

Haringey Leaseholders' Association Committee Meeting

Meeting held on Friday 4th January 2019 at 'The Green Room', Station Rd, N22

In attendance

Committee:

Sue Brown, Chair (SB)
Margaret Clapson, Treasurer (MC)
Michael Hardy, Committee member (MH)
Michael Blasebalk, Vice Chair (MB)

Nick Martin-Clark, Secretary (NMC)
Lloyd Grandson, Committee Member (CR)
Kevin Mann, Co-opted Member (KM)

The meeting was opened at 6:00 pm

Welcome and Introductions

None necessary. Food was ordered.

Apologies

Julie Weir, Tina Buckingham

Minutes of the meeting held on 31st October 2018

Agreed.

Matters arising not on the agenda

MC asked if the phone should be cancelled. It was costing £36 every 6 months and nobody was phoning up. SB's personal number is on the web through the Ltd Co. Agreed provisionally to get rid of the number next time it came up for renewal. MB said his number could go on the website. MB gets phone calls back from people he has previously contacted. Agreed to take a final decision at the next meeting.

The website is now up and running.

Dipak's cheque for £290 had still not been cashed.

SB had not checked Ltd Co Articles of Association.

There was a meeting of the Leasehold Panel / Forum on December 4th. About 25 people attended. The 'minutes' were very poor and unsatisfactory. Meeting was presented by A K-O. Chris Liffen gave talk on repairs but presentation hadn't been sent out. SB said she would distribute the presentation when it was made available. Next ones in March, June and September. September meeting to discuss LP format. June meeting on communication.

MB asked about the independent Chair. SB said Chinyere was due to hold a meeting but nothing had been done. SB said an advert had probably been drawn up. MB said that, as of 21st Jan, he would have more free time and was willing to take up the role.

HfH were also interviewing for replacement of Kevin Young. When the new person was in place Chinyere would contact HLA about recognition. No residents apparently involved in recruitment process. In the past HfH used to include residents.

Recognition application had gone in. Not known if ATR had applied. MB said worth contacting them to ask if they had done it. Important that it should not be just HLA. HLA could offer to help aTR.

Nothing had been done yet re discussions with MPs / Cllrs.

There was nothing new on Love Lane.

At Tangmere Mercy was staying put.

Treasurer's report

NMC had some claims to put through but did not have the amount. The bank account stood at £2,944.03 as of 2nd December. Mail-outs to all leaseholders were expensive at ca £3,000.

Database

The question was how to increase the HLA's number of email addresses. SB wants Chinyere to email all leaseholders to ask them if they would give HLA their details. In terms of new Right-to-Buy addresses there are about 40 estates and searching for leasehold titles is costly. Searching for freehold titles is more cost-effective at £3 per title. There is no doubt that our database is ageing. SB said many envelopes addressed to 'Or current leaseholder' were returned.

MB said there were three challenges facing the HLA: the contempt case; communicating with actual or potential members; improving the HLA offer. MB said the HLA's collective knowledge was not properly organised so that people could get help. Case-studies should go on website. Success stories from those who had gone to court. NMC said the committee could write their own stories, say 200 words each. NMC to send an email to the committee suggesting this and then forward responses to MB. MB said he would be willing to help with the website. KM said the work-shop idea could have worked but that a good database was needed. KM said the HLA should try and recruit at the next Leasehold Panel.

SB and NMC said the HLA had always been an advice service. MC said a better website could help. At present NMC the only person updating the website. NMC said part of the problem was that HfH were hindering the HLA by not sending out notices of meetings.

Update on contempt

The meeting ended at 19:45 without a date for the next one.