



ridley avenue
residents association &
neighbourhood watch

email: info@rara.org.uk web: www.rara.org.uk

RARA PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES Monday 27 March 2006 @ St Paul's Church Hall

Present

John Hobson, Rowena Perring, David Fatscher, Sue Rocha, Clare Cooper, John Mitchell, Antonio Dourado, Mark Peterson, Jane Dean, Andy Dowell, Amanda Savage, Maggie Christopher.

Apologies

Inga Hobson, Nalen Anthoni, Gordon Figgett, Carolyn Figgett, Jim Duncan, Liz Duncan, Philippa Bird, Andrew Wright.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Public Meeting held on 21st November 2005 were discussed. The dates of the Crime Statistics were amended. The Minutes were approved by the meeting and signed by Andy Dowell.

Matters Arising

Fencing

Amanda Savage reported that she had complained to the builders about the pungent smell and smoke from bonfires they held on the vacant plot at the corner of Ridley Avenue and Fulmer Way. She asked them to use their skips to dispose of their waste materials instead. There has been no feedback from those who originally complained about the vacant plot. Ealing Council say that they cannot tell us who the landowner is due to restrictions under the Data Protection Act. Amanda reported that she had now been pursuing Ealing Council on this matter for over two years and had still received no reply. Andy and Amanda asked the meeting for feedback on what future action, if any, they felt appropriate. The meeting responded that there was some fear that Ealing Council may adopt the land and it was agreed that a watching brief should be kept, but no further action taken for the present.

Neighbourhood Watch Signs

Andy Dowell reported we now have a new police contact who has said that they should be able to get some Neighbourhood Watch signs for us without charge.

Street Lighting

Andy Dowell reported that the street lights in Salisbury Road are to be replaced within the next few months. Hopefully Ridley Avenue will follow after that. Andy has received emails from a resident in Salisbury Road complaining about the proposed change to the style of street lights. The Meeting discussed the question of street lights and it was agreed that the present street lights are not bright enough.

Election Of Committee

The Committee announced that they were prepared to stand for one more year and David Fatscher agreed to join the Committee. The election of the Committee was proposed and seconded by the meeting.

Crime Statistics

Andy Dowell reported that no new crime statistics were available for the meeting. Mark Peterson commented on the low level of crime shown on the previous crime statistics.

Any Other Business

- Andy Dowell reported that we have a new policewoman contact, PC Katie Coulter. Katie apologised for not being able to attend the meeting.
- Andy reported that he had received a reply to his letter to Royal Mail concerning problems with deliveries. Royal Mail stated that they had been experiencing problems and believed that the previous difficulties were now improving. The meeting agreed that the daily delivery time now seems to be earlier.
- Maggie Christopher reported that the bicycle and ladder deposited in the gated alleyway between Ridley Avenue and Cranmer Avenue are now no longer there.
- Maggie Christopher reported that the rat extermination programme at No 17 had been completed. RARA wrote to Ealing Council concerning the issues surrounding No 17 after the last meeting and requested a reply. Bob Coombs of Ealing Council's Environmental Services department telephoned on 22 March to say that they were holding a joint meeting the following day to agree the way forward. Three separate sections of the council were involved – Pest

Control for the rats, Environmental Services for the gardens and streets and Environmental Health for the house and its interior. He agreed to advise RARA of the outcome of the meeting, but had not done so in time for the meeting. The owners of the adjacent properties, No 15 and No 19, are pursuing the matter vigorously with Ealing Council. Bob Coombs advised that Ealing Council is receiving no reply whatsoever from the owner of No 17 to any of their communications. The matter was discussed by the meeting. Residents were concerned about the smell and health hazard of the large quantity of exterminated rats decomposing underneath the house. John Hobson reported seeing the householder urinating in the street. The issue of pollution causes concern. RARA will continue to liaise with Ealing Council on the matter. Amanda commented that there was a hole in the roof between No 15 and No 17.

- Andy Dowell reported that from 3 July 2006 there was going to be a new telephone number for non-emergency 999-type calls. Also 999 calls will be routed to the least busy call centre so that callers may get through more easily. The new number would be for reporting crimes that are not urgent or life threatening and callers will be charged. There will also be an email address which RARA will be able to use.
- Andy Dowell reported that RARA will now be insured for meetings and events.
- Andy Dowell reported that the National Neighbourhood Watch Association is closing down. They rely totally on sponsorship and do not have enough funds to guarantee to be able to pay the salaries of their three employees. The Home Office is undecided on whether or not it will take over the role. The NNWA provided local schemes with publications and advice on all aspects of crime prevention. Individual Neighbourhood Watch groups are not affected by the closure.
- Amanda Savage reported that the Boston Manor Residents Association are lobbying for a double yellow line on the corner of Haslemere Avenue and Boston Road, where parked vehicles are a hazard.
- Amanda Savage advised the meeting of the "Frolic In The Meadow" initiative to plant wild flowers in Boston Manor Park.

The next RARA Public Meeting is planned for Monday 31 July 2006.

Minutes signed by: Acting Co-ordinator, RARA
Date: 31 July 2006