

**RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF WEST WIMBLEDON
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
St. Matthew's Church Hall, Spencer Road, Raynes Park
11 October 2016**

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chairman, Derek Frampton, welcomed members and guests to the AGM including guest speakers Stephen Hammond MP and Jerry Cuthbert, together with Councillors Adam Bush, Stephen Crowe, Jill West and John Bowcott. Apologies were received from Councillor Hamish Badenoch, the Reverend Dr. Helen Orchard, Mr. and Mrs. Bleasdale and Mrs. Bradley.

The Committee was introduced by the Chairman as follows:

Chairman: Derek Frampton
Deputy Chairman: Jane Barnes
Secretary: Pat Keith
Treasurer: Nigel Ware
Membership Secretary: Sarah Field.
Website and Waste Outsourcing: Myfanwy Morgan
Friends Groups: Max Gladwyn
Newsletter Editor: Simon Bartlett (not present)
New Member: Keith Thomas

The Chairman said that three of the original Road Reps. from the earliest days of RAWW had passed away during the year:

Phyllis Barrett of Melbury Gardens
Eric Hanley of lower Cottenham Park Road
Ruth Webber of Burdett Avenue.

Over the years, they had each done a huge amount of valuable work for RAWW and for the local community which will be remembered for years to come.

The Chairman also announced the retirement of one of the longest serving Road Reps., Mavis Sayers of Cottenham Drive who will be much missed.

Finally the Chairman announced that he was retiring from the end of the meeting after eleven years in the Chair, saying he would miss the work greatly but that it was both beneficial and necessary for a change of leadership from time to time.

2. Financial Report

The Treasurer, Nigel Ware, spoke to his report for 2015/16 which was distributed at the meeting. Subscriptions continued to rise this year, with an additional 19 households paid up, while there had been a slight reduction in donations. Our healthy surplus of income over expenditure has continued on an even keel, with an increase of £25 over the previous year. There were no questions. The Chairman thanked Nigel for his report and his work during the year.

3. Crossrail 2

The Chairman welcomed guest speakers Stephen Hammond MP and Jerry Cuthbert chairman of the Crossrail working party of the Raynes Park Association.

Jerry began by focusing on Raynes Park. Essentially, two new tracks would be required running through Raynes Park. There were a number of ways in which this might be achieved - a tunnel continuing from Wimbledon beyond New Malden to land beside the A3, placing the existing main line in the tunnel with Crossrail on the surface, or vice versa. The combination of Crossrail trains with existing services to Waterloo on the outlying suburban lines will result in fewer trains to Waterloo. Crossrail will go to Victoria and Tottenham Court Road to St. Pancras /Kings Cross and beyond to Tottenham.

It was important to note that Crossrail 2 as far as Wimbledon would be implemented through TfL, while beyond Wimbledon would be the responsibility of Network Rail.

The second public consultation is due in Autumn 2016, with a 'hybrid' Bill expected in Parliament in 2019, and Royal Assent expected in 2022 when construction will start. Meanwhile, as part of the planning process, 'safeguarding' of sites and buildings to be affected in the area is being announced, which freezes prior development pending works. Owners will be entitled to compensation for 'statutory blight'.

Jerry invited members to contact him with queries at Cuthbert.jerry@gmail.com

Stephen Hammond observed that so far Crossrail 2 has been very bad at consulting with local communities. There has been very little detail for Raynes Park with no traffic management plans. Local people have already identified a number of problems. He was pressing for a major public meeting in December 2016. The final major consultation is about to start. Proposals have not yet been signed off by TfL, the London Mayor or the Department of Transport, as they have been asked to reduce the cost of the project by £4billion. This may affect the number of branch lines.

Locally, it is clear that the level crossings will have to close, and that a wholly new station will have to be developed. This will require some extra land, for example the Rainbow industrial estate.

There were four different proposals for Wimbledon:

- The original proposal
- A longer tunnel emerging between Wimbledon and Raynes Park
- The existing main line to be in a tunnel with Crossrail on the surface
- Two lines coming from Raynes Park into the northern side of Wimbledon station using the District Line space, with the latter terminating farther back along Alexandra Road.

In two to three weeks we will start to receive the details which, for example, will enable us to assess the impact of the new stations on current users. Stephen will publish the information provided by Michelle Dix of Crossrail, as soon as the consultation starts, at <https://www.Stephenhammond.net>

The Chairman thanked the speakers and called for questions.

- Time for consultation? There will be at least a three-month consultation period.
- Are there architectural drawings? There have been drawings which will be on the Crossrail website, but they do need to provide more detailed drawings.
- Timescale? First, responses to the route will be considered, then the layout options.
- Overland service to Waterloo? This will remain but be reduced though with more trains to central London as a whole and with some easier connections.
- Disruption from works? Limiting the amount of disruption will be crucial to avoid killing off the town centre.

4. Constituency Boundary Changes

The Chairman inserted this item to enable Stephen Hammond MP to explain the latest proposals. He said that the current constituency of Wimbledon was very cohesive, in one local authority area which was simply divided into two constituencies. The new proposal was for Wimbledon Park and Village Wards to join with Putney. He did not think Wimbledon residents looked to Putney, because of the natural boundaries of the A3 and of Wimbledon Common and Putney Heath. The current proposals present arbitrary splits of both Wimbledon and Mitcham. The Borough will have five MPs which gives little thought to community interest.

Stephen urged members to look at the Boundary Commission website and make a representation. There will be public hearings. In reply to questions, Stephen said he would propose bringing the two wards back into a constituency of Wimbledon and Morden, with Colliers Wood joining Tooting, and Earlsfield and Wandsworth Common joining Putney.

He invited people to email him with their views and to send in submissions to the Boundary Commission by 5 December.

The Chairman said that RAWW would include his briefing in its email update and on its website. All Crossrail 2 material would be placed on its website.

5. Morley Park

Jane Barnes, Vice-Chairman, said that the Park should be open sometime next year. April 2017 is the very optimistic estimate from Berkeley Homes (BH), but later in the year is more likely. BH has submitted plans for remedial work to address the serious drainage problem which had led to flooding behind and inside the Scout Hut, and in Cottenham Park Road and the footpath to Lindisfarne Road. LUNG welcomes these proposals but, as BH have themselves said, they are still investigating another drainage problem which the current proposals will not resolve.

The playing fields have been seeded but the drainage problem could delay their being brought into use. LUNG continues to try to protect the open land, and ensure some resident involvement in management of the Park in discussion with the Council. Income from the new cottage will provide some of the money that will be needed to maintain meadows and woodland. The Council is hoping that volunteer support will help keep costs down. The terms of the lease of the playing fields and pavilion, including clauses on lights, artificial surfaces, and financial arrangements will all be crucial to the amenity of park users and local residents, and to the protection of wildlife. LUNG has repeatedly asked to be informed of proposals for the lease but so far without success.

6. Waste Collection and Wheelie Bins

Myfanwy Morgan outlined the current plans for rationalising waste collection. This will involve 2 wheelie bins, 1 other container and food waste caddy per household with a fortnightly collection for everything except food waste which would remain weekly. This is reported to provide estimated cost savings of £2million per annum, although there would be significant start-up capital costs and increased labour costs.

RAWW requested residents' views of the scheme (responses at www.raww.org.uk) A major concern was lack of space for storage of bins and other containers for local residents with small front gardens or a steeply sloping site. The visual impact of the clutter of bins in a high density terrace of houses was also of significant concern as were the implications for small groups of flats and maisonettes, and the lack of local consultation.

There would be an assisted collection scheme for those with mobility or practical difficulties, but the extent of the scheme, and ease of access to it, were unclear.

RAWW and other groups have made representations but the contract will go ahead although there is still scope for some fine tuning until 30 November 2016. Residents can request a site visit and should contact Charles.Baker@merton.gov.uk as well as emailing local councillors with their views.

7. Election of Committee Members

The Chairman explained that the RAWW constitution provides for the committee to be elected annually at the AGM en bloc.

He said that all committee members except himself were willing to stand for a further year, and he put the resolution that the committee, as introduced at the beginning of the meeting, be elected for the coming year. This was carried nem. con.

Jane Barnes, Vice Chairman, rose to propose a vote of thanks, to Marilyn for taking the Minutes for many years, and to Derek for chairing RAWW for eleven years. She said that RAWW had gone from strength to strength under his leadership. She presented Marilyn with a bouquet and Derek with a case of wine, on behalf of the committee.

Derek Frampton replied with thanks for their generous gifts, and a special thank you to his wife Marilyn for her work and continued support. He expressed thanks to an excellent committee which had served RAWW members well over the years. He also thanked the Road Reps. and those who had helped with refreshments, registration and furniture this evening and in previous years to make the AGM a success.

He closed the meeting at 9.40pm.

**Marilyn Frampton
October 2016.**

