

## HARINGEY LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION

### MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT HARINGEY CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, N22 ON WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2012

Present

Sue Brown (Chair) (SB), Nick Martin-Clark (Treasurer) (NMC), Peter Gilbert (Secretary) (PG) and Rita Batzias (Committee Member) (RB).

#### **Apologies**

After the meeting, apologies for absence were received from Delsie Grandson.

#### **Constitutional matters discussed with HfH at meeting on 27 Jan 2012**

Although the Committee had discussed the urgent items raised by HfH, up to and including item 20, at the meeting with HfH officers on 27 January, we had further comments to make, as follows:

8 On reflection, the Committee considered that it would be more practical on cost grounds to provide an unrestricted access website. Accordingly, it was more appropriate to exclude reference to sensitive personal issues that needed to remain confidential from the Committee meeting minutes before they were placed on the website.

16 The Committee noted that the Model Constitution for recognised groups enables co-options to be as a full member of the committee.

18 The Committee agreed to propose the following amendment to para 13 e) at the AGM . The second sentence to read ~~the~~ committee may suspend affiliation but this must be reviewed at the next General Meeting, which shall have the power to terminate it.+

19 The Committee considered that it would be appropriate, subject to agreement by the AGM, to incorporate a new specific aim as para 3 j) ~~to~~ provide an advice centre to help leaseholders with individual cases.+ The Committee also discussed how it should respond to requests from non-member leaseholders for advice, particularly where a decision on whether to meet the request had to be taken urgently and done so would be financially beneficial to HLA. It was agreed that in such cases the advice could be channelled through HLA Ltd, which was a separate body.

20 The Committee agreed to propose amending the second sentence of para 5 f) by inserting ~~suspended~~+between ~~re~~instate+and ~~members~~+, and to propose adding: ~~if~~ requested by the suspended member the committee must consider an appeal against the suspension at the next committee meeting. A reinstated member may not vote either in committee or general meetings and may not hold office prior to confirmation of the reinstatement at the next general meeting. Any expelled member

has the right to ask for readmission at any General Meeting. They will be readmitted as ordinary members and must seek co-option or election to the committee separately.+

**Other Matters that HfH regard as requiring resolution in the short term (21, 24-26, 28-33, 35-36, 39-40. 42, 44, 46, 49)**

21 The Committee agreed to propose the following addition to 6 f): ~~%Resignations will~~ become effective once accepted by the Chair. The committee may refuse to co-opt a member who has breached the constitution. Unless they have been expelled, members may be co-opted at General Meetings or elected at Annual General Meetings, previous committee refusals notwithstanding.+

24 The Committee agreed to propose the following addition to 6 k): ~~%The terms of~~ reference must be ratified at the next General Meeting and the sub-group must not spend any money prior to that ratification.+

25 The Committee agreed to propose the following amendments to 6 m). Substitute ~~%Committee+~~for ~~%Chair+~~in the second sentence. Substitute ~~+Committee+~~for ~~%Chair+~~ in the third sentence. Add: ~~%In~~ a case of conflict between this clause and clause 7 d), clause 7 d) takes priority. No committee member may be excluded from any part of the committee meeting without their consent, except as provided for under 16 b).+

26 The Committee would be prepared to consider suggestions from HfH as to what constitutes a confidential matter, but would not want any list to be regarded as exhaustive.

28 The Committee agreed to propose the following amendment to 6 p): Delete ~~%with~~ the knowledge and agreement of the Chair+and replace by ~~%agreed~~ in consultation with the Chair.+

29 The Committee agreed to propose the following amendment to 6 q): Delete ~~%committee members can make suggestions for agenda items+~~and replace by ~~%committee member can propose items for inclusion on the agenda, and non-~~committee members can ask committee members to propose items on their behalf.+

30 The Committee agreed to reply, ~~%We~~ are happy to consider the other matters identified for consideration over a longer period in the medium and long term with HfH, having first been recognised.+

31 The Committee did not recommend the change proposed to 7 d).

32 The Committee was unable to recommend the change proposed to 7 e), which was suggesting that HLA had not observed proper procedure in the past.

33 The Committee felt that it was totally impracticable to insist that the Treasurer, in addition to being one of three cheque signatories, of whom two should sign, must

sign every cheque. The Committee would take this to the AGM and would resign if the HfH proposal were carried.

35 The Committee did not agree to amend the constitution at this time to state that an AGM must be held within 14 months of the previous one. The Committee noted that HfH was currently reviewing the criteria for recognition.

36 The Committee agreed to propose the following addition to 9 d): ~~where they may be made verbally from the floor.~~ A seconder is required and if there are any objections the meeting will vote on whether to accept the nomination. ~~+~~

39 The Committee agreed to review the quorum within one year of conditional recognition being awarded.

40 The Committee agreed to propose the following addition to 11 a) ~~where they will be formally agreed.~~ ~~+~~

42 The Committee agreed to propose the following addition to 12 b) ~~at a General Meeting.~~ ~~+~~ The Committee agreed to propose taking out the words ~~counted and~~ ~~+~~ from 12 c).

44 The Committee agreed to propose the following amendment to 13 c). Delete ~~practically, morally and financially,~~ and replace by: ~~as~~ as much as reasonably possible whilst retaining separate responsibility for their individual finances. Any financial support will be subject to detailed provisions in an affiliation agreement. ~~+~~

NMC agreed to draft a response to HfH by Friday 10 February.

### **AGM Arrangements**

The Committee agreed to invite a speaker from the Leasehold Advisory Service (LEASE) and to approach the Chair of Ferry Lane Action Group (FLAG).

The meeting closed at 9pm, with a vote of thanks to the Chair.