

TOTTERIDGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF 77th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON Wednesday 25th June 2014

**AT KEMP HALL, ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL, TOTTERIDGE GREEN N20
AT 8.15PM**

Totteridge Residents' Association **Chairman, Caroline Stock**, welcomed everyone to the **77th AGM**, particularly the **Guest Speakers: Martin Russell**, The Deputy Lieutenant of Barnet; **David Render**; **Tony Vardy**, Chairman of CommUNITY Barnet; and Cllr. **Richard Cornelius**, Leader of the London Borough of Barnet. Also welcomed were: Cllr. **Alison Cornelius**; our local Police Officers from the Safer Neighbourhood Team, Sgt. **Lesley Neale** and PC **Susan Ianelli**; **Clive Cohen** and **Diane Murphy** from the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust; **Kitty Nabarro** of Neighbourhood Watch; and the Deputy Head of the Totteridge Academy, **Jane Allison**.

Apologies were received from Theresa Villiers MP, Paul Davis, Terry Bannister (TMA Chairman), Sheila Spensley, Rev. Tim Seago, George Burgoyne, Claire Bannister and Michael Freedman.

1. Approval of Minutes of 76th AGM held on Thursday 16th May 2013

The minutes of the 76th AGM had been distributed and placed on the TRA Website and were available in the Hall. The resolution for the approval of the minutes was proposed by Clive Harris and seconded by Rose Jones and was passed unanimously.

2. Hon. Treasurer's Report and Accounts

There had been a drop in subscriptions this year. It was now possible to use internet banking to pay the subscription.

An attendee suggested the TRA introduce a Standing Order method of payment.

The resolution for the approval of the report and accounts was proposed by Patrick Riley and seconded by Basia Howells and was passed unanimously.

3. Subscriptions

The subscription will remain at £5 per household.

4. Constitution

The resolution to amend the Constitution was explained by Michael Caro and the amended Constitution was distributed amongst the members. The relevant changes included changes to Rule 6 and Rule 7 so that only members could be nominated to the roles of President and Vice-president. The resolution was proposed and seconded and was passed unanimously.

5. Election of President and Vice-Presidents:

The resolutions for the election of Eileen Eskenzi as President and the **election of** Rev Tim Seago, Nigel Wray and Paul Davis as Vice Presidents were proposed and seconded and were passed unanimously.

Sir John Stuttard and Brian Coleman were thanked for their support of the TRA in the past.

4. Election of Committee

Mona Rumble had resigned from the Committee and was warmly thanked for her contribution to the TRA over the years.

The resolution for the election of the following people as committee members was proposed seconded and was passed unanimously: George Burgoyne, Kerin Conn, Christine Riley, Michael Lim, Claire Bannister, Michael Caro, Jenny Ellis, Paul Flashman, Sophie Molloy, and Barbara Wishart.

5.

Election of Independent Examining Accountant

The resolution for the appointment of Taylors Chartered Accountants as the Independent Examining Accountant for the Association was proposed and seconded and was passed unanimously

6. TRA 2014 Yearbook

The Chairman thanked Eileen Eskenzi and Barry Clarke who had produced for 2014, the centenary of the outbreak of WW1, a wonderful commemorative Yearbook, concentrating on the Totteridge War Memorial. Each name on the memorial had been researched and some very moving stories unfolded. Help from Museums, War records, local newspapers and personal letters had all been sought and explored. Many residents had voiced their appreciation of this remarkable effort. This publication would be placed on the **TRA website** thereby reaching a wider audience.

7. Guest Speaker: Martin Russell, Deputy Lieutenant of Barnet.

Martin Russell gave a most interesting talk detailing the preparations made in Barnet at the onset of the war, the effect the War had on his own family when his grandfather volunteered and lost his life at Mons. He described the protectionist attitude that developed amongst Barnet's citizens and how Newspapers and the Cinema became patriotic detailing the course of the war and in telling the stories of soldiers. In 1918 conscription appeared and the war effected a huge change in the lives of women who began to work in factories, munitions and also in the Queen Alexandria Nursing Service. Details of those brave soldiers in Barnet who won the Victoria Cross were given.

8. Guest Speaker: David Render.

David Render thanked the TRA for the fine commemorative TRA Yearbook and explained that it was a photograph of his father that appeared on the front cover. His father's life both before and during the war was most interestingly told. Details of life in the trenches were given, and the building of small railways to transport of small items was explained. David illustrated his talk with the tin hat his father had worn during WWI and persuaded the audience to whistle as an alarm signal, which we all duly did. We also inspected his father's army bugle and a walking stick made by a German POW.

9. Guest Speaker: Richard Cornelius, Leader of the Borough of Barnet.

Cllr Cornelius outlined the changes expected in the next 4 years when a further 20% of the budget had to be reduced. Barnet has been told to build more homes. There were 4 big developments taking place in Whetstone.

10. Guest Speaker: Tony Vardy, CommUNITY Barnet.

Tony Vardy explained that this organisation was an independent, non-political, group, championing the services provided by the voluntary sector. The organisation had a particular role on Healthwatch Barnet, on a community Forum for Parents and also a very successful Fundraising programme for Charities, training charities how to both access and raise funds.

11. Police Report

The Police Report was presented by Sgt Lesley Neale, who had been the Sergeant for Totteridge for the last 12 months. PC Susan Ianelli is now the dedicated Ward officer for Totteridge and Rash Gill remains the PCSO DWO. All officers are based at Barnet Police Station. Whetstone and Golders Green Police stations are no longer operational. There have

been regular TRA and Community Action panel meetings throughout the year. The three local priorities are Burglary, Motor Vehicle Crime and Antisocial Behaviour. The police have carried out several crime prevention surgeries in Waitrose, Boots and B&Q, offering practical advice. The speed gun has been used in various locations, excessive speed being a major cause of accidents.

Sgt Neale is retiring shortly and thanked the TRA for all its support and assistance.

12. AOB

Questions and comments from the floor were answered on the following topics:

1. DD complained that she had had no response from dialling 101.
2. BJ complained about the noise produced by the Police Helicopters. Sgt Neale explained that they were very expensive and were only called out when needed and that they were very useful.
3. Cllr Alison Cornelius detailed and explained the introduction of 4 new loading bays on Totteridge Lane which would permit free parking for up to 15 minutes between the hours of 9.30 and 5.30 pm.
4. Kitty Nabarro was the Totteridge Representative on Neighbourhood Watch. 110 people were registered on her email mailing list and she urged more people to participate in this scheme: Totteridge.nw@gmail.com .

The Chairman closed the meeting, thanked the President, Eileen Eskenzi, the Committee, and in particular the Road Stewards for all the hard work involved in their support and thanked the Councillors and the speakers for attending. The members were reminded that they could keep up with the TRA activities by looking at the website www.totteridgeresidents.org and could contact the organisation by emailing tottres@aol.com
All were invited to stay for refreshments and further discussion.