



DRAFT MINUTES OF RVR MEETING

Thursday 3rd July 2025 (Shortlands Golf Club)

Present: Margaret Brearley (Chair); Sharon Richardson (Treasurer); Clive Lees (Planning Officer); Andrew Lancaster (Roads & Traffic); Terry Richardson; David Page; Euan McMaster (Editor); Jacqueline St. Quinton (Secretary); Joel Kibazo; Rosamond Eele; Linda Müller; Dick Groves; Tony Guyver; Christina Brown; Vanessa & Mark Redhouse; Judy Adcock; Gita Bapat; Denise Biffin; Dick Groves; Catherine Morgan; Bill & Cathryn Mitchell; Beatrice Osborn; Paul Tucker; Dave & Monica Wiltshire; Cllrs. Mike Tickner, Graeme Casey, Felicity Bainbridge, Gemma Turrell & Adam Grant

1	Welcome and opening remarks
	The Chairman presided over the meeting.
2	Apologies received from Officers, Members & Councillors
	Pete Saunders; Jay Sharma; Alastair Holmes; Martin Ruddick; Will Conolly, Alan & Carole Mullord
3	Approval of minutes of last meeting and matters arising
	No matters arising. These are now approved.
4	<p>Elected Officers: RVR vacancies – Vice-Chair*, Webmaster, Beckenham Place Park Rep There are three vacancies to fill – as indicated above. We would welcome applications for these posts. Please indicate your interest to the RVR Secretary at the following email address secretary.rvr@outlook.com <i>*We have a strong candidate for this post. An Extraordinary General Meeting will be held on 4th September to deal with this appointment.</i></p>
5	Finances
	<p>From our Treasurer, Sharon Richardson: No real change since last meeting.</p> <p>Opening Balance as @ 22nd April 2025: £5452.07 Closing Balance as @ 21st June 2025(taking into account income & expenditure since 22nd April 2025): £5063.47 Current Balance as @ 3rd July 2025: £5068.47</p> <p>There are a number of long-overdue subscription payments (3 years) – Sharon sent reminders to some 60 members to raise this omission. Those members who are still paying the £5 subscription were reminded to increase this amount to the current £10. Payment for 2025 can be made at any time during the year – online or via your Road Rep. Those members experiencing difficulty in paying their subscription are invited to get in touch with the Treasurer.</p>
6	Street Friends/Community Projects/Issues
	<p>Street Friends report by Nigel Foster (read by the Chair) The Street Friends met twice for litter picking since our last meeting. The next litter picking session is scheduled for 29th July. Nigel reminded us all to water any young trees in our vicinity (put water in the water bags strapped to the tree).</p>
7	RVR Membership
	Due to the absence of our Membership Secretary (and no input on the subject from attendees), we have nothing to report on the status of RVR membership.
8	Road Safety & Traffic
	<p>From Andrew Lancaster: <i>(as provided)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Probably the most significant event since the last meeting was LBB's launch of a consultation re a proposal for a Controlled Parking Zone ("CPZ") covering Ravensbourne Avenue and Ravensmead Road. Of responses copied to RVR, the overwhelming majority were opposed. News received today from Councillor Felicity Bainbridge that in the light of the feedback from residents, the proposal has been formally abandoned. However, a separate proposal is still being assessed by LBB for locations around Shortlands station – presumably streets falling within the Shortlands Residents Association area – with some results expected within the next 10 days. <p>The CPZ proposal provided an opportunity to seek an update from LBB regarding the ongoing parking problems on the unmade-up section of Ravensbourne Avenue, as the above CPZ proposal, if adopted separately, would have a knock-on impact to parking on this unmade section. An email dated 20.6.25 from</p>

	<p>LBB's Traffic Management Team advises that it is still "finalising the proposals and will have information circulated to residents in due course". The Lead Engineer of the project has apparently left LBB, requiring matters to be passed to another engineer, adding a delay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on information gleaned from the newsletter of the local Liberal Democrats, RVR's May newsletter indicated that LBB plans to install a pedestrian refuge on Crab Hill in 2026/27. Whilst this is something for which RVR and local residents have been pressing, this news came as something of a (pleasant) surprise as no separate feedback had been received from LBB regarding a proposed site visit to review matters, nor had Councillor Michael Tickner, who had been quite heavily involved in seeking the adoption of this safety measure, been made aware of the position. <p>In a FURTHER UPDATE (7.8.25) from Councillor Michael Tickner, the Council's Director of Traffic and Parking has confirmed it was Councillor Tickner's request for a traffic island in Crab Hill that was processed for funding by TfL. The scheme has not been seen by councillors and will not go to committee for consideration until October. The Director says, "The bid may or may not be successful". We will only find out whether or not we will have the island in about January next year, when an announcement can be made.</p> <p>In the light of the above, Councillor Adam Grant undertook to check LBB's list of agreed works. SUBSEQUENT UPDATE (4.7.25) – Councillor Grant ascertained that the project is listed among a number for which funding is to be sought in the financial year 2026/27. There may be several sources of such funding, although TfL may be the most likely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A black Audi A3 car which had been involved in an accident (overnight 7-8 June?) was then parked on Farnaby Road close to the junction with Beckenham Lane, covered with blue & white "Police aware" tape. This vehicle was subsequently reported stolen by suspects driving a recovery truck before official recovery had been arranged. <p>At the same time, another car which had been involved in an accident was parked in Ravensbourne Avenue close to Shortlands station, again with police blue & white tape. Subsequently removed. No indication of theft at this stage.</p> <p>Not clear whether these 2 vehicles were involved in the same accident but the timing suggests this may be possible despite them being located approximately 400 yards apart.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The "Give Way" sign at the junction of Bromley Avenue and Madeira Avenue – a high-risk site of great concern to residents – was totally flattened on 9.5.25, presumably due to vehicle impact. After some delay the sign has been reinstated but on 17.6.25 the case was reopened with the comment "Further works are necessary to resolve the issue and have been scheduled for action". An update was sought, with Councillor Gemma Turrell also advising at the meeting that she would seek clarification. SUBSEQUENT UPDATES (6.7.25 from Councillor Turrell) LBB has chased the contractor as the sign is not illuminated. (20.7.25) The hole around the sign has been re-opened and work appears to be ongoing to restore the electrical connection. Residents are encouraged to sign up for the new MetEngage service. An example of the information being disseminated to residents was provided re the targeted theft of Fiat 500 cars. Owners are urged to take additional security measures.
9	Planning Issues
	<p>From Clive Lees (<i>as provided</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Ravensbourne Avenue – application permitted – owner has 6 months to modify his new extension to comply with approved plans. 75 Downs Hill – appeal dismissed. Part-built wall must be demolished or heavily modified. 64 Warren Avenue – over- height wall has been appealed. Calmont Road Millwall training ground – 3 separate planning breaches – namely: unapproved modification to boundary fence (minor); failure to remove temporary building by June 2025; addition of second storey to building. 5 Chart Close – retrospective planning permission for roof extension refused. Unclear what enforcement action LBB will take. Shortlands Tavern – container application for a shipping container to be used as a shed still awaiting determination – will likely be refused. Trees in conservation area are protected unless <75cm in height. It is important to understand the rules. Chalet – 20-year saga. Cllr Casey pressing on LBB for resolution.
10	Update from Councillors

	<p>Cllr. Grant: Regarding an additional exit at Shortlands Railway Station: Network Rail require £5k to conduct a feasibility study to look into opening the arch at Shortlands Station.</p>
11	<p>Guest Speakers</p> <p>RVR is fortunate to have the presence of Bromley Councillors at our meetings. We regularly have updates from them and we are able to flag matters of concern to them. At our July meeting, those Councillors present gave us a short talk about their current work and the reasons that prompted them to stand for office. It was clear that financial considerations were irrelevant and that they gave much of their private time to try to help people within their ward. The desire to help the community was the overriding reason for their involvement – regardless of their political affiliation.</p> <p>Cllr Michael Tickner is the doyen of our Councillors by virtue of his long career in local politics – having been Deputy Mayor, Mayor and Leader of Bromley Council. His involvement in politics came about via various routes, ranging from his involvement with the legalising of pirate radio; setting up the Clock House brigade during the Fire Brigade strike; campaigns re comprehensive schools resulting in the retention of 2 selective schools. He recounted some events that he attended as Deputy Mayor and later as Mayor – including being invited to the Royal Yacht Britannia for the 150th anniversary of the opening of Tower Bridge. Cllr Tickner has no ambition to become an MP, preferring to keep his political involvement at local level. He has chaired several committees and is now the new Chair of the Audit Committee. He remarked that, unlike many others, Bromley Council is solvent!</p> <p>Cllr Adam Grant listed some of the projects that he has been involved in, namely: the brickwork discussions for the Shortlands Railway Station; the refurbishment of the mural under the railway bridge; planning issues e.g. the Foxgrove roundabout and Manor Road crossing.</p> <p>Cllr Felicity Bainbridge was elected in 2022 and juggles a full-time job at an investment bank, 2 young children and political canvassing. Her role as Councillor is wide-ranging and she has been closely involved with RVR concerns regarding road traffic and policing. She is not planning to seek re-election.</p> <p>Cllr Graham Casey indicated that his interest in politics was sparked by annoyance at the issues he encountered in 2018 when he stood as a paper candidate for Biggin Hill. He was later elected as a local Councillor in 2022 and he is the only one of our Councillors present to state his wish to become an MP – he plans to stand as the LibDem MP for Orpington.</p> <p>Cllr Gemma Turrell is our most-recently elected Councillor. From a background in health care, she became an Executive Assistant at Bromley Council and is now the new Deputy Mayor. She listed the challenges she has faced, e.g. public speaking and rejection. She is however persistent in her objectives, including getting the label 'Shortlands Village' added to bus stop names.</p>
12	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>RVR Social events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest was expressed in a possible weekday visit to Bethlem Hospital if it can be arranged by our Chair. • A Summer Party is being planned for late September (possibly - 21st Sept) at Harcourt House, Highland Road. There will be a raffle – the proceeds are intended for the Bromley Food Bank. We hope to enjoy the music of the Chicago Classics who entertained us last year.
13	<p>Next Meeting: Extraordinary General Meeting <i>(as required by the RVR constitution when appointing an officer – in this case a new Vice-chair)</i> Thursday, 4th September 2025 at 7.30 pm Bromley United Services Club 33 London Road (almost beside Brewers)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking is available in Blyth Road from 7.00 pm and in Hammelton Road from 6.30 pm. Nearest bus stops are at Farwig Road and the Magistrates Court. There is disabled access and a disabled toilet. There will be a bar which will be manned. • Please refer to the forthcoming agenda for this meeting's programme which may include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Short talks on topics of interest to RVR residents and neighbouring areas – Dancing and singing by the Ravensbourne Morris Men