

**OLD COULSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**HELD ON MONDAY, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018**  
**In the Old Coulsdon Centre for the Retired**

**Present:**

Janet Stollery (Chairman)	Adrian Fosberry	Vic Young
Mike Blake	Brian Hudson	
Alan Clifford	Caroline Jewell	<i>By invitation:</i>
Marion Clifford	Nigel Rea	Cllr Chris Wright
Sally Cook	Michael Seabrook	

**1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were apologies from Lee Honey.

**2.0 MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING ON 8<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

These were agreed.

**3.0 MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED BY THE AGENDA**

**Public benches.** The Chairman raised the issue of the poor state of many local benches. CW replied that these are bought by the Council at a higher cost than available at garden centres, but it does not have the resources to maintain them although it insists on undertaking all the maintenance work. Some of the benches had been removed. Enabling residents to undertake some of the maintenance would be helpful but there may be insurance issues. A local company has expressed interest in assisting with improving the situation.

**Brick by Brick(BxB).** The Chairman reported talking with residents in Tollers Estate regarding the relocation of an electricity sub-station to a flood-prone site. Flood monitors were removed in the summer after six weeks. There is resident activity on the flooding issue in Old Coulsdon.

**4.0 REPORTS**

**4.1 Finance** – report attached.

CJ had little to add to the report – income was from late subscriptions and payments for adverts in the newsletter, and outgoings were on new equipment.

CJ noted that last year there had been a donation in addition to the subscription to Open Spaces and asked if this should be repeated. The Committee agreed to this.

**4.2 Membership and Recruitment**

MC drew attention to the outstanding road steward's return (a letter, approved by the Chairman, would be sent) and to the recruitment of a road steward. In addition, a short-term volunteer had come forward.

MB volunteered to speak to residents about becoming road stewards.

MC asked for a volunteer to hold the OCRA mobile when she was on holiday. JS agreed to hold although she would be out of the country.

MC drew attention to the 74% resident coverage rate last year – this was down by 2% on the previous year.

**4.3 Planning** – Report attached.

MS reported issues with accessing the Council's planning website and commented on the following applications:

- 2 Bishops Close. No issues arising.
- 126 Coulsdon Road. No issues arising.
- Burford, Coulsdon Road. Clarification needed on the location and history.

- Homefield House. The archaeological work had been completed and some trees would be removed. There were issues of tarmacing/paving at the base of retained trees. There was an issue with the SuDS (Sustainable urban Drainage Systems).
- 139 Mead Way. No issues arising.
- 7 Thornton Crescent. No issues arising.
- 13 Lacey Green. No issues arising.

#### **4.4 Publicity** – report attached

NR drew attention to the February monthly mail – the Chairman considered the mails a positive initiative.

#### **4.5 Website** – report attached.

NR drew attention to Events list.

There were brief discussions on the various closures of Stites Hill Road and on their impact on access to the Windmill Farm kennels and cattery, and the temporary traffic lights at the junction of The Crossways and Coulsdon Road. It was reported that comments had been made on the quality of the pavement resurfacing in The Glade. The Chairman reported that a large puddle by the Tudor Rose continues to form after rain and that there had been work (judged to be unsuccessful) on Tudor Parade.

#### **4.6 Newsletter**

The Chairman asked for 20 newsletters for the Tollers Estate residents showing interest – this raised the total order to 2600.

CJ reported that her distribution of newsletters would be delayed because of holidays. Therefore, the Chairman asked for the closing date for nominations to the committee to be changed to 28<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **4.7 Security** – report attached

In the absence of LH, the Chairman raised the issue of Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) locally as OCRA could help progress this initiative by the Police for which a new chief is needed in Croydon. On offer to residents are informative newsletters and property marking. As various projects need to be progressed, the Chairman would speak to LH.

**ACTION: Chairman/LH**

## **5. COUNCIL ISSUES**

CW reported on several issues:

**Brick by Brick.** From his experiences, this organisation's communications with residents e.g. on the Tollers Estate, needed to improve as does their contacts with ward councillors. An example of this occurred when the electricity and water supplies were cut off. AF reported that a recent local RAS' meeting with BxB officers, one of was introduced as the newly appointed head of the communications function. CW reported concerns about newly appointed officers - exemplified by the omission of Bradmore Green Pond from the new Pond Officer's list of such sites.

**Tollers Estate** - Survey on One-way System. The majority of respondents (60/40) rejected the proposal which was intended to facilitate the introduction of a bus service.

**The Rose Garden (at the War Memorial).** The intention is to follow this enhancement with the introduction of four to six hanging baskets on lamp posts. Old Coulsdon Cupcakes WI have offered to fill the baskets and arrangements for watering would need to be made. Funding for this initiative is from the last of CW's Council budget.

**Happy Valley.** The proposals to generate income from this area, and various parks in Croydon, are on hold as the budget allocated for the project has been spent on consultants.

**The Pond.** There was one more cleaning session this winter. There are issues with the disposal of the pond cuttings by Veolia as the budget is limited. The problems caused by an individual depositing pizza bases in the pond have been resolved following Police intervention.

**Easter Eggstravaganza.** This year's event is scheduled for Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March and a poster has been produced (distributed at the meeting). The event will be sponsored by Park & Bailey. A volunteer was being sought to don the bunny mascot costume. There was a brief discussion about the Easter Eggs given to the children and the difficulty in obtaining bulk supplies. i Committee members agreed to buy six each in the £1 to £1.20 price range as supermarkets restrict numbers sold to individuals.

**Queries.** SC asked why there was no access to the garden waste section on the Council's website. CW was aware of a problem with the system.

## **6.0 CROYDON AND COULSDON DEVELOPMENTS**

CW reported that:

**Litter picking.** There would be a litter pick by volunteers in the 'Bird Sanctuary', the section of wood between The Glade and Court Avenue on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March starting 2:30pm.

**WW1 Commemoration.** There will be a visit to France to mark the event.

**The Purley Skyscraper.** The Planning Inspector's decision should be announced in May.

**Neighbourhood Forum.** There was a brief discussion on the proposal, now withdrawn, by the Purley and District Association (PADA), to establish such a forum in Purley. These forums stem from provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 2012 and relate to Neighbourhood Development Plans.

## **7.0 AGM 2018 – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April**

The Chairman confirmed that this would now be held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> April, in Cameron Hall, Old Coulsdon Congregational Church.

The speaker is to be Carole Skinner and her subject is 'Tales from the War Memorial'.

The Chairman will provide the wine and CJ confirmed that she would manage the refreshments.

Committee members needed to arrive at 6:30pm, drinks would be available from 7pm, and the meeting would start at 7:30pm.

## **8.0 OCRA EQUIPMENT PURCHASES**

**Sound system.** The Chairman reported that this has been bought. The purchase of a data projector needs to be progressed.

**ACTION: Chairman/LH**

## **9.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (including other reports & correspondence)**

**Tollers Estate.** The Chairman reported on contacts with the residents of Tollers Estate and considered the community to be doing well. Having a representative from the community on the OCRA committee would be a positive and residents have agreed to organise two road stewards.

**Local Improvements List.** NR proposed setting one up. CW put forward the hanging baskets initiative and BH the refurbishment of the finger post sign to Bradmore Green library.

**Police Panel Feedback.** VY reported that analysis of recent local burglaries had shown that all the houses had been entered from the rear, in some cases, over rear extensions and through first floor windows. VY added that there were local 'Meet the Police' sessions in the Poppy Café, Memorial Park, on Wednesdays, between noon and 1pm.

**Aldi Closure.** BH reported the store would close for refurbishment on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, reopening on 1<sup>st</sup> March.

**Marlpit Lane disruption.** BH reported that the rail bridge over this road would be inspected on the 5<sup>th</sup> March – there will be traffic diversions.

**Theatre Club.** MB reported that the Theatre Club would be travelling to see La Bohème on 18<sup>th</sup> March.

**Apologies for next meeting:** MC/AC/CJ/SC.

**Committee nominations.** AF announced that, due the pressure of new commitments, he would be standing down from the Committee and apologised for not informing the Chairman in advance. Events that day had forced the decision, one that he had not wanted to make.

## **10.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, in the Heath Room, Old Coulsdon Congregational Church.

The meeting closed at 10:05pm.

## FINANCE REPORT-February 2018

### Period January 2018

### Period - January 2018

	£	£	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Membership Subscriptions	66.00		66.00	
Newsletter Adverts	120.00		120.00	
Donations	0.00		0.00	
Theatre Club Subscriptions	0.00		0.00	
Xmas party	0.00		0.00	
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>186.00</b>		<b>186.00</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Telephone	0.00		0.00	
Ink cartridges & IT	0.00		0.00	
General printing	0.00		0.00	
Postage	0.00		0.00	
Stationery	0.00		0.00	
Newsletters	0.00		0.00	
Subscriptions	0.00		0.00	
Donations	0.00		0.00	
AGM	0.00		0.00	
Road stewards party	0.00		0.00	
Village fair	0.00		0.00	
OCRA meetings hall hire	0.00		0.00	
OCRA summer party	0.00		0.00	
Xmas party	0.00		0.00	
Website	0.00		0.00	
Equipment	221.48		221.48	
Insurance	0.00		0.00	
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>221.48</b>		<b>221.48</b>
<b>Excess of receipts (Jan)</b>		<b><u><u>-35.48</u></u></b>		
<b>Excess of payments (Jan)</b>				<b><u><u>35.48</u></u></b>
Nat West Current A/C at January 31st 2018	10444.3			
C Jewell 09/02/2018				

## Membership Report

The final percentage membership for 2017-2018 was 74%. This figure does not include the three rounds we no longer deliver to. (total of 145 properties not including new housing in Waddington Avenue).

Still waiting for 1 road stewards to return. Should we give newsletters to her this year as she is always late returning and I chase her up endlessly?

Janet has recruited a road steward to deliver to the end of Tollers Lane and Lacey Green. Well done Janet. Unfortunately we have lost another road steward who delivers to part of Caterham Drive and Shaw Close. A thank you letter has been sent to him.

We still require 9 road stewards in total, which includes the 2 rounds we do not deliver to. 7 rounds need delivering and I cannot deliver them all – HELP PLEASE!!. These newsletters will include a “can you help us leaflet”. A road steward’s wife has kindly volunteered to deliver both rounds in Bradmore Way with the “Can you help us” flyer. I will deliver Curling Close. The roads that need deliveries are listed below. Volunteers please!!

50 – 128 BRADMORE WAY	35 HOUSES	Carmel Fraser to deliver
53 – 115 BRADMORE WAY	35 HOUSES	Carmel Fraser to deliver
1 – 35 CURLING CLOSE	35 HOUSES	Marion to deliver
1 – 59 HOMEFIELD ROAD + Oasis Academy	32 HOUSES	
2 - 50 HOMEFIELD ROAD + Wheelwrights, Windmill Farm, Windmill House,	30 HOUSES	
53 -101 & 52 – 92 TAUNTON LANE & TAUNTON FARM & FARM ANNEXE	46 HOUSES	
179 -257 CATERHAM DRIVE & 1 – 10 SHAW CLOSE	49 HOUSES	

The road stewards’ membership sheets, facing sheets and can you help us leaflets and letter re early collection are printed for 2018. The super stewards’ sheets are yet to be printed as I need to add who will deliver the roads that need delivered to.

Sally, I will need 2530 newsletters. This does not include any spare ones. How many extra shall we order?

Both Sally and I are away from 12<sup>th</sup> March so I need someone to hold the OCRA mobile whilst we are away. Volunteer please.

Marion Clifford  
9.2.2018

## Publicity Report

- Monthly Mail - February edition issued - see website & Facebook.
- Diary Dates notice updated for Tudor Parade & Lacey Green noticeboards.

Nigel Rea

9.2.2018

## Website Report

The website is at <https://www.theocra.org.uk/>. The Home page photo has been updated to show the sign at sunset using Gary Watson's photo with permission.

Events - latest dates for 2018 added.

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

- OCRA Monthly Mail
- Coulsdon Commons Newsletter
- SNT Newsletter
- FOFD&HV Newsletter
- Rooms for Hire
- School Holiday Dates
- Kenley Revival Project
- 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 30th January.

Facebook - there are now 1.895 (1,825) members of the OCRA Group. 16 new members this week.

Nigel Rea

9.2.2018

## Security Report

Not much to report this time around, still in talks with Neighbourhood Watch around raising the profile and the issues of suitable people being rejected from joining.

I have been speaking to Katy who is the part time Croydon NHW manager who has been giving a few details of how to get involved which I will publish soon on FB.

I am meeting with the NHW committee for Croydon around closer linking in with Residents associations and utilisation of more social media.

I am to arrange a meeting with Brian Udell to let him know NHW is on my radar both for OCRA and through my daily job role.

A post went on to the Facebook page tonight around what is and what is a 999 call, I will follow up with a Fire and Ambulance perspective over a month or so as some of it is a lot to take in.

I have the PA system at home and suggested use by others as it will need to be used to keep the internal battery conditioned. Please let me know as soon as it is known if the thing needs to be dropped anywhere as it is a heavy lump. Features include, Very loud speaker, MP3 player, Twin wireless Mic's, Radio, Bluetooth etc.

I have been researching the Projector again and it is slightly more difficult now as projectors are slowly fading away in favour of digitally transferred media to a screen. All I can find of a decent quality are slightly more expensive than the previous find. I am of the mind it is better to future proof and go wireless as new laptops have less and less cabled connection options. Janet also suggested that maybe an OCRA laptop may be beneficial that can be easily linked with the projector again future proofing the purchase.

Next month I may know more about the new Police Tri Borough (Croydon/Bromley/Sutton) and the benefit of the possibility of a Crime Prevention Hub as this is seen very much as the way forward rather than reactive Policing.

Lee Honey  
11.2.2018