

BELSIZE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Committee meeting at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 9 September 2014 at Flat 1, 20 Netherhall Gardens NW3 5TH

1. **Apologies for absence:** Deborah Buzan, Gordon Curtis, Pat Holden
2. **Minutes of last meeting**
 - a. July minutes (in amended form) were agreed.
 - b. Matters arising from July minutes not covered elsewhere: none
3. **Finance**
 - a. Accounts for June, July and August 2014: Agreed subject to one minor amendment to August accounts which will be re-circulated
 - b. Further donations in 2014: Members will in the next newsletter be invited to suggest donations that will achieve real local benefit.
ACTION: (i) Committee members to bring suggestions to the October meeting; (ii) £50 will be donated for Christmas lights in Belsize Terrace; (iii) £100 will be donated for Christmas lights on Haverstock Hill; (iv) JG will email the Christmas lights organisers on behalf of the Committee.
4. **BRA Business**
 - a. Establishment of a Belsize Neighbourhood Forum:
 - b. **ACTION: PV will invite speakers from other neighbourhoods to speak at next meeting with a view to deciding whether to initiate an NF.**
 - c. Dates of future Committee meetings: It was agreed that these will **remain as circulated** after the AGM.
5. **Planning**
 - a. Planning applications: June, July, August 2014: No report
 - b. 100 Avenue Road: (i) Deputation request for planning meeting on 11 September 2014: PV reported that the meeting will commence at 6.30pm. He will write a written submission (deputation request) about why we want to speak at the meeting which will be in the hands of the Chair of the meeting. PV will circulate a draft for comments by the Committee. (ii) Funding for the study commissioned by Save Swiss Cottage campaign can now be released by the Treasurer.
 - c. Member concerns about studios and outbuildings in back gardens: After discussion, it seems that there is more than minimal concern about oversized outbuildings particularly in gardens that already contain extensions.
ACTION: Gordon Curtis will be asked to keep an eye out for planning applications for outbuildings and to bring them to the Committee's attention.
 - d. Highgate Society and Heath & Hampstead Society: co-operation: This issue will be rolled up with the NF speaker invitations (see above).
 - e. Hunter's Lodge: Following a meeting between residents and Camden planning officials, some of the major irritants have been removed eg portacabins on the pavement. The Committee will keep a watchful eye on resident concerns.
6. **Trees:** Report on planning applications
Objections/concerns: 4
15 Belsize Park Gardens - remove several trees from rear
12 Netherhall Gardens - fell sycamore at rear

16-18 Netherhall Gardens, boundary with Maresfield Gdns. - fell about 16 trees. No docs. available.

15a Crossfield Road - remove sycamore at rear

No objection: 23

Ormonde Court, 10-14 Belsize Grove

19 College Crescent

56 Eton Avenue

6 Lancaster Drive

65 Lancaster Grove

6 Belsize Avenue

78 Belsize Park Gardens

37 Buckland Crescent

9 Belsize Park

15a Maresfield Gardens

50 Belsize Park

95 Belsize Lane

11 Maresfield Gardens

19 Maresfield Gardens

15-16 Fitzjohn's Avenue

53 Upper Park Road

8 Upper Park Road

55 Upper Park Road

2 Akenside Road

26 Wedderburn Road

16 Lyndhurst Gardens

1 Eton Villas

8 Lyndhurst Gardens

98 Haverstock Hill

7. **Environment and community services**

a. Christmas lights: see above

b. Belsize Area Action Group: PH had circulated a note of what was discussed at the meeting on 30 July 2014 (email, 30 July 2014)

8. **Events**

a. Autumn walk – 12 October 2014: Start time/place: 2.30pm at Belsize Terrace. **SW** has arrangements for catering in hand. Stewards are needed to keep walkers on the pavement: **PV and NH** will perform this task, and other members will be asked as appropriate.

ACTION: JG will produce 20 posters and 40 leaflets for the walk, which can be brought to the Transition Belsize stall for collection and distribution by Committee members

b. Transition Belsize fair – 27 September 2014: organisation of BRA stall: We have booked a half-table as last year. We need to pay £10 on the day, which **NH** will organise.

ACTION: Committee members to staff the stall by rota.

Set-up: PV and NH – 10.00 to 11.30 am; JG and CP – 11.30 to 1.00 pm; 1.00pm to 2.30pm: JF. GC, PH, RS and DB to be asked to fill remaining slots.

c. Local get togethers: It was agreed that the next get together would be held for residents in the Lancaster Grove area in early 2015. Date to be fixed at the next meeting, together with the date of a new members' lunch.

d. Councillors' meeting - 19 October 2014 6pm to 8pm:

ACTION: JF will extend invitations to ensure that one councillor from each ward in which

we have members has the opportunity to attend. JF will also circulate the agenda.

9. **Web site**

- a. Development of new web site: AS has sent the tender documents to three potential designers. Replies are awaited from two, but a quote of £400 has been received from one of them and looks promising.

ACTION: AS will keep the Committee informed of any further responses and will then make a recommendation to the Committee.

10. **Publications**

- a. Newsletter: Copy deadline is 25 October 2014; printing will be on 10 November; distribution will take place in the week commencing 17 November. JG wishes the February 2015 newsletter to be her last and we will need to seek a new editor. JG will draft an advertisement.

11. **Membership**

- a. Membership changes, July and August 2014: five new members.

12. **Any Other Business:** (i) The BRA crockery needs to be re-housed. The Newsletter will ask whether anyone can do this; (ii) The Committee was reminded that we do not generally permit commercial organisations to use the noticeboards.

13. **Date and place of next meeting: Tuesday 14 October 2014; venue – Garden flat, 17 Lambolle Road, NW3 4HS**