

MINUTES OF RVR MEETING

Thursday 12TH May 2022 (Bromley Court Hotel)



Present:

Peter Saunders (Chair), Clive Lees (Planning Officer), Beatrice Osborn (Vice-Chair), Dave Wiltshire (Treasurer), Monica Wiltshire (Street Friends Coordinator), Linda Müller (Membership Secretary), Nicholas Ansdell-Evans (Transport Officer), Euan McMaster (Newsletter Editor), Jacqueline St. Quinton (Secretary), Jonathan Baker, Brendan Donegan, David England, Carole Mullord, Alan Mullord, Heather Dovey, Ron Dovey, Marilyn Pinson, Michael Pinson, Andrew Garfield, Val Crowdy, Jane Willcocks, Val Wilson, Abi Piper, Jacqueline Moody, Martin Poupard, Richard Hodgkiss, Gönül Hussein, Tricia Saunders, Terry Richardson, Sharon Richardson, Leslie Tucker, Lee Suker, Lorraine Suker, Richard Fagg, Emma Fagg, David Page, Thanh Uong, Chris Porter, Margaret Brearley, Bernard Becker, Brian Mathers, Ubaka Attah, Heather Yaxley

1 Apologies, acceptance of apologies, absence of Officers

Apologies received from Dolores and John Ealey, Wendy Watmore, Linda Harvey-Shipp, Giorgina and Diego Vergani, Yasmin and Damian Winstanley, Emma Hatchett, Monica Wiltshire

2 Approval of minutes of last meeting and discussion of matters arising

The minutes were approved and there were no matters arising.

3 Finances

The Treasurer presented the finance report, highlighting that the main bulk of the society's income (member subscriptions) would be due in the coming months. Income to date is £285, of which £205 from Road Rep collection and £85 by direct debit. The report was noted.

4 Community Projects/Issues

a) Update on community activities

The Street Friends Coordinator's report was read by Linda Müller:

- Since the AGM on 3rd March, RVR Street Friends have met 3 times on 8th March, 5th April and 9th May. In spite of disruptions due to Covid we have continued to make a difference and contribute to the local environment by litter picking, tidying tree pits, basal pruning and generally tidying our streets. It has been suggested that we could offer a one-off gardening session to a member who is in need, let me know if you know of anyone who fits this criterion. Please contact Monica Wiltshire or secretary.rvr@outlook.com;
- Our litter-picking efforts have been noted by Veolia and we may get a mention in the next edition of Environment Matters, Bromley's biannual Newsletter. Senior staff at Veolia have agreed to come and talk at our next AGM;
- NETS Project: In July 2019 RVR ran a community project to reduce street litter on refuse collection day by promoting the use of recycling box nets. These nets were made available to selected households in Farnaby Road, Warren Avenue, Madeira Avenue and Ravensbourne Road. Approval was sought, and received, from members present to revive this project – at a cost of £400 (as previously). Veolia have informed us that we can now apply for up to £1,000 from their sustainability fund for a project relating to recycling. We will look into this and if successful, we may have more money to donate to other causes.

b) Use of reserves to purchase bench(es)

Candidates for monies include:

- More benches in Beckenham Place Park – especially in areas which residents find hard to enjoy as there is nowhere for them to sit. The cost of benches was discussed: wooden ones costing approximately £900. However, members proposed purchasing benches made of plastic/composite – a precedent has been set in Kelsey Park. It was pointed out that BP Park is outside the RVR area – although many RVR residents use the park;
- One suggestion was to use chunks of trees that have been felled and using them as seating. Jon Baker offered to contact Lewisham Council's Trees Dept. about the re-purposing of such tree material.
- The question of supporting endeavours that benefit mental health was raised. There was support, in principle, for this – the Chair and Treasurer requested that Richard Fagg (who raised the issue) should provide examples of programmes, together with associated costs. Richard has agreed to put forward a proposal;
- Thanh Uong mentioned an initiative already underway at Beckenham Place Park Mansion on the first Sunday of each month. Details can be found at There is a park run every Sunday in BPP in which some 60 people take part. Thanh indicated he would investigate if he could co-ordinate these activities;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Val Crowdy suggested the recreation ground behind Valley School (Queensmead Gardens). One comment from the attendees was that the cost of a park bench would be better spent on this recreation ground. However, Clive Lees commented that this is already being funded by the Shortlands Residents Association and Bromley Council.
c)	Beckenham Place Park update
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Newsletter Editor referred to the Krankbrother events due to be held in BP Park this summer, indicating that there is concern about the significant increase in numbers of people attending these events and the noise levels. It was pointed out by Phillip Johnson that the events contribute to the upkeep of BP Park. Euan McMaster mentioned the updated proposals for Calverley Close (adjacent to BP Park) – these can be found on the project website www.CalverleyClose.co.uk.
5	Planning Issues
	<p>79 Coniston Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RVR has objected to two applications at this address. <p>Land behind 21 Bromley Avenue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RVR has objected to the application. A neighbour has suggested it should be made into a wildlife space. <p>2 Warren Avenue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a substantial extension: RVR commented on the application. <p>Shortlands Station Lifts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three towers are planned to house these lifts. They are very prominent and utilitarian in design – RVR lodged an objection about the aesthetics of the construction. Concern about the RVR objection was raised by one of our members who has mobility issues. The Planning Officer explained that the objection is not about the construction of the lifts but about their unattractive design. It is expected that this project will go ahead – regardless of the RVR objection - as the provision of access for all users of the station is Network Rail policy. <p>Beckenham Place Park – East side</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A decision is awaited. <p>8 Madeira Avenue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permission for (a) demolition of house & garage, (b) erection of 2 3-storey houses and block of replacement garages: the appeal was upheld. <p>Land next to 37-45 Oaklands Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An appeal has been lodged. <p>76A The Avenue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The application was refused but an appeal is expected. <p>2 Bromley Avenue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application refused: an appeal has been lodged. <p>Enforcement cases in Shortlands Village Conservation Area</p> <div> <p>Unauthorised Building Works</p> <p>76 Beckenham Lane Bromley BR2 ODW Ref. No: 22/OO232/GENERA Received: Thu 07 Apr 2022 Status: Pending Consideration</p> </div> <div> <p>Unauthorised Window Adverts</p> <p>Capital House 55 Beckenham Lane Bromley BR2 ODA Ref. No: 22/OO128/UNADV Received: Wed 23 Feb 2022 Status: Pending Consideration</p> </div> <div> <p>Unauthorised adverts for Gas Safe company</p> <p>58A Beckenham Lane Bromley BR2 ODQ Ref. No: 22/OO064/UNADV Received: Mon 31 Jan 2022 Status: Pending Consideration</p> </div> <div> <p>Unauthorised Adverts To The Rear/side Of The Property boundary (fronting Shortlands Gardens)</p> <p>58 Beckenham Lane Bromley BR2 ODQ Ref. No: 22/OO063/UNADV Received: Mon 31 Jan 2022 Status: Pending Consideration</p> </div>

6	Transport Issues
	<p>Nicholas Ansdell-Evans reported on the situation in the unmade section of Ravensbourne Avenue and the recent meeting of residents there with Bromley Council. He reported Cllr Cuthbert's response to his enquiry re the Shortlands road junction: Cllr Cuthbert offered to meet with residents and invited them to submit their views and possible solutions.</p> <p>Noting the high degree of concern over road safety and traffic evidenced in the Living Streets Survey and in the election campaigning, Nicholas invited interested members of the RVR to join him in forming a Road Safety Working Group. To register interest, please email roadsandtransport.rvr@outlook.com or secretary.rvr@outlook.com.</p> <p>Terry Richardson asked if there was any update on the proposal to block the Park Road junction with Southend Road. Nicholas promised to ask our councillors for the status of the proposal.</p>
8	Any Other Business
	<p><i>RVR constitution changes</i></p> <p>The following proposals were put to the vote and were approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The petty cash limit has been increased from £100 to £250; • Future increases to the limit will not require a vote at an Extraordinary General Meeting, just approval by a majority of the elected officers; • The subscription year will now coincide with the financial year, i.e., 1st January to 31st December. This does not affect the current timings used by the Road Reps. <p><i>Jubilee Street Party funding</i></p> <p>Two formal requests were made to RVR for assistance to fund the Jubilee celebrations. When approaches were first made, there was a general agreement among RVR officers that consideration would be given for funding items which were aimed at children's activities and enjoyment. RVR agreed in principle to assist.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Calmont Road (inc. Belgravia Gardens, Ashgrove and Ambleside Roads) who initially requested a 'small contribution' from RVR. 2. Downs Hill (inc. Crab Hill, part of Downs Bridge Road and The Avenue) who indicated specifically that any contribution would be towards educational as well as fun items for children of school age. <p>This item was discussed at length at the meeting. The conclusion was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No funding for food and drinks. • An email would be sent to inform our 15 Road Reps of the availability of some funding for their Jubilee celebrations. • The Newsletter Editor emailed the Road Reps on 13th May explaining what was possible and how to claim this contribution. The cut-off date for applications was 22nd May. • The decision and amount to be allocated to the requests would be determined by a majority of elected officers. <p><i>RVR Summer Party</i></p> <p>This was discussed briefly. Mrs Margaret Brearley reiterated her offer to host an event at her property. RVR has gratefully accepted this generous offer and will be discussing the matter in detail with Mrs Brearley as soon as possible.</p>
9	Next meeting – Thursday 7th July 2022 at 8pm a Bromley Court Hotel

The meeting closed at 10 pm.