

OLD COULSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY, 8th January 2018

In the Heath Room, Old Coulsdon Congregational Church

Present:

Nigel Rea (Chairman)

Mike Blake

Alan Clifford

Marion Clifford

Sally Cook

Adrian Fosberry

Lee Honey

Brian Hudson

Caroline Jewell

Michael Seabrook

Vic Young

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Janet Stollery and Cllr Chris Wright.

The Chairman noted that this was the first meeting since November as the December meeting had been cancelled because of the icy conditions prevailing on the night.

2.0 MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING ON 13th November 2017

These were agreed following correction of a typo in the heading of Item 2.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED BY THE AGENDA

These would be covered as required.

4.0 REPORTS

4.1 Finance – report attached.

CJ drew attention in the December accounts to the main income items – membership subscriptions, the Christmas Party tickets and raffle, and the main expenditures – postage, the Christmas Part expenses.

CJ circulated details of the Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31/12/2017. Subject to alterations, it would be submitted at the AGM. Reference was made to some items: ink purchase going up, the cost of the website and OCRA domain name, and the £10 surplus in the Christmas party.

4.2 Membership and Recruitment

MC drew attention to discussions with the two road stewards who had not submitted the membership subscriptions for their rounds and asked for comments on the draft letter to all road stewards – there were none. The letter, with altered details of the subscriptions receipt address, would be given to each road steward with their bundle of the next newsletters.

MS drew attention to the current shortage of road stewards – six rounds were not covered. This would be publicised on Facebook and in the next newsletter which would also have the date of the Road Stewards' party. The date would also appear on the AGM agenda.

Action: NR/SC/AF

There was a discussion on the methods used by committee members, in their road steward roles, to collect membership subscriptions.

4.3 Planning – Report attached.

MS briefly referred to some items in his report for the cancelled December meeting and drew attention to The Fox application in the January report – the change to the sign was not an issue if the sign was not to be on the main road.

The main planning discussion would take place later in the meeting under Item 6 – Croydon and Coulsdon Developments.

4.4 Publicity – report attached

NR added that the Monthly Mail newsletter had been restarted and that it would include an item requesting more road stewards. VY suggested reporting that some blue recycling bins left out for collection had been searched by individuals looking for confidential information to use for illicit purposes. BH added that clothing left out for disposal was also being 'inspected'.

NR added that he had received complaints from Facebook users about journalist members using posting on the site to source commercial articles. As the publicity could be considered beneficial, it was agreed no action would be taken

4.5 Website – report attached.

NR had nothing to add other than reporting that Facebook membership had risen to 1835, 70% of whom were female.

4.6 Newsletter

SC drew attention to the copy date for the next newsletter and asked for articles to be submitted.

MB felt a Theatre Club article would be interesting as a full coach was taking members that week to see The Play that Went Wrong and that membership stood at 145 with more welcome.

There was likely to be an article on Bradmore Green library by Sally Ward-Lee.

4.7 Security – report attached

LH expanded on why the Nosey November campaign had not worked exactly as intended.

SC reported a doorstep approach by a builder and there was a brief discussion on ways to prevent such activities. NR suggested that Facebook was good at providing a fast alert. On a more general security issue, there was a reference to activated house alarms not drawing much attention.

Neighbourhood Watch. LH initiated a discussion on the promotion of this scheme locally by using Facebook and Twitter. The chairman of Croydon Neighbourhood Watch Association is Brian Udell, former Chairman of OCRA, but activity has reduced in recent years. An open meeting was felt to be the best way forward and to involve the local Neighbourhood Police officer, Chris Allen.

LH offered to provide, free, 'No Cold Calling' stickers.

5. COUNCIL ISSUES

The Chairman deferred this item in the absence of CW.

6.0 CROYDON AND COULSDON DEVELOPMENTS

- Brick by Brick (BxB) meeting on 7th December. NR reported on the meeting the Coulsdon RAs had with BxB and council officers. The main local concern is about the impact the various developments would have on parking. The latest plans are for 116 spaces on the Lion Green Car Park development (local RAs had asked for a minimum of 120), very significant reductions on the former CALAT site and no public parking on the current Coulsdon Community Centre (CCC) site.
- At the Lion Green Car Park site, the plans are for five housing blocks (pavilions) each between five and seven stories high. On the former CALAT site, most of the Malcolm Road car park would be taken up with a new Theatre built to replace the Community Centre site. Nearly all the current car park on the Woodcote Grove Road side will be taken up by a community health building. The CCC site plans are for a housing development with no public parking – currently Centre users have the use of 50 parking spaces.
- Former Plumb Center site. Permission granted in December for 22 flats with seven parking places and three business units.

- Coulsdon shops – it was reported that the owners of some of the shops have given notice to current tenants that other categories of tenants would be sought. Not clear exactly what is proposed.
- Lloyds Bank. On 26th February, this bank will be added to the list of banks which have closed in Coulsdon.
- Homefield House. Reported that demolition of the buildings on site should begin in January.
- Site meeting with Council's Highways Officer. AF reported that local RAs had organised a walking meeting with a council Highways Officers later in the week to inspect and seek advice and assistance in addressing various issues in the centre of Coulsdon e.g. Lion Green Road and the Aldi entrance from the roundabout.
- BxB developments in Croydon. LH reported that there was a large number of housing developments on small plots in the pipeline and that he was involved in many in his current role.
- Beddington Lane. It was reported that there would be closures between 8th January and mid-April for resurfacing and improvement works.

7.0 OCRA EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

LH reported that a suitable PA system had been identified. More work is required to identify a projector and screen.

Action: LH

8.0 CHRISTMAS PARTY REVIEW

MC reported that 44 tickets had been sold and 50 Santa gifts had been bought. The raffle had raised £85. There had been a lot of positive feedback. MC was thanked for producing another good party. The general comment was that the food and drink had been good – CJ was thanked for leading on this - and that the Costco purchases has been a worthwhile initiative.

9.0 CHRISTMAS DINNER REVIEW

Those attending reported that the evening was much as before and that the event had become rather tired. Given reports of other venues, moving would be worth considering but further action would depend on the views of the other RAs.

9.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (including other reports & correspondence)

Surplus funds issue. BH suggested that any OCRA funds available should be used to improve local facilities such as public benches or signs. Several benches, including those donated by OCRA, need attention as does the oak post supporting the OCRA sign in Bradmore Green. In discussion, it emerged that the Council was responsible for the upkeep of public benches. However, MB would establish the cost of new or replacement benches. NR proposed using Facebook to obtain suggestions for local improvements - the work on the Memorial rose beds had been well received. In addition, CW could be asked for his suggestions.

ACTION: MB & NR

10.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 12th February in the Old Coulsdon Retirement Centre.

The meeting closed at 09:40pm.

FINANCE REPORT-December 2017

Period January - December 2017

Period - December 2017

	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Membership Subscriptions	3,503.00		352.00	
Newsletter Adverts	1,761.75		0.00	
Amazon-website cont.	2.90		0.00	
Donations	11.50		2.50	
Theatre Club Subscriptions	58.00		0.00	
Xmas dinner Res. Assocns.	364.00		0.00	
WW1 fund see NOTE below	2,000.00		0.00	
Xmas party	386.00		386.00	
Total Receipts		8,087.15		740.50

PAYMENTS

Telephone	20.00		0.00	
Ink cartridges & IT	241.30		0.00	
General printing	50.00		0.00	
Postage	32.94		6.72	
Stationery	65.52		0.00	
Fuel	0.00		0.00	
Newsletters	2,522.00		0.00	
Subscriptions	90.00		0.00	
Donations	1,362.00		0.00	
AGM	46.65		0.00	
Road stewards party	215.69		0.00	
Village fair	94.00		0.00	
OCRA meetings hall hire	188.00		0.00	
OCRA summer party	67.50		0.00	
Xmas party	359.10		314.10	
Website	74.25		0.00	
Gifts	2.99		0.00	
Insurance	237.00		0.00	
Xmas dinner Res. Assocns.	364.00		0.00	
Total Payments		6,032.94		320.82

Excess of receipts (Jan-Dec) 2,054.21

Excess of payments (December) -419.68

Nat West Current A/C at December 31st 2017 10741.78 (05/01/2018)

NOTE: WW1 funds £2000 are being held for Mr. C. Wright and are **not** part of OCRA finances

Membership Report

Nothing to report except we still have two outstanding road stewards subs to come in.

Marion Clifford
3.1.2018

Planning Report

I'm always suspicious when there is nothing much happening in our area with planning but for the second month running there isn't a lot to report. I am checking with the website for updates so I'm sure at some point applications for this period will actually appear...

Anyway we are left to peruse suggestions for the Fox Pub.

[Installation of replacement illuminated and non illuminated signs.](#)

The Fox Public House Fox Lane Caterham CR3 5QS

Ref. No: 17/06164/ADV | Received: Tue 12 Dec 2017

[Erection of smokers shelter, fence around car park and car park lighting.](#)

The Fox Public House, Fox Lane Caterham CR3 5QS

Ref. No: 17/06112/FUL | Received: Thu 07 Dec 2017

For Info will no doubt be discussed under local issues.

[Erection of 3 storey dwelling forming five x 1 bedroom units](#)

Land R/O 8A - 12A Reddown Road Coulsdon CR5 1AX

Ref. No: 17/06380/OUT | Received: Fri 22 Dec 2017 | Validated: Fri 22 Dec 2017 | Status: Awaiting decision

[Redevelopment of site to provide 5no. five, six, seven storey buildings providing 96 one bedroom, 42 two bedroom and 19 three bedroom flats: provision of vehicular access, residential and town centre car parking spaces, hard and soft landscaping works and new private and public amenity space.](#)

Car Park And Adjoining Land Lion Green Road, Coulsdon, CR5 2NL

Ref. No: 17/06297/FUL | Received: Wed 20 Dec 2017 |

[Partial demolition and reconfiguration of the existing building, including the erection of a new multi-purpose function hall together with car parking, landscaping and other associated works](#)

Former Calat Centre 41 Malcolm Road Coulsdon CR5 2DB

Ref. No: 17/06217/FUL | Received: Fri 15 Dec 2017

[Demolition of outbuilding and erection of three storey building for non-residential use \(Use Class D1\) together with a new access from Woodcote Grove Road](#)

Land West Of 41 Malcolm Road Coulsdon CR5 2DB

Ref. No: 17/06218/OUT | Received: Fri 15 Dec 2017

[Demolition of existing community centre and erection of 33 residential units comprising 4 one bedroom flats, 12 two bedroom flats and 17 three bedroom houses, together with provision of car parking, landscaping and other associated works.](#)

Land North East Of Barrie Close (Coulsdon Community Centre) Chipstead Valley Road Coulsdon CR5 3BE

Ref. No: 17/06216/FUL | Received: Fri 15 Dec 2017

Michael Seabrook

6.1.2018

Publicity Report

- Monthly Mail - resumed following a break since July - see website & Facebook.
- Complaints about journalists on the Facebook Group

Nigel Rea

2.1.2018

Website Report

The website is at <https://www.theocra.org.uk/>. The Home page will be changed on 6th January to remove Christmas content.

Events - latest dates for 2018 added.

The Blog is used to publish current issues. The items in January are:

- School Holiday Dates
- OCRA Monthly Mail
- Coulsdon Commons Newsletter
- Christmas Waste Collections
- Kenley Revival Project
- SNT Newsletter
- SES Water - Stites Hill Road & Rydons Lane
- Defibrillator for Happy Valley
- Travel Information
- PPG Minutes
- OCRA Road Stewards

Planning - latest applications are under Planning - also added to Facebook - last one was 12th December.

Facebook - there are now 1,825 (1,783) members of the OCRA Group. 11 new members this week.

Nigel Rea

2.1.2018

Newsletter Report

I am now starting work on the Spring newsletter. Please let me know at the meeting if you will be providing any content.

Copy Date for this issue : 2nd February.

Sally Cook
5.1.2018

Security Report

- The Nosey November Micro Campaign was well received but we have had zero feedback as to anything that was reported (People do not like to openly admit to reporting).
- Due to very limited take up with the suggestion for Road Steward/Wardens to collate info and pass to DWO I ran a poll to ascertain the best route forward (Lots of info being passed around but not to Police). See Appendix A
- Meeting requested with DWO and OCRA Chair to Discuss Neighbourhood Watch and how to Increase members.
- Recommending Alarm/CCTV Companies or Systems is an absolute NO. We can direct people to the Secured by Design website <http://www.securedbydesign.com/> which is the Police approved Scheme and anything (Company) on this site are Secured by Design Accredited Thus Police approved. This unfortunately throws out any possibility of a bulk discount unless pushed by individuals to group purchase.
- Would a piece for the news letter around How to deal with cold callers, Identity and checking etc be suitable?
- I am now fully in post in my new job and will be seeing a lot of Pre-Application Planning and making Planning comments in an official capacity around physical security of new developments generally over 10 units. I will also be involved in signing off security certificates for the Cane Hill Development in separate phases. Lot's in the pipeline for Croydon including the Worlds Tallest Modular Tower, Westfield, Crystal Palace Football Club Expansion by 1/3rd so I have been chucked right in at the deep end.
- Several Burglaries locally but no apparent pattern.
- A meeting took place on 05/01/2018 with the Chair, some other interested parties and myself around reintroduction of Neighbourhood Watch which appears to have fallen by the wayside and a plan is being formulated to take this forward with inclusion of all wards up to and including Croham and Sanderstead. It is hoped that with Fear of Crime on the rise and the spread of the gang mentality across the borough, the rise in Moped thefts and the rise in Moped enabled crime. NHW can be re invigorated and a big recruitment push would be beneficial. It is proposed once we gauge interest we ask NHW Coordinators/recruiters to stage a public meeting to inform potential NHW people of How the system works and how they can get involved. NHW has been stagnant/ non existent since I moved here and I for one have not seen any communication or requests for people to sign up. Our local PC Chris Allen fully supports this as he says that information from NHW has fallen massively.

Appendix A

Link to Sound/PA System

https://www.gear4music.com/PA-DJ-and-Lighting/QTX-QX15PA-Portable-PA-System-with-Bluetooth/1161?origin=product-ads&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=PLA%20Shop%20-%20%20QTX&utm_term=4584482451528387&utm_content=All%20Products%20-%20QTX#full-des

Lee Honey

6.1.2018