

# Belsize Residents Association

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SUNDAY 5 MARCH 2017 BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE AT 3PM

**Present:** Prabhat Vaze (Chair), Judith Farbey, Neil Harris, Consuelo Phelan, Sanya Polescuk, Anne Stevens, Sarah Courtin, Councillors Leila Roy, Oliver Freedman and about 70 other BRA members

**Apologies:** Alex Crisp, Barry Tankel, Councillor Claire-Louise Leyland

1. Minutes of the 2016 AGM: Approved, proposed by Michael Jampel and seconded by Leila Roy

Matters arising: None

2. Presentation of the Chair's Report for 2016.

Key developments included:

- The Sir Richard Steele Pub was successfully designated an Asset of Community Value.
- Representations were made about the effects on traffic from HS2 waste and spoils and the effects of Cycle Superhighway CS11 on residential roads.
- BRA support helped Belsize Community Library to be listed at grade II
- BRA noticeboards have been renovated and development of the website has continued.

Questions and comments on the Chair's report covered:

- Concern about giving freedoms to cyclists at the expense of local pedestrians. BRA will consult further with TfL and the Council who are doing some traffic modelling.
- Members had concerns about the planning application documents for the Hall School expansion.
- Concerns around Royal Free Hospital development and proposed traffic closure notices.

3. For decision: does the AGM authorise the Committee to do further work on changing the Association's status to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)?

- Driver for change is to move away from individuals being responsible for activities, particularly where significant expenditures are incurred such as on the 100 Avenue Road planning appeal.
- Members asked about: CIO status and planning matters with Camden, the current non-political stance of the Association, employment of outside advice and availability of gift aid. The meeting agreed the decision and to draft objectives with 48 votes for, 1 against and 3 abstentions.

4. Presentation of Accounts for 2016: Noticeboards have been renovated, with some expense carried into 2017. Once the Association's new status is established, the savings account will be re-invested at higher rate of interest. The accounts were accepted nem. con on the proposal of Diana Self and seconded by Gabriel Balint-Kurti.

5. Appointment of Independent Examiner for accounts: Jill Tyrrell was thanked for acting as independent examiner and was re-appointed nem. con, proposed by Helen Cordell, seconded by Aileen Hammond.

6. Election of Committee Members: Nine members stood for election and were all elected nem. con on the proposal of Aileen Hammond, seconded by Helen Cordell.

7 Any other business:

- Further objections to the developer of 100 Avenue Road endeavouring to remove the planning conditions imposed by the inspector, could still be made within the next week
- Tradesmen You Can Trust booklet could include a statement against recommendations by individuals connected to the tradesman; and could change the name to Traders from Tradesmen.