

## Haringey Leaseholders' Association Committee Meeting

Held on Tuesday 24 February 2009 at 57 Yarmouth Crescent, N17

### In Attendance

#### Committee

Sue Brown (Chair) SBr

Russell Chater (Secretary/minutes) RC

Rita Batzias RB

Nick Martin Clark (Chair of Leasehold Panel) NMC

Scott Russell SR

Piers JohnsonPJ

#### Leaseholders

Charles ConnollyCC

Jack Wag JW

### The meeting was opened by Sue Brown at 19:30

Welcome/Introduction: Mr Jack Wag was welcomed to the committee, and those present introduced themselves.

#### 1. Apologies

From: XXXX (Treasurer), Catrina Zahoor (Membership Secretary), Ayten Goknel (Committee member)

#### 2. Previous Minutes

Minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 9 January 2009 were agreed as an accurate record.

#### 3. Matters Arising from Meeting held on 9 January 2009

- a. (3b) SBr was still to request a chequebook and locate Rupert Marsh's resignation letter to pass to the bank. Action: SBr
- b. (3c) PJ reported that he had attended the FLAG (Ferry Lane Action Group) meeting, with a view to forging a dialogue/relationship between them and HLA. PJ reported that they seemed keen to forge links and perhaps come under the HLA umbrella. There was some discussion, however, around whether FLAG would need to consist purely of leaseholders, as HLA are unable to speak for tenants as well. It was agreed that NMC will check our constitution to confirm this fact. It was felt important to do things correctly, with a view to then perhaps offering a template for other action groups. NMC also agreed that he would pass over relevant leaseholder information to PJ to help aid outreach work. Action: NMC
- c. (4b) SBr reported that she had yet to complete and return the application for the Umbrella Organisation Recognition and Funding department. SBr informed the committee that she would need to get certain committee member signatures before sending it off. The deadline was noted as the end of March 2009. Action: SBr
- d. (4c) Regarding seeking quotes for installing our own windows, it was noted that Selim Buyukdogan was doing this, although he was not present to discuss findings/quotes to date. All leaseholders present were encouraged to do their own research into window quotes and to challenge work felt unnecessary or of poor quality. The possibility of getting surveyors in to assess whether works are needed in the first place was discussed. Action: All leaseholders

- e. (5g) NMC and SBr confirmed that they had reviewed and signed the financial paperwork that XXXX had passed to them.
- f. (7c) It was noted that a formal log recording the queries received was not yet being kept. SBr said that she would start doing this and also forward the details to Catrina Zahoor.  
Action: SBr
- g. (7g) Discussion around umbrella groups had already taken place (see 3b), though it was noted that further investigation and discussion needs to take place.
- h. (7h) NMC reported that he and Catrina Zahoor had liaised over paperwork to be handed out to year 2 leaseholders (who will be affected by the next wave of major works) at the next meeting. It was noted that the paperwork also included a standing order form.
- i. (Sa) Discussion around a letter from Paul Bridge (dated 9 February 2009) is discussed under Correspondence.
- j. (9) SBr reported that an official Decent Homes Programme list indicating the order of works was yet to be made available to the HLA. It was noted that upon receipt of this, it should be put on the HLA website. It was noted that leaseholders could currently type in their postcodes to the HfH website to see when works were taking place in their blocks, although it was confirmed that details only showed up if works were planned imminently. It was felt that the HLA should also try and find out if individual leaseholders go to LVT regarding major works. Action: SBr to chase programme list/Selim to post on website
- k. (10c) Discussion around the website takes place under Item 9.

#### 4. Correspondence

- a. NMC tabled a letter (dated 9 February 2009) from Paul Bridge, which followed a meeting with Paul Bridge, SBr and himself on 31 January 2009. NMC gave a brief overview of the background to those present not familiar with the issues.

The letter effectively indicates that the witness statement made by Ola Akinfe against NMC has now been withdrawn. As the council had won their case based on this statement, there was discussion as to whether we should now try and get legal advice to re-visit the case. It was noted, however, that the formal Appeal timeframe has elapsed, so there was discussion as to whether we should go to the press. Ultimately, however, it was felt that it might be counter productive to antagonise HfH and that it was only worth challenging them on the issue and use it as ammunition against them if they started returning to their 'old tricks'. It was felt that by 'playing ball', it might even mean that HfH would be more receptive to further plans that would benefit leaseholders, e.g. making the HLA £20 contribution opt out, as opposed to opt in. Subsequently, it was also felt that correspondence relating to this issue should not be posted on the HLA website at present.

NMC read out a letter that he had drafted in response to Paul Bridge's letter, and the committee felt that the tone was generally correct, although a few changes should be made. SBr was to also ensure that she was credited as 'Chair of HLA' on the minutes of the meeting on 31 January 2009. Action: NMC & SBr

#### 5. Finances

The Treasurer was not present to report on finances, and so it was agreed that this Item could be discussed at the next meeting. It was noted, however, that no real issues had been raised. Action: XX to report at next meeting

6. Membership Matters

The Membership Secretary was not present to report on membership matters, and so it was agreed that this Item could be discussed at the next meeting. It was noted, however, that no real issues had been raised. Action: CZ to report at next meeting

7. General Meeting

a. SBR was to draft the Agenda for the meeting to take place on 6 March 2009 at Wood Green Civic Centre. It was felt that Agenda Items should perhaps include:

- Digital aerals (perhaps proposing a campaign to opt out and a demonstration if necessary?)
- Decent Homes Year 2 programme
- Service charges - and formation of a sub group?
- Outreach
- Treasurer's Report
- Guest speaker?

The content and order of the Agenda was to be finalised, and a guest speaker was likely to be sought. NMC, meanwhile, was to contact the previous Secretary to see if she had a copy of the missing general meeting minutes. It was noted that notification of the meeting will go in the Homezone magazine. Action: SBr and NMC

8. Digital aerals and other matters arising from Leasehold Panel

See Item 7 for discussion around this.

9. Website

It was noted that the website was now up and running. The link is: [www.haringeyleaseholders.co.uk](http://www.haringeyleaseholders.co.uk)

10. Outreach and Action Plan

It was agreed that this could be discussed at the next meeting.

11. London Leaseholders' Network Report Back

It was agreed that this could be discussed at the next meeting.

12. Any Other Business

There was no other business raised.

13. Date of Future Meetings

PJ kindly agreed to again host the next meeting at his flat. The meeting would take place on Thursday 16 April 2009, 7pm at 57 Yarmouth Crescent, N17.

Meeting concluded at 10pm