



MINUTES OF RVR MEETING

Thursday 7th September 2023 (Bromley Court Hotel)

Present:

Beatrice Osborn (Vice-Chairman), Euan McMaster (Newsletter Editor), Jacqueline St. Quinton (Secretary), Linda Muller (Membership Secretary), Clive Lees (Planning Officer), Dave Wiltshire (Treasurer), Monica Wiltshire, Terry Richardson, Emma Fagg, Bill Mitchell, Chris Porter, Steve Hadley, Rosamond Eele, David Page, Alan Mullord, Carole Mullord, Rosemary Brown, Brendan Donegan, Nicholas Ansdell-Evans, Brigitta Ansdell-Evans, Val Crowdy, Dick Groves, Jon Baker, Richard Hodgkiss, Mick Pinson, Marilyn Pinson, Heather Dovey, Philip Johnson, Andrew Storey, Cllrs Julie Ireland

1 Welcome & opening remarks

The Vice-Chairman presided over the meeting in the absence of the Chairman.

2 Apologies, acceptance of apologies, absence of Officers

Apologies received from: Pete Saunders; Martin Ruddick; Parisa Wright; Margaret Brearley; Richard Fagg; Liz Logan; Dolores & John Ealey; Alastair Holmes, Andrew Lancaster, Cllrs Tickner; Cuthbert, Bainbridge, Grant & Ross; Linda Shipp, Jane Willcocks

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

Amendments regarding BEN effected. No other amendments flagged.

4 Planning Issues

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

14 Highland Road

A new application to clear undergrowth and small trees in preparation for a topographical survey for the site has been approved. The attached Conditions should provide adequate safeguarding of new(ish) oak trees so that they can continue to grow and be part of the natural regeneration of this woodland.

48 Beckenham Lane

Unusual buildings, particularly the style of the roofs. An application to build a roof extension has been refused on the grounds that it is completely inappropriate.

Romany Ridge & 15 Hillbrow Road

A second bite of the cherry. Still undecided.

76A The Avenue

Replacing houses with modern block of flats. Appeal allowed.

61 The Avenue

An enforcement notice has been raised on account of the dead trees, requiring their replacement.

2 Bromley Avenue

The appeal of the original application was allowed but there have been several subsequent applications, most being about providing detail of the proposed development. One application proposed significant changes to elevations (i.e. worsening) to which RVR objected. Subsequent to the objection, revised plans reversed most of the poor changes and the application was then approved.

The Chalet, Kirkstone Way (off Elstree Hill)

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

Shortlands Golf Club

Railings have been erected along the pavement on Ravensbourne Avenue. These railings exceed 1 metre in height (infringement of rules) and thus a planning application is required. The view of the golf course through the car park was deemed a valuable part of the Shortlands Area in the so-called BEAMS report and thus an application may well be refused. If so, an enforcement notice may be appropriate to have the railings removed.

5 Finances

- (a) The Treasurer's finance report was presented by Dave Wiltshire, highlighting the receipts (member subscriptions & NS&I interest) as follows: **£940.00** and **£4.93** respectively. Payments: Expenses and donations for the financial year to date - **£2174.89**. Deficit for the year: **£1229.96**. The General Reserve (Santander Current Account + NS&I Investment Account + Petty Cash) amounts to **£8986.24**. The report was noted and no issues were raised.

(b)	Re the use of reserves for supporting projects within the RVR area: An invoice for £50 representing RVR's founder-member contribution to Bromley Environment Network (BEN) was received on 7 th September – the Treasurer will action the payment. The RVR Secretary has informed the BEN Coordinator that any further requests for contributions from RVR will also require a formal invoice.
6	Community Projects/Issues
(a)	<p>Street Friends Monica Wiltshire's report – as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you for a great morning on 19th August: achievements include litter picking and clearing overgrowth from the metal fencing at Warren Avenue Playing Fields. • LBB planted 1600 street trees earlier this year. Contractors water each newly planted tree with 50 litres of water per week. LBB is asking residents to support this work by watering the new trees. Water should be poured in the small opening at the top of the bag to ensure that a steady, slow stream of water reaches the base of the tree. Anyone interested in supporting LBB trees can sign up on the LB website to become a Tree Friend. • The next date will be Tuesday 10th October 10:00, as usual starting at Ravensbourne station. <p>Beckenham Place Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public concerts: It was agreed generally that feedback from previous years on these events has been listened to – noise levels were noticeably lower this year. • The Dog Show will take place on 17th September instead of 10th September. <p>AFC Shortlands - community junior football club Based at Queensmead Recreation Ground, this organisation is working with local councillors and primary schools in the area. The Club is keen to engage with RVR (as it is doing with Shortlands Residents Association) to see where there is mutual ground between our organisations. There are some voluntary roles for which they would welcome RVR residents. Anyone interested in finding out more and in supporting the activities of this Club should contact the RVR Secretary to obtain contact details for the Club Chair and Club Secretary.</p>
(b)	
(c)	
7	Membership Matters
	The Membership Secretary provided a brief update of the last Road Rep meeting. Take-up of Standing Order process for paying subscriptions is improving, making the handling and recording of subscriptions much easier for Road Reps as well as the Treasurer.
8	Transport Issues
	<p>No major updates. However, of note is the pedestrian crossing by Shortlands Station: this crossing is now operational.</p> <p>Bromley Living Streets (BLS) Brendan Donegan, Chair of this organisation, outlined the aims of the BLS (refer to your copy of the last RVR Newsletter for details). He urged RVR to sign the Open Letter to Bromley as an association, and also stated that individual members could do so via their local councillor. To the query about BLS being attached to Healthy Streets, it seems that there is no formal attachment and BLS does not support all their proposals. However, BLS want the best solutions to be implemented and feel that an Independent Road Safety Forum would be the best way forward. Views from the attendees of the RVR meeting varied from being strongly against, to strong support for, the proposal - as indicated below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of the proposals do not make sense, e.g. bus lane proportion. • Council's response e.g. speeding on Bromley Avenue is totally inadequate. • Strong recommendation that RVR should sign. • KSI (Killed or Seriously Injured) statistics measure only those incidents/accidents that get attention. • Foxgrove Road mini-roundabout proposal – there needs to be at least 4 KSI before this proposal is accepted. • The Scorecard may be imperfect but is the best mechanism at present. • Crossing the road around Crab Hill is very difficult – especially for those with reduced mobility as well as for adults with young children. <p>When asked for a show of hands for and against RVR signing the Open Letter, the result was as follows: For – 19 Against – 4 Abstentions – 2</p> <p>This matter is now being passed to the RVR Chair for action.</p>
9	Input from Councillors
	Cllr Julie Ireland provided the following information:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council offices move confirmed (to the former Direct Line building) - The future of the Civic Centre has yet to be decided – it may be sold - The library may also move – possibly to Churchill Court - The Dysart surgery is moving into the new Civic Centre (although there are now doubts about this) - The future of the Theatre is also uncertain. LibDem councillors are trying hard to drum up support - Waitrose site plans have been published. Flats above Waitrose – the planning application is now live for more giant towers. Residents are encouraged residents to express their views on the planning portal. Rental accommodation will be very high. At present, the plans indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 10% affordable rent (should be 30%+) o No upgrade to the access road o No further consultation in the proposal - Also on the planning portal are details for 1, Westmoreland Road. - Appeal for the 3rd tower at Perigon Heights is due to be heard on 19th October. - The planning application for the development on Bromley North carpark is due to go before development control committee in October. <p>We have a new Police Superintendent – Luke Baldock. He is keen to meet with local groups. He can be contacted at the following email address Luke.Baldock@met.police.uk – this information has been passed to the RVR Chair with a request to contact Supt. Baldock.</p>
10	Any Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrolment to BEN mailing list: the Newsletter Editor has provided his email address BUT an additional RVR member is required. Please visit https://membermojo.co.uk/ben to enrol and inform the Newsletter Editor. • Invitation from AFC Shortlands to engage with RVR: This is an action for the RVR Chair. The AFC Chair has directly invited the RVR Chair to a meeting for introduction and discussions. • 2 residents of Elstree Hill (Marilyn Pinson & Heather Dovey) informed us of an alarming occurrence of fox poisoning in their area. Apart from being an illegal activity, it is distressing to see the suffering of these animals. Furthermore, residents' pets may also be at risk. Marilyn and Heather have informed the RSPCA and the Police. However, it behoves all residents to keep an eye open for such occurrences and warn their neighbours.
11	Next meeting: Thursday, 2nd November 2023 at 8pm @ Bromley Court Hotel

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm