

The Pinner Association
(Registered Charity 262349)
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
held at 7.45pm on Tuesday, 5th March 2019.

Present:

Committee: Robin Youle – President (from 8pm), Christine Wallace - in the Chair, Ruth Boff, Shirley Clark, Jill Cock, Bill Dedman, David Leibling (from 7.55pm), Tim Owen, and Cynthia Wells.

Also Present: Tony Allen, Ian Murray, Ed Badke, Cllr Richard Almond.

1. Apologies

Warwick Hillman, Fiona Jones, James Kincaid, Joanne Verden, Julie Waller, Bruce Watson, Marilyn Goldberg, Stewart Tattersall and Cllr Norman Stevenson.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (1812)

Min 1902 – Present and 1. Apologies: Correct Present list to show that Tim Owen was not present and had given apologies for absence. Correct names of Mr and Mrs Kapadia.

Min 1902 – 5: Secretary’s Report: para. 2, line 3: Correct name of “LBH Scrutiny Committee” to “LBH Licensing and General Purposes Committee”.

Min 1022 - 12. AOB: a) Fox Problem: para. 1, line 1: Add “and rats” after “foxes”.

Min 1022 - 12. AOB: b) Pedestrian Crossing in Bridge Street: para. 1, line 6: Correct spelling of name of Cllr Stevenson.

3. Matters Arising

Pinner Memorial Park (PMP) Railings Hedge: Tim presented Cynthia, as Chair of the West House & Heath Robinson Museum Trust (WH&HRMT), with a cheque for £1,000 from Pinner Association (PA) funds for the part payment of the planting of a new golden holly hedge along the boundary railings behind the blockhouse stores fronting West End Lane, as had been agreed at the previous meeting.

HS2 High Capacity Electric Cable Laying Route: Christine thanked Ian for bringing this to the attention of the PA as we had not been directly informed by either HS2 nor Harrow Council. The information that had been posted on the PA website and Facebook had received comments from concerned local residents.

4. Chairman’s Report

Panto Committee Possible Merger with PA and Possible Sponsorship of Panto Evening: Christine and Tim had had an initial meeting with Ian Archer of the Panto Committee on 28th February. Two items had been discussed; a) the approach from the Panto Committee to come under the auspices of the PA, and b) an approach from a PR representative for possibly substantial sponsorship of this year’s Panto Evening from a source connected with Pinner in the past.

The possibility of the Panto Committee becoming a sub-committee of the PA had been agreed in principle at the February PA Committee meeting, subject to further discussions. Tim mentioned that the cost of the insurance for the event may be reduced if the PA’s third party liability insurers would allow us to incorporate Panto Evening in our policy. The premium for the PA insurance was currently in the region of £250 for all our activities for the whole year whereas the Panto Committee was paying £750 for cover for the single event. Incorporating Panto Evening into the PA’s policy would certainly raise the cost, but Tim felt the increase would be significantly less than £750.

Ian had explained that Panto Evening had approximately £5,000 in their reserves, which was enough to just cover the costs for one more year. The fireworks cost about £2,000 and the hire and installation of the temporary traffic lights and barriers was another major expense. The fees paid to the Panto Committee by the attractions and other local sponsorship meant that the event just about covered its costs every year.

Ian thought that the active members of the Panto Committee would continue in their roles for 2019. Ian did the administration of the event. It was thought that there would be a named liaison person on each committee to act as the liaison between the two.

Further discussions were to take place once it was known whether the potential substantial sponsorship would be available for the 2019 Panto Evening, as if this was forthcoming the urgency for the Panto Committee to become a sub-committee of a Registered Charity was reduced.

5. Secretary's Report

A written report was tabled. The following additional items were discussed at the meeting:

Bridge Street Gardens (BSG): A Pinner resident had enquired via Facebook why there could not be drifts of daffodils in open spaces such as the Bridge Street Gardens. A reply had been sent to the enquirer to explain that when bulbs had been planted in grass on open spaces in the past the grass had been cut by LBH before the bulbs' foliage had died back and therefore the bulbs did not flower the next year, but the problem of the drab state of the BSG would be brought to the attention of the PA Committee. The meeting agreed that something needed to be done to improve the appearance of the area, and Ruth suggested that the two central small "flower beds" should be dug over and replanted with suitable small shrubs and underplanted with spring bulbs. It was agreed that this would be a project for the PA and that permission for this would be sought from Harrow Council (LBH). Christine mentioned that Ray Fox was now the LBH Officer responsible for the day to day matters in PMP and BSG.

Pelican Crossing in Bridge Street: The meeting discussed the suggestion that the relocated pedestrian crossing at the bottom of Bridge Street should become a traffic light controlled pelican crossing to allow a smoother flow of traffic in Bridge Street and improve pedestrian safety. The relocated crossing was still obscured by the kerbside railings to traffic approaching round the bend from Marsh Road, with the additional hazard of pedestrians walking straight on to the crossing from Chapel Lane without due regard to the traffic.

Bill said that there should be four way traffic lights at the Bridge Street / High Street junction, with a separate turn right lane for traffic turning right into the High Street, as was provided for the Station Approach junction. If pedestrian crossings were incorporated with these traffic lights the junction would be far safer. However, Cllr Almond pointed out that TfL would need to approve any new traffic lights at the junction and were very unlikely to do so, and Ruth mentioned that the junction was in the High Street Conservation Area and that traffic lights would not be compatible with that status. Cllr Almond said that there may be more success in asking for the kerbside railings to be removed, as the feeling within the council was now against such "street clutter".

6. Treasurer's Report

Tim had tabled written accounts for the first two months of the PA's financial year. £4,400 had already been received in subscriptions and almost £3,000 from *The Villager* advertisements.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

Jill reported that all the postal copies of the March *The Villager* had been sent out but there was a problem with many Collectors retiring as they no longer felt able to return to houses several times in order to

collect annual subscriptions. There were no Collectors for Waxwell Lane or Oakhill Avenue, and an Area Leader was needed for Area 4.

8. High Street Committee

A written report was tabled.

“The Victory” Pub Sign at “Zizzi”: Tim mentioned that there was currently scaffolding upon the frontage of “Zizzi” which would facilitate the taking down and replacement of the “Victory” pub sign. Ruth was to ask the manager of Zizzi’s the next week whether they would be happy for the PA to have the pub sign replaced with a similar sign in better condition.

Horse Trough: It was agreed that up to £500 could be paid for LBH to trench a conduit for an automatic watering pipe under the footway from the Queen’s Head sign upright to the horse trough flower containers. Ruth would inform Cllr. Stevenson that these funds were available and ask him to arrange for this to be done, subject to an acceptable quote within this budget for the work being received.

9. Events

AGM – 17th April 2019: Ruth asked for a volunteer to operate the Pinner Village Hall microphone system on the evening of the AGM meeting.

It was suggested that at the AGM meeting we should ask for a volunteer from the wider PA membership to assist Caroline Ennis who had kindly agreed again to undertake much of the administration of the Remembrance Sunday Service.

Summer Band Concerts: Cynthia confirmed that she had booked out the Verden Gallery at West House for the afternoons of the Band Concerts and was thanked for this support from the WH&HRMT. She had included an advertisement for the concerts in the March *Villager*.

10. Portfolios

a] **Editorial:** The March 2019 edition of *The Villager* had been published.

b] Planning and CAAC:

CAAC: P/0461/19 - Reddiford School, 36 - 38 Cecil Park, Pinner: Redevelopment to Provide Single Storey Building; Landscaping (Demolition Of 2 Existing Buildings): This application was in the Tookes Green Conservation Area. Christine reported that the Conservation Area Advisory Committee (CAAC) had considered the application and as it was at the rear of the existing buildings did not have any objections.

Planning: A written report was tabled.

Appeal: P/0173/18/5419 - West House Lodge, West End Lane: Re-Development to Provide a Two Storey Building with Habitable Roofspace Containing Five Flats; Communal Amenity Space; Parking; Landscaping; Bin / Cycle Storage: The PA Committee were pleased that this appeal had been dismissed by the Planning Inspector on grounds that upheld policies in the LBH Local Plan and the guidance in the Garden Land Development SPD.

Telecom Mast in Marsh Road: Cllr Almond had alerted the PA that another planning application to move the telecom mast from in front of the now constructed “Heath Lodge” retirement flats in Marsh Road to a location on the footway in West End Avenue, along the flank wall of the corner retail unit on Marsh Road. He reported that he had also told the residents of West End Avenue and they had already sent him more emails than those sent objecting to the previously refused planning application (P/4612/15).

c] Police: Bill reported that the Safer Neighbourhood Panel had been informed at their last meeting that one member of a gang who had been committing burglaries in the area last year had been given an eight and a quarter year prison sentence, but the other gang members had yet to be caught.

LBH were to seek to increase the facilities in the borough for youths in an attempt to reduce the incidence of knife crime. Cllr. Almond said that the new facilities would be concentrated in the areas most affected by such crimes, Wealdstone and South Harrow.

d] Environment: Cynthia reported that the problems caused by the excessive numbers of feral pigeons living in and around West House were continuing and asked if the PA would support the WH&HRMT's request to LBH to have warning notices erected around the PMP lake asking people not to feed the birds. This was agreed. Cllr. Almond said that the wording for these notices was currently being decided within LBH, and the notices would be a preliminary measure to imposing a fixed penalty order on PMP to make feeding the birds akin to the existing fines for littering.

Christine reported that the cob swan who had been on the lake in PMP with the hen swan had flown into a tree when flying low over her back garden. The bird had been ushered onto the adjacent allotments and both the RSPCA and a swan rescue centre had been contacted. The swan had been safely caught and had been released on the Rickmansworth Aquadrome for its wellbeing. Christine had been told it may return to PMP to find its mate.

Ian reported that he was to attend the London Green Belt Council meeting the next day and, in Bruce's absence, would report back to the next PA Committee meeting.

e] Highways & Parking:

Pelican Crossing Suggestion for Bridge Street: See Min. 1903 – 5 above.

Eastcote Road / Marsh Road Junction: The works to relocate the kerbs and move the traffic island in Eastcote Road to restrict the traffic approaching Marsh Road to one lane were to commence on 7th April (in the school holidays). Although the works were in response to complaints that the junction was unsafe for pedestrians to cross, the design of the scheme had been opposed by both the parents from Reddiford School who had campaigned for changes to the junction and the PA in our response to the public consultation.

f] New Projects:

Bridge Street Gardens: See Min. 1903 – 5 above.

11. Liaison

a] General

i] West House & Heath Robinson Museum Trust (WH&HRMT): Cynthia recommended everyone to visit the new "Beardsley Generation" temporary exhibition.

ii] Traders: Norman Stevenson was the new Chairman of the Pinner & Northwood Business Club and had been assisting both in that role and as their local Ward Councillor the proprietors of "Brooks" in their appeal against the increase in the business rates on their double retail / café unit.

The Turkish restaurant was under new ownership but would continue to serve Turkish food.

b] Residents' Associations:

i] Hatch End Association (HEA): Tony reported that the HEA had concerns about proposals to develop a part of the Green Belt between Hatch End and Watford. At Little Oxhey Lane / Oxhey Lane there was already a coach repair industrial unit and there was a large care home on the site of the old dairy. There were fears that Three Rivers Council would allow new development along Oxhey Lane to Watford Heath.

The statutory public consultation on the installation of parking meters on the services roads in the Hatch End primary shopping area was underway. Residents of nearby roads were asking for the CPZ to be extended as they expected overspill parking to affect these streets. There was already a problem with displacement parking, particularly in the roads near Grimsdyke School.

The HEA agreed with the draft recommendation of the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC) that the eastern boundary of Hatch End Ward should be Oxhey Lane rather than the railway as LBH had proposed.

ii] Eastcote Residents’ Association (ERA): Ian commented that the ERA had responded to the LGBC draft proposals. The three local wards were to be named “Eastcote”, “Northwood” and “Northwood Hills” as these were plain names and indicative of the area. The LGBC had congratulated the ERA on these and other proposals in their response to the LGBC consultation on the local government wards. Each of the wards would have three councillors.

The feedback from the consultation by the would-be developers of the Tudor Lodge Hotel site into an “end of life” care facility had been that the site would no longer be an hotel but the listed parts of the old buildings would remain. It was explained that the hotel was currently uneconomic to run and the existing buildings would need a lot of money spent on them to bring them up to modern standards.

The ERA had received a presentation from HS2 representatives on the cable laying works to be done through Eastcote and to West Ruislip. In answer to question the HS2 representative explained that the high capacity electrical cable was required to power the tunnel boring machine at West Ruislip; that after this use had finished the power would be used for other required purposes, but not for the traction of the trains; the expected life of the cable was 150 years; the existing TfL tracks between Rayners Lane and West Ruislip could not be used as HS2 would require 24 hour access and their employees would not have the required training to be near live rails; the contractor for the works was to be United Kingdom Power; and the works were due to commence in October 2019, starting in Pinner South and taking between two and four weeks for every 50 metre section. The HS2 Project Engineer was Grant Bowers and a similar presentation could be provided for the PA if required.

12. A.O.B.

None.

The meeting ended at 9.40pm.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday, 2nd April 2019 at **7.45**pm.

Signed.....

All written reports have been distributed and are attached to the Minute Book.