

DRAFT MINUTES OF RVR AGM

Thursday 2nd March 2023 (Bromley Court Hotel)



Present:

Peter Saunders (Chairman), Linda Müller (Membership Secretary), Beatrice Osborn (Vice-Chairman), Andrew Lancaster (Transport Officer), Euan McMaster (Newsletter Editor), Jacqueline St. Quinton (Secretary), Cllr Julie Ireland, Cllr Graeme Casey, Terry Richardson, Val Crowdy, Bill Mitchell, Monica Wiltshire (Street Friends Coordinator), Dave Wiltshire (Treasurer), Jon Baker, Tricia Saunders, Val Wilson, Mark Kyriakides, David Page, Olivia Livesey, Wendy Watmore, Steve Headley, Alan Williams, Mick & Mal Pinson, Alastair Holmes, Dick Groves, Liz Smart

The information in this document reflects the items discussed at the AGM as well as some of the information contained in the RVR Officers' reports produced earlier this year. The RVR Officers' reports can be found [here](#)

1 Apologies, acceptance of apologies, absence of Officers

- Apologies received from: Dolores & John Ealey, Nicholas Ansdell-Evans, Margaret Brearley, Cllr Oana Olaru, Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross, Cllr Felicity Bainbridge, Cllr Will Conolly, Cllr Sam Webber, Clive Lees, Martin Ruddick, Chris Porter, David Mackenzie, Philip Johnson, Fabio Gervasoni, Christina Brown, Jane Wilcocks and Anne Lancaster.
- Welcome to guest speakers.

2 Guest Speakers

Maria Kapioti - Veolia

Veolia works in partnership with the London Borough of Bromley to provide waste collection and recycling services to the borough. Maria presented some interesting information and statistics on these services – her slides are on the RVR website. Briefly, it seems that in Bromley, we recycle around 50% of the waste we produce. This makes us one of the top recyclers in London. Veolia are also engaged in being educators: they have engaged with 14 primary schools since 2021. Veolia is also keen to educate the households around Bromley through their leaflets and tags which recycling crews can use to inform households of incorrect waste disposal. There is also a campaign against fly-tipping through leaflets, posters and face-to-face engagement – resulting in some 50% reduction in particular areas. Maria was joined by Jim Cowan, Neighbourhood Management Services at Bromley Council, for the Q & A part of the presentation. Various questions were raised – mostly Bromley Council YouTube channel or the Bromley's 'What happens to my recycling' webpage. You can see the full Veolia presentation on the RVR website [here](#).

Monica Wiltshire – RVR

The presentation by our Street Friends (SF) Coordinator, Monica Wiltshire, dove-tailed well with that of Veolia. We learned about the regular SF efforts to remove litter from the streets around the RVR area. A group of 10-12 RVR members gather monthly at Ravensbourne railway station for a social cup of coffee prior to dispersing to carry out our litter-picking. Litter-pickers, refuse bags and high-visibility jackets are provided but participants are asked to bring their own gloves and goggles (useful when trying to retrieve rubbish from hedgerows). Monica showed us examples of the unpleasant litter collected during the morning's work. Monica demonstrated the difference that the group can make - anyone is welcome to join the SF group – please get in touch with Monica at trees.rvr@outlook.com. The very encouraging news from Monica was a young recruit to SF who is working towards her Duke of Edinburgh Award – Monica is her mentor on this endeavour. Monica's report can be found [here](#).

Cllrs Julie Ireland & Graeme Casey – Lib Dem, Bromley Town

Julie and Graeme gave us an informative, non-political presentation on the work of local councillors. The items and duties covered were those that would be addressed by councillors from any of the political parties for their ward.

Broadly they cover activities such as: talking to constituents / listening to the community / keeping the community informed; casework; attending Council Meetings – scrutiny, regulatory, planning; working with local organisations and stakeholders; representing the people of their ward; debating / influencing borough-wide policy. At a local level, our councillors work with the council members and officers to see if they can influence local policies. Outside their ward, the remit of our councillors includes: feeding into national policies; working with our MPs to influence and interpret government policies that affect people in our wards; campaigning for the local, regional and national party. The full presentation can be viewed [here](#).

3 Refreshment Break

This item is included in order to indicate that RVR members and our guest speakers were able to use this opportunity to interact and pursue any points of interest to them. **Following this 20-minute break, the guest speakers departed and RVR business was addressed – see items 5-12 below.**

4	Approval of minutes of last AGM: discussion of matters arising
	The minutes from last March's meeting were approved and there were no matters arising.
5	Chairman's report
	<p>This report can be found on the website – here</p> <p>Briefly: after his welcome address to the attendees and the guest speakers, the Chairman spoke briefly about Leslie Tucker – one of the RVR founding members - who passed away at the end of 2022. Some of his work for RVR was the development of Beckenham Place Park. Thus, a park bench dedicated to his memory will be placed in the park after the current works in the park have been completed. The Chairman alluded to the building of relations with the Shortlands Residents Association and thanked the Chair of the Association, Mike Ricketts, for his efforts. Reference was made to the Roads and Traffic Safety Group which tries to tackle the problems caused by inconsiderate motorists who make our roads unsafe. Thanks also went to the Councillors who attend our meetings as their workload allows. The contribution of all RVR officers was praised and all were thanked for their efforts. To conclude, all members of RVR are exhorted to continue offering their support and to play their part in keeping the area a safe and pleasant place to live.</p>
6	Finances
	The Treasurer, Dave Wiltshire, presented his report which showed that RVR's finances are healthy. This is good news for the membership because it means that no increase of the £5 fee is necessary at this stage. This low membership fee was set in 1987 – today's equivalent would be approximately 2.5 times that amount.
7	Location of future meetings: discussion & outcome
	Post-Covid, we have had a year of regular meetings at the Bromley Court Hotel (BCH) and the attendance has been excellent. There had been a concern that the membership fee might have to be increased to pay for the room at BCH (hitherto <i>gratis</i> to RVR). Other venues were researched but none was found suitable. The financial status of the Association indicates that RVR can afford the preferential rate granted by BCH. However, this means that refreshments will no longer be provided – other than tap water. Attendees can purchase their preferred drinks at the hotel bar. No objections were raised.
8	Planning Issues
	Planning was not discussed at the meeting. However, Clive Lees (RVR planning officer) produced a report that can be found on the website here . Significant planning applications, as well as Enforcement proceedings, are listed for various addresses within RVR. The record-keeping system for planning issues has been overhauled to make the information more easily accessible in future.
9	Transport Issues
	<p>These were not discussed at the meeting, but Andrew Lancaster (who has replaced Nicholas Ansdell-Evans) has reported on the activities of the Roads and Traffic Safety Group see here.</p> <p>In summary: (1) Improvements at the Shortlands Station junction and the Foxgrove Road/Park; (2) Traffic volume monitoring along Bromley Avenue and Beckenham Lane indicate that 30-40% of total traffic movements pass through the residential areas; (3) A comprehensive paper has been produced proposing the use of automatic numberplate recognition ("ANPR") cameras to facilitate a Quiet Scheme and reduce rat-running through our residential streets. A copy of this document is on the RVR website here</p>
10	Any Other Business
	<p>Coronation celebrations: To date, we are aware of only 1 RVR area that has applied to Bromley Council for street closure, namely Madeira Avenue. The Council will fund the road signs via RVR.</p> <p>Festivities are not expected to clash with our next RVR Members' meeting.</p> <p>Newsletter: (1) The Street Friends Coordinator will request her Duke of Edinburgh student to write an article for our newsletter. (2) Alastair Holmes has offered to write an article on Park Run. (3) The RVR Newsletter Editor invites the membership to contribute articles to the production of each newsletter.</p>
11	Elections and re-appointment of RVR officers
	No nominations were received for any of the posts indicated on the agenda. For now, all officers will remain in their posts <i>pro tem</i> . It was stressed, however, that it should not be taken for granted that they will continue so indefinitely and that 'new blood' is necessary for the Association to remain fresh and active.
12	Next meeting: Members' meeting – Thursday, 4th May 2023 at 8pm @ Bromley Court Hotel

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm