Haringey Leaseholders' Association Committee Meeting

Meeting held on Wednesday 12 October 2016 at Wood Green Social Club, Stuart Crescent, N22

In attendance

Committee:

Lloyd Grandson, Chair (LG) Sue Brown, Vice-Chair (SB) Nick Martin-Clark, Treasurer (NMC) Peter Gilbert, Secretary (PG) Innocent Okoli (IO)

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 7.15pm

Welcome

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Regina Aide Arionget, Michael Blasebalk, Yvonne Campbell, Shiovaun Cullen, Clare Richards, Joya Roy and Adzowa Kwabla-Oblikah, leaseholder member of the Board for Homes for Haringey.

Minutes

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on Wednesday 17 August 2016, which had been circulated to committee members, were read at the meeting and were approved.

Matters arising

• Bank Account Signatory

LG said that he would bring the bank signatory forms to the next meeting for PG to sign.

• Facebook Page

NMC reported that Clare Richards had set up the Facebook page for the HLA. He would publicise this on HLAøs website and ask leaseholders to join the group.

Mediation

LG said that he would send NMC a screen-shot of the HfH webpage when it had briefly carried news of the mediation between HfH and HLA and that HLA had been cleared of any financial impropriety.

Treasurer's Report

NMC reported that since the last Committee meeting HLA had received £20 by way of subscriptions in August and £40 in September. He had paid £15 for hiring the room for the Committee meeting and £36 to keep the HLA phone number. The bank balance as at 2 October, which had not included the subscription income received at the beginning of the month, was £1,554.33, which, when netted off against expenses, gave a net balance of £1,450.74. The officers would consider changing the phone number to one with the prefix of 0800 or 0345 to reduce the cost to leaseholder callers.

Update on Progress following Mediation Meeting with HfH

Proposed Claim for a Declaration

Renewal of Management Agreement between Haringey Council and Homes for Haringey

NMC advised that the renewal of the Management Agreement between Haringey Council and Homes for Haringey should have been approved before 1 April 2016. However, the new agreement had not been in place until May 2016. It appeared that the extension of the old contract had not followed the correct procedure. HLA was looking into the implications of this.

Homes for Haringey Board

NMC reported that Keith Jenkins, Chair of the Board of Homes for Haringey, had resigned on 26 September, the day before the most recent Board meeting, which had been chaired by Phil Goodwin, Vice-Chair. The AGM of HfH was due to take place on Monday 24 October and would be chaired by Tom McGregor, a non-resident member of the Board. SB agreed to check whether she would be able to attend: none of the other HLA members present would be able to do so.

Leaseholder Meetings

NMC reported that he would be invited by leaseholders in Stroud Green Ward to a meeting with Cllr Raj Sahota about proposals for major works.

He added that he had recently met Thyra, a leaseholder living on the Tower Gardens estate, whom he would be putting in touch with Joya Roy to organise a meeting of Lordship Lane leaseholders.

Freedom of Information Act Requests

PG outlined a number of requests that he had recently made on behalf of HLA under the Freedom of Information Act. He would report to the Committee on the responses he received.

Leasehold Panel

LG said that he would be emailing Anne Goodhew, Chair of the Leasehold Panel, and Nesan Thevanesan, Head of Income Management, about a number of issues, including that,

although Ms Goodhew had agreed to place an item regarding the election of the Panel Chair under Any other Business on the most recent meeting of the Panel on 2 August, in his absence the matter had not been raised at all.

NMC said that, in the light of other causes for dissatisfaction in regard to the operation of the Panel, it might be worthwhile to complain about Mr Thevanesan to his line manager.

Leasehold Services Review Findings & Action Plan

Committee members noted that on 12 August Astrid Kjellberg-Obst, HfH\@ Executive Director of Operations, had emailed leaseholders the findings of the Leasehold Services Review and the proposed Action Plan arising from the review, together with a request for feedback. Ms Kjellberg-Obst had said that she would be arranging a meeting in the autumn to share progress.

HLA General Meeting

It was agreed that a General Meeting of Haringey Leaseholdersø Association should be held on Saturday 26 November (or 3 December if PG would not be available on 26 November) at Wood Green Social Club, Stuart Crescent, N22, starting at 10am. Leaseholders would be asked to arrive for 9.45am in order to sign the attendance sheet and pick up papers, so as to ensure a prompt start. In accordance with HLAøs constitution, notice would be posted on the website at least 14 days beforehand. It was agreed to invite the elected leaseholder member of the Board to the General Meeting.

(PG confirmed on 13 October that he would be able to attend on Saturday 26 November.)

Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting should be arranged provisionally for Wednesday 23 November at Wood Green Social Club, starting at 7pm. PG would notify members as soon as possible.

NMC agreed that in PG¢s absence he would advise members in the week beginning 14 November whether the proposed meeting would take place.

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.15pm.