



ridley avenue  
residents association &  
neighbourhood watch

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## **RARA PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

### **Monday 15 November 2004 @ St Paul's Church Hall**

#### **Present**

John Mitchell, Peggy Walton, Carolyn Figgett, Liz Duncan, Jim Duncan, Claire Ackling, Jennifer Foort, Tori Cochrane, Antonio Dourado, Kirsty Lord, Graham Horner, Nalen Anthoni, Rowena Perring, Amanda Savage, Maggie Christopher.

#### **Apologies**

Phil Conlon, Andy Dowell, Gordon Figgett, John Hobson, Inge Hobson, Sue Rocha, Andrew Wright.

#### **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The 26th July 2004 public meeting minutes were approved by the Meeting and signed by Rowena Perring.

#### **Matters Arising**

##### **Fielding Walk**

The committee had contacted the Parks Department about maintenance and tree pruning. No significant response as yet.

##### **Fencing**

Andy Dowell is trying to find out the owner details via the Land Registry. The owners of No.63 had kindly mended the fence and the meeting extended their thanks. Nalen Anthoni pointed out that the buddleia overhanging the fence was very low and causing a nuisance. The committee agreed to contact the council raising a concern over Health and Safety.

##### **Street Lighting**

The committee will raise the concern about poor street lighting (not just in Ridley Avenue but most of the surrounding roads) with Ealing Council. The general consensus was that the style and height of the old-fashioned lamp-posts was fine, but the bulbs throw out a very dim light.

##### **Anti-social Behaviour**

Residents pointed out that the police had been called twice since the last meeting. Police dispersed about 25 youths throwing fireworks on November 5th. Also cars have been vandalised outside No 2 and No 4 Ridley Avenue. A car was broken into outside No 63. It would seem that problems have escalated from noise and nuisance to vandalism. There has been no comeback from the police on car vandalism. The committee will ask the police to attend the next public meeting to address residents' concerns as the general feeling is that there is more crime now than this time last year.

#### **Crime Statistics**

Rowena read out the latest crime statistics reported by Ealing police.

##### **Reported crimes – 1 July to 14 November 2004.**

###### **Belsize Avenue**

One allegation of criminal damage.

###### **Altenburg Avenue**

No crimes reported

###### **Fulmer Way**

One allegation of theft from a motor vehicle.

###### **Chalfont Way**

One deception, one theft from motor vehicle and one malicious phone call.

###### **Northcroft Road**

Three allegations of TDA, one of criminal damage, one of criminal damage to motor vehicle, one theft of a bicycle and two robberies

###### **Midhurst Road**

Three theft of motor vehicles, two theft of bicycles, one robbery, one criminal damage, two shed/garage burglaries, one residential burglary and one shoplifting.

The meeting commented that crime seemed to have risen, that Ridley Avenue was not mentioned in the crime statistics and that the term 'TDA' was not clear.

## **National Neighbourhood Watch**

Rowena re-capped on the National Neighbourhood Watch status and read out an update issued at the end of October 2004 (see below). The structure runs from National at the top to London-wide, then Ealing and finally to the specific local Neighbourhood Watch schemes like ours.

An observation was made by the meeting that we had not yet got any road signs. It was agreed that the committee would follow this up again.

This is the statement from the NNWA :-

*The Board of Trustees of National Neighbourhood Watch Association (NNWA) are pleased to inform all interested parties that after extensive and wide ranging discussions with the Home Office that all recent issues and concerns have been addressed and all matters resolved to both sides satisfaction and for the benefit of the wider Neighbourhood Watch movement.*

*The NNWA will now be undertaking a review of its functions and structure with particular reference to its representational capacity and accountability in an effort to represent the views of the wider movement to government and other national organisations.*

*To provide an effective exchange of best practice information and guidance, NNWA will seek to develop robust levels of two-way communication between itself, the wider movement, local police forces, crime and disorder partnerships and other local agencies and groups.*

*The NNWA now welcome the opportunity to work in complete harmony and unity with the Home Office in order to further develop and strengthen the Neighbourhood Watch movement throughout the UK.*

*An open letter from Home Minister Hazel Blears MP to Neighbourhood Watch members will follow early next week.*

Roy Rudham

Chair

National Neighbourhood Watch Association (NNWA)

## **Meeting dates**

A leaflet was issued to all attendees specifying the 2005 meeting dates.

## **Any Other Business**

- It was suggested that there would be time for a glass of wine after the AGM to celebrate RARA's 2nd year.
- There was a query about the state of a property in Ridley Avenue with the fear of infestation caused by the rubbish left outside. The committee agreed to find out how to go about approaching the problem without causing upset to the resident.
- There was a concern raised about the weedy, unkempt state of the pavements. The committee agreed to follow this up with the council.
- There was a complaint about the way the Ealing Leader and/or the Ealing Times were left at the end of the street. It was pointed out that concerns could be raised with the papers directly.

**The next RARA Public Meeting is planned for Monday 31 January 2005.**

Minutes signed by: ..... Acting Co-ordinator, RARA

Date: 31 January 2005