

WOODCOTE GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER 2019

A committee meeting of Woodcote Green Residents' Association took place at Sun Ridge, Woodmansterne Lane, Wallington SM6 0SU, on Wednesday 16 October 2019, starting at 8.00pm

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Present: Ivan Woodhouse (chair), Vinita Bhasin, Lynne Gill, Sue Doyle, Caroline Clarke and Patrick Radford (secretary)

Apologies for absence: Biniam Bekit, Vythilingam (Nagul) Nagulendran, and Jim Simms

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 24 April 2019 were approved and signed.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ivan Woodhouse welcomed everyone and proposed a vote of thanks to Jim Simms for the tremendous work he had done as chair(man) and also to Patrick Radford, the secretary. He spoke about his extensive managerial experience and his guiding principles: teamwork, delegation and good communications. He set out his ideas for improving communications in the WGRA area, summarised below.

- Notifying membership in advance of every meeting and asking members to let us know if there are any issues which need discussion at the committee meeting.
- Asking residents for their email addresses
- Sending a newsletter to all members, after each committee meeting.
- Getting the committee's views on whether we should set up a WGRA Group on Facebook which could be used to reminding residents about the WGRA web site.
- Possibly, a Facebook page
- An initial letter and follow-up newsletter as hard copy letters to be hand delivered to the properties in the area, but subsequent communications only being sent to residents who have provided us with their email addresses. Thus, the delivery of the second newsletter to be accompanied by asking residents to provide email addresses.

He also reported that he had recently attended the AGM of OGRES (see below), delivered his circular about the borough's parking consultation and received a copy of the membership list.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Vinita Bhasin reported that the current balance, held as cash, was £136.

5. WGRA COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The meeting agreed that members would be responsible for these areas of WGRA activity

- Ivan Woodhouse: chair, communications (except email circulars)
- Patrick Radford: secretarial, minutes, email circulars, membership list, and Safer Neighbourhood Panel (noted – he would soon resign from the panel)

- Caroline Clarke: Neighbourhood Watch, Safer Neighbourhood Panel (to replace Patrick Radford), and hand-delivery to WGRA area (shared with Lynne and Chris Gill)
- Lynne and Chris Gill: hand-delivery to WGRA area, liaison with nearby residents' groups
- Jim Simms (if he agreed): Local Committee of Council, parking
- Sue Doyle agreed to search the local newspaper for planning applications but said she would not be able to search on line
- Ras Krishneratne (not on committee): website
- Nagul Nagulendran (if he agreed): liaison with Woodcote Green Food and Wine
- Biniam Bekit: responsibility area to be agreed
- To be appointed: liaison with other businesses, including Woodcote Green Nursery and Flitton's Nursery.
- To be appointed: liaison with Wallington High School for Girls

6. LOCAL COUNCIL MEETING: no report

7. OGRES AGM

Ivan Woodhouse reported on the annual general meeting of Onslow Gardens Residents Association (OGRES), which he and Jim Simms had attended.

- Tom Brake MP and Councillors Steve Cook and Jayne McCoy were there.
- Other residents' associations had sent representatives.
- Members had raised the issues of street cleaning, fly-tipping, rat runs and parking.
- Jane McCoy had reported on the council's parking strategy, which could lead to the further use of Controlled Parking Zones, Permitted Parking Areas and double yellow lines.
- The chair (Pauline Cook) had reported on the falling membership rate in OGRES.
- The advice had been that our association should contact the London Green Belt Council if we had any concern over proposed development on the Green Belt. Jayne McCoy had started that there would be no planning permission for such development.

8. SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL

Patrick Radford reported that the police team for Beddington South now had two police constables and one part time support officer. He reported that he would be leaving the panel about 6 months after the meeting.

9. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Caroline Clarke said that she would contact and support the ward coordinator (Nina Amin). Patrick Radford reported that he had deputised for Nina Amin at a recent Sutton Neighbourhood Watch Association meeting, where there had been an hour's learning about preventing cybercrime. (Action CC)

10. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Ivan Woodhouse spoke of the need for the association to increase the number of its members and the need to get email addresses. He had two proposals, which were accepted.

1. Proposal 1 was for a first leaflet drop, and then a second leaflet drop with "knocking on doors". He stressed the importance of regular email contact, noting that the

association's email membership was only 39 out of 100-plus households. (Action IW and whole committee)

2. Proposal 2 was that that the area covered by the association should be increased by taking in the section of Woodcote Road (east side) from the existing boundary south to the junction of Lordsbury Field. [See Appendix A for map.]. He said that this area consisted of 116 households, an increase of 16.

11. COUNCIL PARKING STRATEGY AND ONLINE SURVEY

Ivan Woodhouse reported that he had delivered a leaflet that had alerted residents to the council's preliminary consultation and advised them to complete the online forms.

12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no planning applications of concern known to members present but it was reported that a developer had spoken with council officers about developing the area behind 1 to 4 Woodmansterne Lane - currently used for greenhouses.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Open meeting with police commander.** Ivan Woodhouse reported that he had attended an open meeting with Chief Superintendent Dave Springer and other officers.
 - i. About 20 local people attended.
 - ii. Sutton, Croydon and Bromley forces were now in one Borough Operational Command Unit.
 - iii. Main concern was to prevent spread of crime from Croydon to Sutton
 - iv. Police numbers to increase
 - v. Officers changed posts about every 2 years
 - vi. The need for police at demonstrations in central London was taking police officers away from Sutton
 - vii. Police, council and housing association were trying to address the problem of mopeds on Roundshaw Downs
 - viii. Concern over loud motor cycles at night should be reported to *Safer Sutton.
2. **Care for vulnerable residents.** It was agreed that "looking out for" vulnerable people in the area – typically old people living alone - was a duty for neighbours and this association. The work done in this area by faith groups was noted

14. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 22 January 2020, meeting at 8.00pm (informally from 7.30), 10 Woodcote Green, Wallington SM6 9NN *[Date changed to 12 February after consultation in January]*

IW pr 21.01.2019

***Safer Sutton**

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(Appendix A follows as pdf)