



MINUTES OF RVR MEETING

Thursday 6th July 2023 (Bromley Court Hotel)

Present:

Peter Saunders (Chairman), Beatrice Osborn (Vice-Chairman), Euan McMaster (Newsletter Editor), Jacqueline St. Quinton (Secretary), Andrew Lancaster (Roads and Transport Officer), Clive Lees (Planning Officer), Linda Muller (Membership Secretary), Liz Smart, Tony Guyver, Richard Fagg, Mike Baker, Jon Baker, Bill Mitchell, Judy Adcock, Catherine Morgan, Rosamond Eele, David Page, Nicholas Ansdell-Evans, Marie Stone, Laura Mendes, James Corlett, Olivia Livesey, Philip Johnson, Terry Richardson, Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross, Cllr Aisha Cuthbert, Steve Hadley

1 Apologies, acceptance of apologies, absence of Officers

Apologies received from: Martin Ruddick; Parisa Wright; Chris Porter; Margaret Brearley; Emma Fagg; Liz Logan; Carole & Alan Mullord; Dolores & John Ealey; Marilyn & Mal Pinson, Alastair Holmes

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

Small amendments were suggested by members: (1) clarification of planning notes to state Ravensbourne Avenue instead of Ravensbourne Road; (2) amending the subtitle Shortlands Station to specify that the issues refer to Lifts. (3) Correction of spelling error.

3 Finances

The Treasurer's finance report was presented by Dave Wiltshire, highlighting the receipts (member subscriptions & NS&I interest) as follows: £440.00 and £4.93 respectively. Payments: Expenses and donations for the financial year to date - £1167.94 Deficit for the year: £723.01. The General Reserve (Santander Current Account + NS&I Investment Account + Petty Cash) amounts to £9493.29. The report was noted and no issues were raised.

Re the use of reserves for supporting projects within the RVR area: specifically the Bromley Environment Network (BEN) – in response to an unexpected request for contributions from this organisation. Some years ago, RVR did contribute £100 to the setting up of this organisation. Since then, no payment has been requested by BEN and none has been made by RVR. This needs to be discussed and if the consensus is to continue this support, then BEN must provide the Treasurer with a formal invoice before any payment is made. (see below for input from Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross on BEN).

4 Community Projects/Issues

Street Friends

Monica Wiltshire's report – as follows:

Thank you for a great morning on 5th July: so much was achieved and we beat the rain!

- We were a group of 15 and there was a massive amount of overhang clearing and litter picking carried out (several litter sacks were collected).
- Our high-vis jackets (and our work!) drew attention to **Jacqueline from Ravensmead Road** and **Sharon from Ravensbourne Avenue** who would like to join us: we look forward to welcoming you both!
- It was suggested that we try a Saturday afternoon for our next session so the **next date will be Saturday 19th August 2.00 pm, as usual starting at Ravensbourne station.**

As ever please bring ideas for work we can do.

Community Projects

Linda Muller and Monica have been working – RVR buying a bench dedicated to Leslie Tucker. Linda & Monica will meet with Gavin and Cath at BPP; the next step will be to choose a location for the bench – probably on the east side of the park – there is one bench only in that area at present. The bench will be sited when the heavy work in the park has been completed. RVR is keeping Leslie Tucker's daughter informed any progress on this.

b) Beckenham Place Park update

Krankbrother concerts taking place over the summer.
Please see the BPP website for events scheduled this year.

The poor behaviour of members of the public – e.g. packs of youths riding scooters/motorbikes around Crab Hill before heading into the park at speed. This is disturbing for walkers and dogs in the park and for residents whose houses abut the park. Nicholas Ansdell-Evans has personally experienced unpleasantness on this matter from the perpetrators. Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross encouraged Nicholas to complain to Bromley Council via her.

5 Planning Issues

The planning report was presented by Clive Lees – as follows:

14 Highland Road

This application was for 2 new houses in the rear garden was refused.

However, there is a new application to clear undergrowth and small trees in preparation for a topographical survey for the site. It is not usual to have such an application unless another planning application is due to follow. The small trees mentioned have not been identified: this is a wooded area and these young trees could be part of the woodland regeneration process. Therefore it will be appropriate to object to this.

87 Beckenham Lane

Once a café and originally a listed building – built as part of the Temperance Movement. It has been in a state of limbo for about 6 years but it is hoped that this building will come back into use soon.

48 Beckenham Lane

Unusual buildings, particularly the style of the roofs. There was an application was for a lawful development to build a roof extension. Certificate of Lawful development for roof extension now withdrawn BUT a full application has now been made.

Romany Ridge & 15 Hillbrow Road

A second bite of the cherry.

76A The Avenue

Replacing houses with modern block of flats. Appeal allowed.

61 The Avenue

LBB investigating whether grass area intrudes into the carriageway and secondly, the failure to replant dead saplings (condition 9)

2 Bromley Avenue

The Planning Inspector has allowed the appeal at this property and development has been agreed but we have objected to:

- a) the subsequent application intended to meet imposed conditions.
- b) a further application to amend the design.

To the question *Is there any point in raising objections if the development has been agreed?* - the answer is YES in general, as objections may pinpoint issues that had been overlooked by the Inspector and thus could shape the course of the development.

The Chalet, Kirkstone Way (off Elstree Hill)

A very messy sight. There is a second enforcement case on this matter.

6 Transport Issues

Andrew Lancaster reported on road and traffic matters arising from the Roads Group meeting on 9th May 2023 – as follows:

- **Station Rd zebra crossing** – following the meeting an email was received from Councillor Felicity Bainbridge advising that LBB's Traffic Dept had received 6 comments as part of the public consultation, none of which were deemed to be "deal breakers" so the green light had been provided to the scheme. Implementation expected by the end of June.
 - However, at the RVR meeting Councillor Aisha Cuthbert advised that a delay had occurred to permit some additional stakeholder concerns to be reviewed, which may delay implementation to Oct/Nov.
- **Shortlands Rd traffic lights** at junction with Bromley Rd (inadvertently stated as Station Rd at the meeting) – Concern has previously been raised with LBB regarding traffic passing through the left filter even though it shows red. This can occur when pedestrians have activated the crossing, giving them priority, coinciding with the right-hand filter (for traffic heading into Bromley) receiving a green light. Additional signage had been suggested for drivers of left turning vehicles. LBB's Traffic Dept has discussed the position with TfL's signal experts – no solution found. No signs can be attached to the signals themselves and it is not considered that there is a suitable alternative location for any signage even though consideration was given to the billboard immediately facing drivers at the traffic lights. "Using non-authorised (i.e. bespoke) signage could create new problems of distraction for drivers". Consideration also given to changing the operation of the junction "but there were too many potential negatives to that".
 - It is suggested to RVR members/residents that if they witness any instances of pedestrians being placed in danger due to the operation of this light filter that they highlight these to the RVR Roads Group to pursue with LBB.
- **Mays Hill Rd / Hillside Rd** – Although outside of the RVR area, the following may be of benefit to families with children at Harris Primary School on Mays Hill Rd. A pedestrian crossing is to be installed on Hillside Rd, east of the junction with Mays Hill Rd.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councillor Aisha Cuthbert advised that implementation may now occur in November, after the zebra crossing in Station Rd. <p>- No progress re the following 2 issues albeit we intend continuing to pursue as part of a desire for a greater review by LBB of traffic movements through the RVR area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quiet Zone proposal – LBB’s policy remains that it does not instigate Low Traffic Neighbourhoods or camera enforcement. ▪ Traffic volumes / speeding / danger at the junctions of Bromley Avenue with both Grasmere Rd and Madeira Avenue – Not considered a priority by LBB at present as KSI (killed and seriously injured) statistics are too low. We propose to question the source of LBB’s data in this respect. <p>- Farnaby Rd / Valley School parking – improvements reported by local residents with fewer instances of private driveways being blocked and yellow line parking by parents/carers taking /collecting children to/from school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Residents have the ability to report illegal yellow line parking to LBB’s contractor by sending an email to osm.bromley@apcoa.com. It is suggested that the email be accompanied by a photo and the vehicle’s registration number. The contractor will send a mobile operative if one is available within reasonable distance. <p>- Ravensbourne Rd (unmade section) - This long-running matter regarding parking on this privately-owned section of road continues despite local residents having received high-ranking legal opinion that LBB has failed to follow the correct procedures. LBB is now effectively challenging the residents to sue the Council. The residents are indeed likely to pursue such legal action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concern expressed at the meeting regarding LBB’s apparent willingness to incur costs – at Council Taxpayers’ expense – in such circumstances.
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7 Input from Councillors

Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross provided information on the Bromley Environment Network (BEN).

- BEN started life as a conduit for groups of residents around Bromley concerned with their environment, e.g. re-wilding, litter, clean air, energy use, etc.
- Founding members at the setting up of BEN agreed to contribute relatively small sums of money e.g. to pay for the upkeep of the website & maintenance of the membership database. This endeavour remained small for some time and no further funds were sought. However, interest and demand have soared and BEN is now expected to meet its expenses.
- BEN therefore deems it appropriate to ask founding members if they wish to continue their support and provide contributions. Parisa Wright has secured some funding to help make the profile of BEN more professional, e.g. send out newsletters, improve the website etc. When this funding is spent, it will be necessary to make BEN sustainable financially and perhaps try to obtain further funds.
- The overall intention is for the groups to collaborate on local expertise and advice as required – generally groups helping one another with creative ideas, information and guidance.
- Such information/guidance can be found on the BEN website and in the newsletter.
- A major drawback is that the newsletter has not been disseminated as widely as required and not all constituent members of BEN are aware of it (RVR does not appear to have been included in the mailing list). Some information is on Facebook but not everyone is on Facebook!
- Suggestion: the various groups should contact the RVR chairman and RVR secretary to indicate items of interest and provide an email/web address that RVR can pass on to its membership.

ACTIONS:

- Cllr Ross to:
 - Inform BEN of the need to provide a formal invoice
 - Inform BEN to ensure that RVR has information and know where to access it or whom to contact about any aspect of BEN
- The RVR Newsletter Editor to:
 - Liaise with Parisa Wright regarding the flow of information from BEN to RVR

8 Any Other Business

RVR Road Rep required for Coniston Road as soon as possible. For further information regarding this vacancy, please contact the RVR Membership Secretary via email at membership.secretary.rvr@outlook.com.

9 Next meeting: Thursday, 7th September 2023 at 8pm @ Bromley Court Hotel

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm