

Haringey Leaseholders' Association Committee Meeting

Meeting held on Wednesday 2 September 2015 at Wood Green Social Club, Stuart Crescent, N22

In attendance

Committee:

Sue Brown, Vice-Chair (SB) (in the Chair)

Nick Martin-Clark, Treasurer (NMC)

Peter Gilbert, Secretary (PG)

Clare Richards, Press Officer (CR)

The meeting was opened by the Vice-Chair at 7.15pm

Welcome

SB welcomed everybody to the meeting.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Lloyd Grandson (Chair), Michael Blasebalk, Yvonne Campbell, Grace Lungu, Saida Mohamed, Barbara Moore and Ruth Ortiz.

Minutes

PG apologised for not having provided the minutes for the Committee meetings held on 17 June and 17 July. He confirmed that the minutes of the Special General Meeting on 23 May had been drafted and would be put for adoption to the General Meeting on Saturday 17 October.

Application for Judicial Review of the HLA's Appeal against De-recognition by the Board of Homes for Haringey on 20 October 2014

Review of Recognition Criteria for Tenant and Leaseholder Representative Groups – draft letter to Chair of Leasehold Panel

It was agreed that PG should make a series of FoI requests in relation to the Resident Engagement Strategy/Community Engagement Strategy.

It was also agreed that PG should draft a follow-up letter for the HLA Chair to send to ask the Chair of the Leasehold Panel whether she had heard anything in relation to the status of the RIA since his letter of 22 July.

Possible Follow-up Review by the Resident Scrutiny Panel

PG reported that he had not yet received a reply to his email of 2 August to the Chair of the RSP agreeing to supply the Panel with the information that it required and asking for clarification as to exactly what information the Panel needed. PG was asked to follow up the matter.

Updated Statement on Community Involvement

The Vice-Chair advised that she had received an invitation on behalf of HLA to a consultation meeting on the London Borough of Haringey's updated Statement of Community Involvement, which would take place on Monday 14 September at 7pm.

As the Vice-Chair would then be away on holiday, it was agreed that if possible CR should attend on behalf of HLA. CR was asked to scan the invitation to NMC and PG.

Consultation by HfH on a Housing Strategy for Haringey 2015-2020 and questionnaire

The Committee noted that HfH's Resident Engagement Team had recently emailed a summary of Haringey Council's draft Housing Strategy for 2015-2020 to residents, for comment to Haringey Council by 18 October.

In view of the limited time available at the meeting, it was agreed that members should comment individually if they wished and that at its next meeting the Committee should consider what response to make on behalf of HLA as a whole.

HLA General Meeting - Saturday 17 October 2015

PG advised that Catherine West, MP for Hornsey and Wood Green, had agreed to attend and speak, but would have to leave the meeting by 11am in view of family commitments. Cllr Alan Strickland, lead Haringey Council Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration, had given his apologies as he would be unable to attend. No reply had been received from the third invited speaker, Andrew Billany, Chief Executive of Homes for Haringey.

PG was asked to renew the invitation to Mr Billany.

It was noted that HLA should give two weeks notice of the GM to Homes for Haringey.

Treasurer's Report

NMC reported that as at 2 August 2015 the balance of the HLA's current account had been £961.85, a drop of over £4,000 compared with the position on 1 April, when the balance had been £5009.13.

Some £1680 had been received in annual subscriptions. Standing Orders from leaseholders mainly fell due on 1 May or 1 October.

The main areas of expenditure had been to encourage support for the SGM on 23 May, including leaflets, phone calls, emails and room hire. Since then, the subscription for HLA's PO Box and the dot-mailer email service had been paid.

He added that the Committee needed to focus on door-knocking in order to persuade leaseholders to attend the GM on 17 October and to subscribe to HLA by paying the voluntary Standing Order.

CR suggested that she contact Tan Ahmet and ask her to help NMC to develop HLA's database.

Next Committee Meeting

It was agreed that, subject to the availability of the Chair, the next Committee meeting would be on either Monday 28 September or Wednesday 30 September 2015 at Wood Green Social Club, starting at 7pm. (It was subsequently confirmed that the meeting would be on Wednesday 30 September and Committee members were advised accordingly.)

Any other Business

CR said that she would tweet HLA's followers to outline the principle behind the legal action, that HLA was not being treated fairly and that it was standing up for the rights of residents to receive a fair deal.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.