



ridley avenue
residents association &
neighbourhood watch

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RARA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES Monday 26 January 2004 @ St Paul's Church Hall

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Last Meeting were discussed and then signed by Rowena Perring.

Matters Arising

John Dales – Church Traffic Plan

The Committee did not invite John along to this meeting as his work is not yet complete. John is currently writing up his strategy and will be carrying out a survey amongst the church congregation over the next month or so. The Committee will invite John to a public meeting once his work is finished.

Street Walkers / Street Watchers

Residents were given some Street Watchers forms to fill in when problems occur in the street.

Alleyway

The alleyway alongside No 66 now seems to have been cleared of all obstructions.

Committee Elections

Clare Cooper was nominated to join the Committee. It was proposed that the 2003 Committee be re-elected for another year en bloc. Both proposals were seconded and approved by the Meeting.

Crime Statistics

Andy read out the latest crime statistics reported by Mark Weston.

Reported crimes – 28th November 2003 to 22nd January 2004.

Ridley Avenue

1 December – A female victim was approached at 8.55am from behind had had her bag snatched from her hand. The suspect, aged about 25 and 5 ft 5 ran off and escaped in a black hatchback car.

Fulmer Way

29 December – Theft of a car – locked and unattended Vauxhall Cavalier was stolen but recovered when chased by police.

Midhurst Road

10 / 11 January – Criminal damage to a car. Some sort of acid or paint stripper was poured onto the vehicle.

Cramner Avenue

25 December – Theft from a car. Presents were stolen by four suspects when the victim returned to the house to collect a young child.

Green Avenue

4 / 5 January – Theft of a car. A Rover Metro was stolen. Recovered in Hanwell.

Northcroft Road

6 December – Criminal damage to a window.

20 December – Theft of a pedal cycle stolen from outside a back door.

4 / 5 January – Attempted theft of car. Door of Ford Escort forced from the top. Attempts were made to hotwire the vehicle causing some damage.

Fielding Walk

The meeting discussed Fielding Walk. Ruth outlined the plans for a Friends Of Fielding Walk. She reported that Fielding School is currently in the process of putting up new fencing along the boundary between the school and Fielding Walk. In the 2004 budget, Ealing Council has allocated 10% less funds to parks and open spaces overall. However a Friends Of Fielding Walk would be supported by the Council. A resident asked about when the fencing would be erected. Amanda explained about the tendering process and why the fencing was needed.

Friends of Fielding Walk could be extended to all streets whose residents use the park. The Council would want help and if we can guarantee it there would be more funding. We would need to have three volunteer days per year to improve the area. Jim Duncan reported that there was dog mess, broken glass and empty bottles all over the place at the moment. Fielding Walk used to be locked at night.

Friends of Fielding Walk would benefit residents who back onto the park. If we can show a level of support, the Council will be more supportive and we could get more funding for bigger improvements. We could also apply for grants – Living Spaces, Ealing in Bloom etc. A resident commented that they hoped that Council support would not be reduced if we had more involvement,

The meeting was asked for a show of hands in support of more work on developing Friends of Fielding Walk.

Ealing Borough Neighbourhood Watch Association AGM

Rowena reported to the meeting on the EBNWA AGM which took place in November 2003. Amongst those attending were Ben Honey, Ealing Borough Chief Inspector, Martin Bridger, Borough Commander, David Eaton from London Neighbourhood Watch, Tim Yarnell, Community Safety & Crime Unit at Ealing Council, John Howell, Director General of the National NWA and Richard Barnes, Deputy Chairman of the Metropolitan Police Authority.

Chief Superintendent Martin Bridger reported to the meeting that an intelligence assessment is carried out every day. On the South Acton estate, there are now thirteen full time police officers working with various agencies to get things sorted out. There has been a lot of interest from the Home Office. Street crime in Ealing Borough is 25% down meaning 430 less victims. The police will be holding a seminar with Ealing NWAs.

There is a problem with the organisation of the Ealing Borough Neighbourhood Watch. A report is being compiled on how it should be structured. Debbie Jackson has a new assistant called Val for eighteen hours a week.

There are currently 385 Neighbourhood Watch Associations in Ealing.

EBNWA now has funds to erect NW signs and is negotiating with Cardinal about putting the signs up. London-wide, another deal is needed to fund the signs. A million copies of a Neighbourhood Watch magazine for London are to be distributed.

At a national level, Neighbourhood Watch Association has eight staff based at Buckingham Gate in central London. They are currently talking to a bank about taking over insurance cover.

The NWA is concentrating on helping older residents and are pro-active in campaigning against distraction crime. There will be a big campaign on this in the spring and we will take part if we get more information.

The full report of the meeting has been filed for reference, should residents wish to see a copy.

Any Other Business

Quiz Night

The Committee reported that they planned to hold a Residents Quiz Night on 23rd or 25th March. More information would be available soon once the date and format has been confirmed. A resident suggested holding a raffle where people could donate things they no longer wanted. This could raise money to donate to the Church for the use of the hall.

Gated Alleyways

A resident commented on gated alleyways. Maggie offered to discuss the issue with the resident as she was involved in the initial installation of gates in some of the alleyways in Ridley Avenue some years ago.

The next RARA Public Meeting is planned for Monday 26 April 2004.

Minutes signed by: Acting Co-ordinator, RARA

Date: 10 May 2004