

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF WEST WIMBLEDON (RAWW)

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF WEST WIMBLEDON HELD AT ST, MATTHEWS CHURCH HALL, SPENCER ROAD, RAYNES PARK ON TUESDAY 10th OCTOBER 2017 AT 8.00 PM.

Those present: The Committee and approximately sixty residents

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

- a. Max Gladwyn (MG), chairman of RAWW welcomed the residents and gave apologies for absence from Myfanwy Morgan and Gordon Thompson
- b. MG introduced the Committee and acknowledged the presence of Councillors Stephen Crowe, Jill West and Najeeb Latif
- c. MG reminded the residents that RAWW depended upon volunteers and thanks were expressed to the Committee. He then went on to thank Simon Bartlett, Sarah Field, and all the helpers and volunteers. MG expressed regret that a long term supporter, Mr Bob Borland had died during the year.
- d. During the year RAWW had been confronted by some difficult planning issues. RAWW had done its best to make a difference.

2. WIMBLEDON AND PUTNEY COMMONS

- a. Simon Lee, Chief Executive, Wimbledon and Putney Commons, gave a brief address about the Commons, with an outline of their history, the forthcoming election on 28 February 2018 to appoint Conservators, the £1m annual costs, covered by a levy, of managing the 1,140 acre site with some 21 staff. The acid grass plain is the largest such area in the UK. He encouraged those eligible to vote at the forthcoming election.

3. WOLFSON CENTRE REVISED PLANNING PROPOSALS

- a. Jane Barnes (JB) informed the meeting of the revised planning proposals submitted by Berkeley Homes for the site of the old Wolfson Centre on Copse Hill.
- b. The current consent is for 16 houses and a subsequent application was submitted for permission to build 85 flats, with one of the proposed blocks being 6 storeys high. That application has been revised and plans submitted to build 77 flats in seven blocks. 7 less non-profit making affordable flats but only 1 less private flat.
- c. JB reminded the meeting that Copse Hill is a semi-rural area. The new planning application would be a very urban development of high density and totally inappropriate in this area.
- d. JB explained the inevitable negative consequences including the highly unsatisfactory impact on the view from Morley Park, more traffic congestion and pollution, impact on schools, doctors' surgeries, pollution, transport, the inadequate and unsatisfactory car parking arrangements, inadequate provision for delivery vehicles and other shortcomings including an increased risk of flooding.

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4. MORLEY PARK

- a. James Oliver (JO) spoke about the new Morley Park with a brief account of its history. The planning approval for the redevelopment of the Atkinson Morley Hospital site required the playing fields and meadow area to be gifted to the Council for use as a public park with a dowry of £360,000 for its maintenance.
- b. JO went on to talk about expectations relating to the satisfactory completion of work and the opening of the new park, and gave a detailed description of the various areas of the park with the aid of a slide.
- c. The Ursuline High School (UHS) are to have the benefit of a 99 year lease to use the playing fields and the Pavilion. It is hoped that the public will be allowed access at certain times in accordance with the planning consents.
- d. JO referred to the establishment of a new friends group to help look after the park, Friends of Morley Park (FOMP) comprising local residents.

5. CROSSRAIL 2 UPDATE

- a. Max Gladwyn (MG) gave an update on Crossrail 2. He advised the meeting that nothing is likely to be forthcoming until after the next Budget in November, 2017. London will have to pre-finance 50% of the cost at the outset. It is doubtful whether the scheme will be completed as fully as originally planned.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. Nigel Ware (NW) presented the accounts for the year ended 5 April 2017 to the meeting.
- b. NW advised that income had increased by 11% on 2016 to £3,364. He thanked those who had made donations.
- c. One of the expenditure items this year was £802 for planning advice, sought by RAWW from a consultant in conjunction with the North West Wimbledon Residents Association (NWWRA) (concerning the Wolfson development). Due to the complexity of some of the planning applications with issues of density, requiring highly technical calculations, RAWW may have to seek advice from consultants again in the future.
- d. There was a surplus of income over expenditure in the year of £1,327.
- e. There were no questions raised and the accounts were adopted by the meeting.

7. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

- a. Jane Barnes (JB) was asked to speak about the planning application for No. 3 Orchard Lane that is causing widespread concern to local residents. JB explained that this was a backland development on gardens that adjoin Holland Garden with very difficult access, too narrow for a fire engine. There is a category A tree and a number of other threatened trees on the site where a detached house and a row of 4 three storey terraced houses are proposed. Objections include the threat to trees, impact on views from the park, noise and pollution, cars/ traffic congestion and loss of privacy/overlooking.
- b. JB then spoke about another planning application at No. 11 Orchard Lane, where the proposal is to demolish the 1930's "arts and crafts" detached 5 bedroom house and replace it with a considerably more modern house with a

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large wall of glass at the rear. Issues with this include the impact on the amenity of park users and failure to comply with the building line.

- c. JB advised the meeting that the next meeting of the Planning Applications Committee of the Council (PAC) would be on 19 October 2017 when it would assist if residents could attend and register their interest in the Wolfson redevelopment
- d. There was one question from the floor addressed to Simon Lee, concerning the poor behaviour of certain dog owners.

8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- a. The Committee was re-elected on bloc for a further twelve months term.

9. CLOSE OF MEETING

- a. Max Gladwyn