

PETTS WOOD & DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON

WEDNESDAY, 22ND MARCH 2023, IN THE PETTS WOOD MEMORIAL HALL

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr John Powell	Chairman	Mrs Elizabeth Strachan	Health
Mrs Andrea Stevens	Vice-Chair/Planning	Mr Mel Wright	NT & Woodlands
Mrs Susan Radford	Treasurer	Mr Alan Bodley	Public Transport
Mrs Janet Guntrip	Secretary	Mr Graham Knight-Zhang	Committee Member
Mr Brian Eaton	Community Liaison	Mrs Marian Smith	Editor
Mr Phil Macer	Crime & Policing	Mr Michael Ayers	Webmaster
Mr Rane Ranasinghe	Education	Mrs Julie Cockett	Membership Team

GUESTS:

Mr Jim Cowan	Head of Neighbourhood Management, LBB		
Councillor Tony Owen	LBB	Mr John Charsley	PW Business Assoc.
Inspector Stuart Baker	Metropolitan Police	Mr Luke Underwood	NT Ranger
PC Tajinder Mahil	Metropolitan Police	Mr Andrew Stotesbury	Chair, PWWMT
PC Peter Blunden	Metropolitan Police	Mr Ted Fenwick	Crofton RA
PCSO Nicky Durmaz	Metropolitan Police	Mr Roger Barber	Former committee member

About 46 other Members were present

APOLOGIES:

Mr Gareth Bacon, MP	Petts Wood Library
Mr Peter Fortune, GLA Member	Petts Wood Library
Councillor Simon Fawthrop	Mr Fred Dale, Auditor
Councillor Keith Onslow	Mr Phil Birch, Environment
Mrs Liz Johnston, PW Business Association	Mrs Katrina Summerfield, Membership
Mr Bob Hadley, Crofton RA	Secretary

The Chairman opened proceedings by welcoming all our guests and members. Apologies had been received from those listed above.

1. MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 22ND MARCH 2022

The Chairman opened proceedings by welcoming all our guests and members. Apologies had been received from those listed above.

The Minutes, copies of which had been available via the website and were also available on the top table before the meeting, were taken as a true and accurate record. The Chairman asked whether there would be a proposer and a seconder for these minutes. Mr Terry Stevens proposed that they should be adopted, and Mr Steve Condon seconded the proposal, and it was carried by the meeting.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman's Report had been published in the March Gazette, and Mr Powell thanked the Associates (shown on the back page of the Gazette) without whom the Association could not function. Mel Wright was also thanked for organising a London Open House event in 2022. The event was a great success, and another has been arranged for this September. The Chairman then commended the Report to the meeting. It was proposed by a show of hands that the Annual Report should be adopted. The report was proposed by Mr Phil Webb, seconded by Mr Terry Condon, and accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

The Chairman (Mr John Powell) also added that he needed to add his huge thanks and appreciation to Janet Guntrip for her excellent service as Secretary to the Association for nearly 40 years. The

Chairman also mentioned that Janet had been a huge asset to the Association during these years.

The Chairman then presented to Mrs Janet Guntrip a card with Janet's picture on the front, a beautiful bouquet, and a crystal vase. Mrs Guntrip was delighted with the presentation.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT & RE-ELECTION OF AUDITOR

The Treasurer (Mrs Susan Radford) presented the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 as published in the March Gazette on page 17. Mrs Radford mentioned that she saw no reason to increase the subscription this year and proposed that it remain at £5 per annum. The postal subscription would also stay at £13 for another year, although it would be reviewed next year because of the continual increase in the price of postage and the rise in printing costs. As a result, it may be necessary next year to also review the advertising costs.

The Treasurer also mentioned an error in the published accounts in the March edition of the Gazette. The error was in the total within the assets column for 2022, which was shown as £39,495 when the amount should have been shown as £39,560. This total has now been rectified and signed off by Mrs Paula Ferguson, who audited the accounts this year due to the illness of Mr Fred Dale (the regular auditor). Mrs Radford advised that Fred Dale had decided to retire due to ill health, and the Chairman wished him well for the future. The position of Auditor would in future be Mrs Paula Ferguson, was proposed by Mrs Susan Radford and seconded by Mr Brian Eaton. Therefore, the proposal was carried by the meeting.

Mr Boswell raised a question about the copies of 'The History of Petts Wood' being shown in the assets section of the accounts for 2022 as £510, and Mrs Radford explained that this amount was for the books that were held in stock. Mrs Radford also advised that the reserves would cover the costs of installing the two new benches on either side of Petts Wood. After explaining the accounts, Mrs Radford commended the accounts to the meeting. There were no further questions, so the accounts were proposed by a show of hands. The proposer was Stuart Wood, and Mr Roger Barber seconded them. Therefore, the proposal was carried by the meeting.

4. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Chairman mentioned that, as could be seen from the March edition of the Gazette on pages 3 and 4, there were several nominees for positions on the committee. He mentioned that he wished to change the process in the future, but at the moment wanted to have an agreement to all the nominations shown for the committee and asked that he have a proposer and a seconder for these roles. A show of hands to this proposal was given. The proposer was Mrs Andrea Stevens (Vice Chair) and seconded by Mrs Susan Radford (Treasurer and Advertising). Therefore, the proposal was carried by the meeting.

As a result of Mrs Janet Guntrip retiring, a replacement had to be found, and the Editor had offered to take on this role along with the Editor role. The Chairman asked that the new secretary be proposed and seconded by a show of hands, please? Mrs Smith was both proposed and seconded at this meeting. Therefore, the proposal was carried by the meeting.

The Chairman also mentioned that there were other vacancies on the committee and that if anyone wished to volunteer, to contact him.

5. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Chairman mentioned that as shown on page 3 of the March edition of the Gazette, item 5 said that the definition of the change to the Constitution would be that the "Area" should be changed from 'the defined area of Petts Wood as recognised by the London Borough of Bromley' to 'the defined area of Petts Wood as illustrated on the Association website'. The change to the Constitution was both proposed and seconded at this meeting.

6. NOTICES

May Fayre. Mr Powell advised that this year the May Fayre was, as usual, being organised by the Petts Wood Business Association and would take place on Monday 1st May. The event would start at 11:00 a.m. with the May Queen parade and finish at 5:00 p.m. Mr Powell urged members to go along and support a great family day out.

London Open House Festival. As mentioned earlier in the meeting, another London Open House event is being organised for Friday, 8th September. This event will be about Basil Scruby and more about Basil himself. Mel Wright will again organise the event.

PALs (Petts Woodians Against Litter). This is a monthly event, and the group meets outside JDM in Station Square. The next litter pick is on the first Sunday in April. New members are always welcome.

7. SPEAKER, MR JIM COWAN, HEAD OF NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT AT BROMLEY COUNCIL

Mr Powell invited some of our guests to say a few words and then answer questions from the floor.

Mr Jim Cowan, Head of Neighbourhood Management, LBB. Mr Cowan thanked the committee for their invitation to the meeting and mentioned that he had met Andrea Stevens when the committee wished to relocate a recycling bin in Petts Wood.

He mentioned his responsibilities were waste collection, reuse recycling, green banks, transfer stations, graffiti removal and environmental crimes.

There is a contract with Veolia for waste for eight years, which commenced in 2019. At the end of the eight years, he will look at the performance of Veolia during that time to check that they are still fit for purpose.

He added that he had had a trip to Warwickshire to see the recycling production line and mentioned that in the past (in 2018), when residents had missed a recycling collection, they would have had to complete a sheet of paper to rearrange another collection, now this can all be organised online.

His responsibilities also encompass supplementary recycling (i.e., batteries), which can be collected at the same time as food waste.

He added that there is a problem with contamination of green box collections in other boroughs, but this did not appear to be a problem in Petts Wood. These collections are processed in Rainham, separated on a conveyor belt, and sold.

Mr Cowan also mentioned that one of his concerns is fly tipping in the borough. Bromley Council has an enviro-crime team that will target areas such as this. If fly-tipping is reported, the Council will work with the police and public protection to ensure situations such as this are resolved.

Fix My Street is another service that is part of his remit in that it is a 24-hour reporting/monitoring service where residents can report issues.

A resident questioned how residents could deal with any paper shredding they may have. Mr Cowan advised that shredding could be placed in a clear bag or cereal packet and collected as part of the recycling collection that is collected kerbside.

Mr Cowan also raised the issue that nitrous oxide is a problem in Bromley. He mentioned that the audience may have seen small silver nitrous oxide canisters. He added that residents could dispose of these in the waste, but if large nitrous oxide canisters are found (considerably larger), they cannot go in the waste as they are compressed gas canisters.

An audience member questioned whether Bromley Council still honoured garden waste labels. Jim Cowan mentioned that residents can still use these.

8. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

John Powell thanked Jim Cowan for his talk on waste management.

Janet Crowther of St John's Road raised the question of whether anything could be done about the excessive traffic speeding in Petts Wood and whether the police could carry out a check. The response to this question was that the police had recently conducted a speed check on Petts Wood Road, which was successful.

Mr Boswell mentioned that there was also speeding and dangerous driving on Southborough Lane and Lakeswood Road and asked whether road humps could be installed?

Mr Powell mentioned Bromley had no highways policy to install more road humps.

Mr Webb mentioned that speed humps need to be maintained. John Powell suggested that if they require repairing, these must be reported on **FixMyStreet** as they also fix potholes.

Andrew Stotesbury mentioned that there is a visible lack of policing in Bromley. For example, charity donations have been taken. There have also been intimidating young men in the Memorial Gardens in possession of pressurised gas containers that they are using. They entered the premises, took chairs out, and had to be chased away.

Michelle Lockley, part of a litter-picking group, mentioned that there were Vodka drinkers and nitrous oxide users in Petts Wood. John Powell said that if anyone sees anything like this, to report it to the police so that it can be investigated.

Mr Boswell asked whether police contact information (an email address) could be published in the Gazette. The police agreed that it could.

John Powell mentioned it is worth noting that **RingGo** is being implemented for parking, and cash is being phased out.

Councillor Tony Owen mentioned that **RingGo** was being implemented because the Sim cards in the old parking meters were out of date and would need to be replaced, which would be costly.

Jim Cowan advised that he has a weekly Monday meeting with three reports a week from his service management team. These reports comprise red, amber, and green service levels, and he will ensure with his team that signs are all in place in the borough for the new parking system. He mentioned that people would be visiting the area to help where needed.

Pamela Ellis of Crofton Lane asked a further question about **RingGo** and asked if you telephone from home to find a parking space, how do you know where you are going to park before you get there?

Jim Cowan responded and said, if it is not working, please inform the council.

ULEZ. It was shown in a survey conducted by Imperial College that 54% of the country has cleaner air than Petts Wood.

Councillor Owen mentioned that implementing ULEZ will improve air quality marginally but may lead to introducing a road pricing system in the future.

9. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

In closing the meeting, John Powell requested that, where possible, as many residents make their email addresses available to the committee so that they could be kept up to date with important information from the committee that may miss Gazette printing deadlines.

John Powell expressed his hearty thanks to everyone that had attended the meeting and invited everyone to enjoy a glass of wine and the refreshments that Jean Wood kindly supplied.

The formal business of the meeting closed at 9:30 p.m.