone.

Panto, Jan 2013, Lots of fun and possibly the best so far. Thanks to Franco and Adrian, actors and helpers

Scottish Dance Night, February 2013, another successful event. Agreed that lots of people enjoy dancing events

Easter Egg hunt, March 2013, Thanks to the Easter Bunny helpers. The children really enjoyed this event.

Thanks to everyone who has helped over the past year.

5 Social events for the next 12 months

July 14th 2013: Open Gardens

Yard sale

Line Dancing/Barn Dancing

Following on from the music themed porcupine post which highlighted lots of talent in the cottages perhaps hold a musical evening.

6 Financial report 2012-2013

See separate report. Some profit made from Panto and Scottish Dance night. Jane Ching pointed out that profits of Scottish night had previously been agreed to go to St.Christopher's *Action: Shirley to send St.Christopher's a cheque*

Agreed that the ARA should support a charity each year. *Action: Lucy will make a short list of 5 local charities for the ARA to vote for one to support this year. Living Well was suggested to go on the list*

7 Community Gardening

Thanks to Anna Taylor for heading up the team which meet once a month. Thanks to those who help all month through: Anna and Margaret who have done a lot of the work on the Edward Rd flower beds, Patricia and Stuart who have done a lot on the wildflower area and recently done a guerilla gardening planting of a tree pit on Parish Lane with marigolds, Adrian who continues to look after the planters in the alley from Princes Rd to Victor Rd and all the volunteers who have donated their time or contributed plants over the year.

Keen to do more over the coming year - but need more pairs of hands. The next session is the second Sunday in July at 11 am - the last session before the judges come round for Penge in Bloom! (15th July)

Idea of autumn clear up / helping with individual gardens- but preparation before the judge visits is the priority for July.

8 Publications

- a) Porcupine Post- - Super issue thanks to Jess and Matthew and those who contributed.
- b) Newsletter – thanks to Shirley
- c) Community emails /face book – please join facebook to keep up to date and share information.
- d) Website – need to update the yellow pages – all to let us know of useful contact numbers of local tradespeople. Thanks to Franco who updates this immediately.

9 Neighbourhood watch update

Lucy smith, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator in Hardings Lane,

Crime map – the estate has hardly anything going on due to the vigilance of all. Please continue to look out for each other. Robbery, anti-social behaviour are the main offences – don't leave property in front gardens e.g. locked up bikes, garden tools, ladders, when you go on holiday don't leave light on all day and curtains pulled, tell your neighbours. Victim support group in shop in Maple road can get a box that sets off an alarm when you pull the cord out.

10 New Committee members

Please consider whether you would like to be on the committee.

11 Election of officers and examiners

Re-elected existing committee; Lucy Smith, Brian Braddon, Shirley Homewood, Jenny Czezowski, Sarah Garcia, Jessica Farrand, Sally Ann Hodge. Shirley Homewood would like to stay on committee but stand down as finance officer. Alex Fuller resigned as Secretary as she is moving.

Jane Doxey agreed to join the committee

Jane Ching will consider joining. If anyone else is interested in joining the committee or helping with an event please let a committee member know.

Debbie nominated all of the committee members and Patricia seconds them all.

2013-14 Accounts to be checked by Graham (Albert Rd.) hopefully - *Action: Debbie to ask him*

12 Local Councillor Q and A

Peter Fookes:

Kent House Public House: squatting by former licensee but being resolved.

Alexander Pub - all agreed to follow up trying to make this part of the conservation area and nominate as a community asset. Porcupine pub in Mottingham has been looking into the community right to buy. We could look into this.

Action – committee to put 'The Alex' on next meeting agenda

Penge library: Possibility of taking over Edgingtons. Still no decision has been made. Anerley library needs lots of expensive building improvements

Melvin Hall – funding has been cut recently so not so good.

The Lodge in Penge recreation ground has been empty for about 15 years. Owned by the council who needs to be making an income from this.

Penge Police station - Planning application for flats but need for parking places for the flats 6 has been reduced to 5 but went to appeal.

Bins not being emptied very well domestic waste put in street bins?

Penge and Cator councillors have a wordpress blog. Link on our website

Local schools:

3 schools are in special measures Malcom, Royston, St. Johns and becoming academies.

Increased pupil numbers is a large problem.

Monday night the council will be discussing this- all welcome.

ARA member suggested to open the police station as a school. But council can't open up a new school

Proposal on Queen Anne Rd. and a Harris all through school at Kelsey school.

Planning: Peter Fookes is on the planning committee.

Street Lighting – new lighting has been put on hold by the ARA committee's actions. We can-not afford to replace lights with Victorian- style lamps. Need to find out exactly what size and style lamps are planned for our estate.

Qu: Could we have more Dog poo bins? Problem that they may not be emptied often enough

Qu: Do people actually get fined for dog poo? Currently not.

13 A.O.B.

Fund for WW2 memorial as only a WW1 currently in Penge. A local historian is collecting names for this – let Penge Partners know if you know of any name for the memorial.

Penge market is being resurrected – 30 stalls. Anyone interested in having a stall see Jenny Czezowski. The first market will be held on 27 July from 9.30am until 4pm

Penge Festival 2014: 2013 was successful with a Fair, poetry recital please give suggestions to committee for ideas for next year and organisations that might like to be involved.

Thanks for Carrie's hard work in replacing the Alexandra plaques after one was stolen last year. Thanks also to David Fuller of Albert Road for putting the plaques back on to the walls.

Art Project:

Lots of money in ARA funds – a proposal for a community art project to make a mosaic to go on wall by garages. Upside arts. 3 round discs 2 workshops that all resident could come to. One based on flowers and one to do with memories and stories to do with the cottages/history. Making small tiles. An artist will help us do this. Mount on wall (moveable) Cost over £600 to include everything. All voted for the project except one we will put proposal on the website – ask Franco and say thanks. Ask Esther from upside arts to come to a future committee meeting.

Thanks to Carrie Ridley who recently resigned as Chair after nearly 2 years in the role.

Thanks to all the committee and road reps who are currently collecting subs and selling Open Garden Tickets.

Meeting ended at 9pm

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