

Haringey Leaseholders' Association Committee Meeting

Meeting held on Tuesday 15th April January 2014 at the Civic Centre

In attendance

Committee:

Sue Brown (Chair) (SB)
Nick Martin-Clark (Secretary) (NMC)
Rita Batzias (RB)
Peter Gilbert (PG)
Anne Gibson (Treasurer) (AG)

No apologies

The meeting was opened by Sue Brown at 19:20

Minutes of previous meetings

PG was still doing corrections for 30/1/14. For 2/12/13 and 5/12/13 AG to send a few things to PG for finalising. PG to then send on to NMC

Minutes of 30/1/14

Agreed for accuracy (subject to above).

Matters arising from 30/1/14

AG asked about the legal advice not to hand out minutes. NMC said he remembered a comment from the barrister but could not remember the exact wording. AG asked to see the comment. **Action point: Find comment.**

NMC said the problem had been LH and that after she resigned email communication was restored. LH had brought PH's 'rebuttal'. There had been a fear of an injunction to get rid of SB as Chair. Harrison Grant had written a lot of letters.

SB said it was now clear she was Chair and there would be no injunction.

Minutes of 13/3/14

SB has made corrections. NMC to ensure that correct version is used. Minutes agreed for accuracy.

Matters arising from 13/3/14

NMC has contacted Dipak but has no statements at home. AG to go to bank to get statements. AG to get accounts done over w/e. AG has Dipak's number.

AG said that she had been against co-opting SB as Chair on the grounds that it was not necessary. Why do it? SB said it was a case of belts and braces. HfH had refused to put SB's name on the AGM notice. NMC said HfH had said the right was co-option so we did it to end the arguments. SB read out relevant part of minutes of her meeting with A K-O.

AG asked to see HfH correspondence. On 9/1/14 AG had said her view was that SB's resignation had stood. AG said she remembered conversation about legal advice she had taken. AG said her legal advice had been ignored. SB said that Neumans had given legal advice the other way.

AG said she had wanted to be sure of her interpretation and that was why she had sought legal advice. AG said NMC had been aggressive in meeting of 9/1 when legal advice question came up. NMC said it had been a startling thing and that it had felt like a hostile move.

NMC asked for a vote on whether he had been aggressive at the meeting of 9/1. RB said she couldn't remember the meeting. PG said he had mixed feelings. PS said NMC sometimes tended to 'jump at things'. 'Having known you for three years or more I don't regard that as aggressive but I can see that someone else might. This is really all personal perception. I don't know how we are going to be able to resolve this'. NMC said this would end up in court. NMC said he imagined he would be cross-examined about it.

AG said she had not participated in email correspondence and had looked at the constitution. AG said she should have been listened to properly.

NMC said he felt AG had been listened to properly. AG's comments were considered and discussed and minuted. NMC said AG's lawyers' opinion was one opinion.

NMC said that AG thought her view should have been accepted but there were other views. NMC said that he had felt it was a constitutional matter and that the HLA were good interpreters of their constitution. NMC said that AG had been irresponsible in saying that if SB stood down we could 'get someone in'.

SB said it was very difficult to get volunteers in. This was why we had 2-tier resignation. NMC said we needed a Chair in order to get an office. Practical considerations are part of it.

Financial report

NMC handed over invoice. AG handed out financial report.

Office

NMC reported that this is now open following agreement with HfH. NMC had been twice. The first time there was a long phone call. Hopefully uptake will improve with publicity. RB asked if she could help in office without being a committee member.

5 ?

SB read out Chris' opinion and said that 4pm the next day was the witness statement deadline. NMC said he had been working very hard under pressure on the court case and that expenses were over £50,000 with Neumans. NMC said he would like to distribute the witness statements.

AG said she didn't know what we were suing for. NMC said there was no problem with handing out information.

NMC said that LZ had agreed to mediation in principle. This was the first time in 4 years that talks were happening. Mediation depended on support of AGM.

AGM

For a speaker NMC had contacted NCVO and Lease but it was not looking good. Maybe Riz could speak.

On Virtual Leads AG said that if we had to spend money to get a quorum then we shouldn't exist. A vote was taken on employing Virtual Leads for 3 days. 3 to 1 in favour.

A vote was taken on putting the matter of getting a barrister's opinion concerning the case against HfH to the AGM. 3 to 1 in favour.

Website

Website ideas to be done by email.