

**MINUTES OF RVPS MEETING**  
**Held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2013**  
**at Bromley Court Hotel**



Those present:

Clive Lees*	Linda Müller	Brian Sanders
Barbara Brown	Jacqui Norman	Valerie Skinner
Ken Cross	Beatrice Osborn	Robert Skinner
Gillian McIntosh	David Page	Pat Tucker
Mike Mielniczek	Ann Rowsell	Leslie Tucker

\* Acting Chair

**1 Apologies:**

Leslie Watmore	Tony Morton	Keith Barrett
Cllr Nicola Dykes	Maureen Johnson	Roger Thelwell
Cllr Will Harmer		

**2 Minutes of last meeting:**

The minutes of the May meeting were approved.

**3 Commemorating Peter Pain:**

Leslie Tucker conveyed the sad news that Peter Pain died on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2013. He went on to say that Peter probably did more for our society than any other member, not just the headlines of his official posts. He was a founder member and was Chairman 1992 - 1997, and Vice Chairman 1997 - 2012. He was the newsletter editor and meetings organiser 1989 - 2012, when his ill health forced his resignation. He also was our representative on the Beckenham Place Park Working Party. He was very valued for his attention to detail and the depth of his research. He is also fondly remembered for his story telling. He is survived by his wife Noreen. She has indicated that if we wish to make a donation, she would like it to go to St Christopher's Hospice. A proposed sum of £250 agreed. Post meeting update: A cheque for £250 and covering letter sent to St Christopher's by Clive Lees.

**4 Membership Report:**

The Membership Secretary Linda Müller gave the following report:

Membership figures as at July 2013: **498 households**

The slow upward trend in membership continues, with an increase of 10 this year.

Sadly some people have not paid their subscriptions. In 2010 14% did not pay, in 2011 7% and in 2012 9%. (Congratulations to Road Reps achieving 100% payment.)

It was suggested that we operate a 2 year rule – delete people from the membership list who have not paid for 2 years, after a warning by Road Reps.

**5 Finances:**

Brian Sanders reported that in the two months to 30th June 2013 Receipts nil. Outgoings nil.

Brian confirmed that Santander and the National Savings Bank had noted the new signatories. The signatories of both accounts are now Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

**6 Community Projects**

Leslie Tucker reported back on the ideas suggested at the last meeting.

Flower bed at the junction of Warren Avenue and Bromley Avenue. Leslie had contacted Bromley. They normally deal with commercial sponsors, who pay ~£1,000 a year and Bromley continue to do the work. This does not seem therefore to be a feasible idea.

Valley School – Clive Lees reported that he has more than once offered to do something for the school but the new Headteacher has not responded.

Leslie asked members to continue to think of ideas.

**7 PLANNING ISSUES:**

**7a Bromley (East) Applications:** (Clive Lees)

**10 Crab Hill:** The application to lift the TPO on two oak trees at 10 Crab Hill was amended to one oak tree following DNA evidence that one tree was not causing subsidence. A recent committee meeting of Bromley Council 'referred' the application to a later date to enable further technical evidence to be obtained, for example the efficacy of a root barrier. We have been greatly helped in this matter by our Copers Cope councillors.

**Billingford:** Following refusal of planning permission, the owner has appealed. Details awaited.

**Italian Villa:** This appeal appears to have been significantly delayed but unfortunately we have

not been able to get any response from the planning inspectorate to find out why.

**35 D Highland Road:** Following refusal of planning permission for the large white fence, the fence has been painted brown and has resulted in no further complaints. Whilst technically the fence needs to be removed, the planning officer stated that he had no intention of pursuing the matter on the grounds that no one had complained recently and it was now much less intrusive.

**Queens Gardens:** The appeal by the developer was upheld and the restaurants will likely be built in the near future. It was noted that at the appeal, the council's case was being advocated by Bob McQuillan, the former chief planner of Bromley Council. Unfortunately, the appellant was aware that Mr. McQuillan's professional opinion was that the development was perfectly acceptable which rather undermined the council's case that the development was unacceptable.

#### **7b Bromley (West) Applications:** (Mike Mielniczek)

**117 Ravensbourne Ave:** The property has a detached garage. There is a application to extend with double storey extension at the side, and single storey at the back – this is within permitted development so we do not propose to object.

#### **7c Lewisham Applications:** (Mike Mielniczek)

**44, 46 Bromley Hill:** On the application to redevelop two semi-detached houses adjacent to the parade of shops to a 7 apartment block, there has been further dialogue between the developer and the Council. If the developer submits new plans, the Council will arrange a meeting with people who have expressed views. Mike will be informed.

#### **Change of Use and Change of Permitted Development rules**

The allowable extensions to the back and side of properties have been increased, as long as they don't cover more than half the ground area. Some require neighbourhood consultation.

#### **Change in the Use Class orders**

The rules which allow changes of use have been loosened. For example use can be changed from office to residential without a planning application; or from office, hotel, etc. to a school.

#### **7d Joint Working Party for Beckenham Place Park:** (Leslie Tucker)

The last meeting was held in May. Minutes not yet received.

#### **8 Transport Issues:** (Brian Atkinson – not present)

**Vera Nugent's petition:** Beatrice Osborn reported that she had been approached by a resident of Oaklands Road, Vera Nugent, who is raising a petition to ask Bromley Council to consider making Oaklands Road residents' parking only between 12pm and 2pm Monday to Saturday. After discussion we agreed that we would remain neutral as while some members may be happy with the proposal others may object to having to buy a parking permit and to the impact on surrounding roads.

**Post meeting update:** Clive Lees contacted Bromley Council. Lisa Allen (020 8313 4528) is in charge of control parking zones (open 'CPZ'). CPZs are reviewed from time to time and this is usually undertaken on a global basis rather than street by street. It is unlikely that the council will consider a CPZ for Oaklands Road until a more global review is undertaken. Beatrice to ask Vera to keep her informed of progress.

**9 London Borough of Bromley Residents Federation (LBBRF):** Beatrice Osborn mentioned one item of interest from the minutes of the meeting 16/05/13: The large plane seen landing regularly at Biggin Hill Airport belongs to the Polish Air Force who come to collect prisoners to take back to Poland. DoNM 18/07/13.

**10 Bromley Community Engagement Forum:** The minutes of the meeting 20/05/13 warned people of a number of scams and frauds operating in the area. DoNM not yet notified.

#### **11 Any Other Business**

Leslie Tucker made a plea for younger members to take on roles. For example, he does not wish to continue editing the newsletter for much longer. Opportunity to revise the format. The meeting expressed their thanks for Leslie's work to date.

Attention was drawn to a book written by Roger Legg, one of our members, "Another Shore : Six long-distance walks in the British Isles"

#### **12 Next meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on

**Thursday 5th September 2013, 8p.m. at Bromley Court Hotel**