

Northaw and Cuffley Residents' Association
Minutes of meeting held by Zoom on 14 March 2024

Present:

Michael Green - Chair
Diane Draper - Treasurer
Robin Kay - Membership Secretary
David Cheesman
Phil Lambert
Bonnie Lythgoe
Harry Spencer

1. **Apologies**
Mike Clark, Melanie Wilson
2. **Questions received from the public before the meeting (in person, by email or letter) – No questions**
3. **Conflicts of interest – None**
4. **Minutes of Meetings held 4 January and 1 February 2024 –** After amendment of the date from 5 to read 9 at item 4 of the January Minutes both sets were approved.
5. **Matters arising –** After the February meeting RK contacted MG and volunteered to become the Membership Secretary. MG accepted with great relief and thanks. There was a discussion about the material for the Notice Boards at the station. DC had produced a draft but it was agreed that the text needs to be reduced but produced in larger typeface to be more eye catching. DC will rework the poster. It was suggested that images could be inserted to add attraction.
6. **IT & Website -** RK is working on the web site and leaflets to update them.
7. **Admin. –** MG has not yet obtained update about the missing letter box at the junction of Tolmers Road and Tolmers Avenue.
8. **Treasurer's Report –** DD reported that on 8th March the members account stood at £1833.76, current account at £395.28 and business savings account at £12026.04. RK has signed up for Go Cardless and needs NCRA to send a £0.01 test payment to activate the account. MG to initiate and DD to authenticate the bank transfer.
9. **Planning Update –** There is frustration amongst the Committee that our efforts are being ignored in full by Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council who are proceeding with aggressive housebuilding without supporting infrastructure resulting in more traffic and more pressure on local services. One planning issue on Brookside Crescent has gone to appeal. The Committee has objected to the application.
10. **Precis Reports**

10.1 Police/Owl – It has been noted that the largest percentage increase in the next Council Tax bill is for the Police and Crime Commissioner’s budget even though we have not observed their presence or obvious productivity in the villages.

10.2 Parish Council – Nothing to report

10.3 Kidston Institute – Nothing to report

10.4 Cuffley Hall – None

10.5 PPG Update – Meeting postponed. The relatively new phone system at the two surgeries is shocking. We understand the contract locks them in until 2027. It has also been noted that the staff at the surgeries are not engaging with the public when they attend in person. Looking at the computer screens seems to be always more important. PL will approach the surgeries to ask for customer satisfaction scores and work out supporting a long term plan for improving standards. PL is happy to lead the Committee engagement with local NHS bodies. DD will distribute to the Committee the Minutes of the last PPG meeting.

11. Questions from the Public – None

12. A.O.B. – WhatsApp groups were discussed and Committee members added. We will review at the next meeting.

Goffs Churchgate Academy new parking fines make it horrible, costly and stressful for parents dropping off kids. HS to write a letter on behalf of the Committee to the Academy Trust.

The Parish Council are looking at the possible need to introduce charges in KGV car parks largely as a consequence of there being some 26 residences being built alongside KGV field without anywhere to park on site.

MG will distribute drafts covering the three options for the extra land which has been gifted to the Parish Council but on which the Borough Council has imposed quite restrictive covenants on possible uses.

The meeting closed at 9pm

NEXT MEETING 4 APRIL 2024 AT 7.30PM