

# MINUTES OF RVR MEETING

Held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Held On-line via Zoom



Those present:

Judy Adcock	Christina Brown	Cllr. Nicky Dykes
Dolores Ealey	John Ealey	David England
Tony Illingworth	Anna Koffer	Julie Kyriakides
Mark Kyriakides	Clive Lees *	Euan McMaster
Karl Martin	Catherine Morgan	Linda Müller
Alan Mullord	Carole Mullord	Maria O'Brien
Beatrice Osborn	Paul Osborne	David Page
Josefa Mosqueira Rañón	Andrew Storey	Markku Syväniemi
Cllr. Michael Tickner	Leslie Tucker	Dave Wiltshire
Monica Wiltshire		

\* Chair

**1 Apologies:** None. **Absence of officers:** None.

**2 Minutes of last meeting:** Approved.

### **3 Finances:**

The Treasurer's report from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 - 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020

<b>Receipts:</b>		
Members' subscriptions for the financial year to date		£55.00
NS&I interest		£41.73
<b>Payments:</b>		
Expenses and donations for the financial year to date		£490.00
Surplus/Deficit for the year:		£393.27 (deficit)
<b>General Reserve:</b>		
Santander Current Account		£3,552.58
National Savings Investment Account		£5,257.78
Petty cash		£1,022.46
<b>Total:</b>		<b>£9,832.82</b>

As an organisation we have a duty of care. Given the current pandemic it is not safe for road representatives to undertake the usual annual doorstep collection of subscriptions. Members will instead be asked to pay their normal subscription by bank transfer. The proceeds will be used to fund Covid related charitable causes or local projects such as trees. Any shortfall will be met by the reserves. No objections from attendees. Position statement will be sent out shortly.

### **4 Community Projects:**

#### **a) Corona help scheme update:**

Tremendous response to the request for volunteers. Over 60 members have offered to help ensuring there are volunteers for all the roads in the RVR area. Fortunately, they have not yet been needed. Clive is a Trustee for Community Links Bromley, which has assisted in matching volunteers with those requesting help.

This has worked very well.

#### **b) Update on Community Activities:**

Tree friends met on 3<sup>rd</sup> March and tidied tree pits in different roads and were delighted to be given some plants by Wendy Watmore. The oak trees we planted in WAPF have grown from twigs and one is now 6' tall. Hugh Chapman (LBB Arboricultural Manager) has suggested a joint site visit to look at street trees when safe.

#### **c) Greener and Cleaner Bromley (Incorrectly ascribed to Bromley Climate Alliance in the meeting):**

Focus has been on the increasing number of bonfires which some people have found a nuisance as well as a concern over pollution. Bonfires are not illegal. Cllr. Dykes says there has been a lot of discussion at the council and guidance has been sent out. The number of bonfires should decrease now that recycling services and green garden waste collections have resumed. One study reported that no pollution was detected from bonfires, unlike wood-burning stoves which are also felt to be a nuisance. The Chair pointed out that bonfires were clearly polluting and especially so if you lived nearby which was the problem.

#### **d) Shortlands Village Conservation Area proposal:**

Recent independent study made 3 recommendations which ward councillors support. Awaiting decision by officers. One recommendation would be to extend Bromley Town Centre conservation area. Two public consultations had to be postponed due to the lockdown, but will be rescheduled when safe.

## 5 Planning Issues:

### a) Bromley:

**Trees, Coniston Road:** The new proposal has been reduced from 5 units to 4, with units 3 and 4 being positioned further from the two protected trees.

**The Chalet, Kirkstone Way:** Application for demolition of house and construction of 2 semi-detached houses refused. Would be overdevelopment and an adverse effect on privacy and amenity of neighbouring property.

**Land Rear of 98 Farnaby Road, Madeira Avenue:** Erection of a single storey garage. Numerous objections. Unacceptable garden land development. Possible badger sett on the site. Badgers are protected under law.

**Oaklands Court, 6 Oaklands Road:** Application to construct 2 no. three bedroom 2 storey dwellings and reconfiguration of car parking layout of Oaklands Court. Application for 3 no. 2 dwellings refused in 2018.

**Land rear of 48 Farnaby Road, entrance in Madeira Avenue:** Erection of detached 2-bedroom dwelling. Appeal dismissed - adverse impact on the character of area and impact on privacy of neighbouring gardens.

**2A Downs Hill:** Appeal against enforcement notice for unauthorised construction of a pitched roof car port.

**87 Beckenham Lane:** Demolition of existing two storey building refused. Appeal allowed. Application for extension for larger single retail unit refused. Discussions going on to save building and work around it.

**1 Ethelbert Close:** Application for 410 residential units. We have objected. Council is still consulting.

**Site 10 Draft Local Plan (formerly Opportunity Site G):** Extending from Bromley South station to Churchill Gardens. LBB consultation on draft masterplan for development to include 1230 residential units, offices, retail and transport interchange is closed. No date set for determination.

**70 High Street (Old Maplins Building):** Application to demolish existing buildings and construction of a 16-storey mixed use (retail and residential) tower. Too tall. Numerous objections. Not yet determined.

**1 Blyth Road:** Demolition of existing building and construction of a 3-storey apartment building with 10 two-bedroom units refused. Would be out of character with neighbouring properties and over-dominant structure.

**17 Ullswater Close:** Demolition of detached garage and erection of 3 storey side extension to form 3 - bedroom house. Refused as an attractive mature protected oak tree would be removed. Appeal lodged.

**50 Madeira Avenue:** Possible unauthorised change of use to HMO (alleged conversion to 6 double bedsits). Council can't get in to inspect due to lockdown. Article 4 directions can remove rights to permitted development. Officers' initial views were that this development may not qualify in this case.

**Other issues:** Clive expressed concerns over delay in planning enforcement action. Cllr. Dykes explained that performance is scrutinised and monitored and suggested it was possibly due to work-load.

Mast has been put up without permission by Esso petrol station on Bromley Road. Council refused permission but developer may not have been notified in time, so work proceeded. Cllr. Tickner is looking into it.

### b) Tree issues: None

## 6 Transport issues:

Since the lockdown there has been a huge reduction in traffic, but speeding has increased. Parking spaces in front of Ravensbourne Station area just repainted, but there should have been some double yellow lines in Ravensbourne Ave. and Crab Hill. Markku will check to see if added. Cllr. Dykes says that proposals for Ravensbourne Station development will be published soon and includes suggestions from the consultation.

## 7 Councillors' Update:

Cllr Dykes says the recent focus has been on the response to the Covid crisis. There was a huge response to the call for volunteers with 4,000 people offering help. They have been helping those shielding, including delivering food parcels. Over 80 schools have remained open for children of key workers and vulnerable children. Some council work continuing online, such as Education and Planning committees. Meeting held to plan how to continue council scrutiny. Public will be able to attend some online meetings in the future.

## 8 London Borough of Bromley Residents Federation (LBBRF):

March meeting cancelled. Paper from Boundary Commission said delay in decision about boundary changes in Bromley as further consultation needed. No further news.

## 9 Any Other Business:

**Land rear of 48 Farnaby Rd:** Andrew Storey thanked RVR and others who objected to application/appeal.

**Japanese knotweed** at 8 Madeira Ave. Suggest contact Defra website for information on removing.

**Tony Illingworth** complemented on his Elstree Hill garden. RVR made a contribution - money well spent!

**High density housing** linked to spread of Covid 19. Should target for house building in LBB be reconsidered?

**46 Ravensbourne Ave.** Enforcement case going on for 3 years. Planning enforcement says awaiting decision from Environmental Agency. Cllr. Dykes will try to get more information.

**Article 4:** Some councils have changed to only allow a maximum of 4 residents in HMO rather than 6.

**New fencing opposite 20 Madeira Ave.** may be over-height. Member to raise with planning enforcement.

**Memorial tree to Paul Bennett in BPP (founder of society)** fell down in recent storm. Plaque rescued.

Clive will check with family about plans to re-plant.

**Euan thanked Clive** for arranging and successfully chairing the first RVR Zoom meeting.

## 10 Next meeting:

Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020. Online via Zoom at 8pm.