Minutes from the Committee Meeting on Friday 4th January 2008, 7pm at River Park House, High Road, Wood Green, N22

In attendance: Sue Brown (Chair); Nick Martin Clark; Selim Buyukdogan; Emeka Ekeowa; John Stevens; Chris Graham, Russell Chater

Apologies: Anne Crellin; Olive Johnson; Delsie Grandson; Janet El Shoubashi; Sarah Rooney; Dennis & Cathleen OdHea

1. Introduction and Minutes of last meeting

SB welcomed everyone to the meeting. Unfortunately the minutes of the previous meeting tabled were not to be the most up to date copy. As a result, although the Committee were able to draw from them, it was agreed that the previous minutes would be formally approved at the next meeting.

Matters Arising:

(a) SB reported that she is still awaiting Mike Jones (Chair of the ALMO) to respond to her letter regarding daytime meetings relating to the ALMO.

Action: SB to continue to chase for a response.

(b) SB reported that an advert had now been placed in the Home Zone magazine.

2. Finances

(a) Current Financial position: The committee were told that the current financial position was generally fine, although the exact amount in the Abbey account is to be confirmed.

Action: Chris is to detail exactly what money he is owed and send details to Selim so that the Committee can then see exactly where it stands financially.

(b) Signatories/new bank account: SB reported that the new HSBC account was open and that the old signatories had been changed. The Committee was informed that the plan is to transfer any remaining monies in the Abbey account to HSBC account.

Action: SB is to contact Malvinder Gill regarding this.

(c) Innovation into Action report and grant: Chris reported that the Committee had received the Innovation into Action grant of £9,800 on the 4th October 2007. Chris reported that at some point he will need to update the report.

3. Draft of document to go in HOT mailout in February 2007:

Nick tabled a draft document for the Committee to look at. Both Nick and Selim have been in contact with estate agents to try and secure some funding for including their logo on the mailout. It was felt that asking about £200 might be appropriate, as the mailout would go out to approx 4,500 people. Nick reported that he is also in discussion with a construction company regarding sponsorship as well. Sarah has been overseeing how much the printing might cost. Although she was not present, it was believed the figure would be about £405.

A deal was also being discussed whereby leaseholders could get a special rate if they were to sell their properties through the chosen estate agent via the HLA (it was felt that a 1% rate would be ideal). It was felt that the public should give us about £20 but that they will then get this back.

Action: Nick is to add the following information to the mailout:

- 1) Sponsors (when confirmed)
- 2) HLA website address
- 3) The fact that the HLA are resuming an advice service (see AOB)
- 4) The dates of the next general leaseholder meeting which it was agreed should be Saturday 23 February 2008, from 11am 2pm (which would allow about 2 weeks notice after receipt of the mailout on 8 February 2008).
- 5) Nick is to email the final draft to Chris who will then convert it to a pdf file.
- 6) Nick is to check with HSBC that the standing order information that appears on the back of the mailout is fine.

4. Update from Chris on Islington funding:

Chris reported that the court case had been won by 3 leaseholders. The upshot of the situation was that there ought to be an opt out option for leaseholders to pay their £20.

5. Ad for Home Zone wording:

A paper was tabled showing the proposed wording. The Committee agreed that the wording was suitable and as such it was felt that the advert could go out.

6. Yr 1 programme on website:

The Committee felt that a link might be all that is required to show the year 1 programme.

Action: Selim is to send Emeka the information for Emeka to put on the website.

7. Any Other Business:

- (a) Action: John Stevens is to send a signed invoice in relation to his £4,000 payment to Selim to ensure records are accurately maintained.
- (b) John and Selim reported that they would be happy to offer their financial/legal advice to leaseholders in the form of a drop in advice surgery. The Committee expressed their gratitude.

Action: SB is to look into getting suitable premises arranged to enable this, whilst John and Selim are to look into what insurance they may need.

- (c) Action: SB is to email her HLA files to Chris to burn onto DVD.
- (d) Chris reported that he had read about a case though the London Leaseholders Network where the council had not stuck exactly to the procedure for a Section 20 notice. The case had gone to court and the court had found in favour of the leaseholders. Chris felt that this might now mean that the 2004 case in Haringey could be revisited.

Action: Chris is to liaise with John Stevens over the details of the case and John is to let the Committee know his thoughts.

(e) Action: Emeka is to generally update the website with key bits of information once they become agreed.