

MINUTES OF THE HLRA MEETING ON 08/04/2019

PRESENT: Grace (Chair), Danny, Hertha, Jane, Josh, Lana, Saira, Shannon, Yvonne, Roger (Secretary)

APOLOGIES: Alison, Deborah. Kim, Jay.

The Minutes of the meeting of 11/03/2019 were approved.

1. Easter Party

The Easter Party will be on Saturday 20th April, 11am to 1pm.

Grace had printed posters which were distributed.

ACTION: Grace to send a second email out and to get Hot X Buns and Cakes from Stagnells.

Shannon and Lana to get small Easter eggs for all the children, seeking donations from Tesco, Iceland and on the Next-door website. Nibbles, tea, coffee and soft drinks will also be provided.

Danny to provide bulbs and pots for the children to plant.

Jane and Josh will arrange potato planting before the party.

2. Gardening

The TRA gardening sessions have been popular with a wide range of ages attending. Two concerns have recently been raised.

1) Tamatha Weisser, who had previously organised the polytunnel gardening, was concerned that the TRA had started working in there without discussing it with her. Another resident who had a plot in the polytunnel was also upset. Grace, Kat and Tamatha had a meeting, where the issues were resolved. It was agreed that Tamatha would coordinate food growing in the polytunnel under the auspices of the TRA. This is open to all residents and Tamatha will oversee it. Grace has sent out an email inviting residents to participate. It was agreed that the TRA gardening sessions could use a part of the polytunnel for their tools and a few pots to grow seedlings.

2) Three residents from 165-182 Makepeace had complained to the TRA because a resident in their block who had attended the gardening sessions had independently cut down a tree and several shrubs in front of their block. Kat the gardener had also done some work in their front garden, in her capacity as a Camden gardener, and they were concerned that they had not been consulted.

Grace explained to the residents that the TRA had not authorised this work. She had advised the residents of this block to contact Peter Freeman, Camden Council's gardening officer.

Action: The TRA agreed to inform all residents that the gardening sessions on Saturdays and Wednesdays are supervised sessions and that the TRA does not and cannot authorise residents to carry out gardening at any other time. The gardening sessions have not and will not do any work in residents' front gardens. At present, the gardening session only take place in the middle gardens between Makepeace and Langbourne, and around the polytunnel. **Grace will put this information up on the website and send out an email.**

The TRA committee felt that it was problematic that our gardening rep, Deborah, did not attend meetings, coming briefly to only one last year. It would be valuable to have her input and expertise in these discussions about gardening. There was also concern that she was sending emails on behalf of the TRA without discussing the issues with the rest of the committee. The TRA felt that reps should come to a reasonable number of meetings or resign. A reasonable

number was thought to be a quarter or a third of meetings in a year – a final number was not decided.

ACTION: Roger to email Deborah to convey the Committee's view and ask whether she can come to the next meeting.

Roger will also talk with Kat asking her to write a brief outline explaining where the TRA gardening session will work and what their plans are.

3. Young People's TRA

A meeting has been held between Shannon, Hugh Boatswain of Camden Council, Barbara Smith of the Community Centre and the Police Safer Neighbourhoods team to launch the Young People's TRA (YPTRA). The pilot scheme will be in our area (specifically not confined to the Estate) with a view to rolling it out Borough wide. Initial funding will come from Camden Council. Hugh has asked that our hall should be the venue for a meeting of local TRAs and community groups to discuss the project. Since Hugh is on leave for two weeks from 15th April, this cannot take place until May.

4. Bins and Recycling

Yvonne has received an email from Chris Slater (CS) to say Veolia has a shortage of new bins to take the new signage. There is still a lack of clarity about how the new bin shed by the sheltered housing will be funded.

Grace said she had written to CS and CLLR Anna Wright asking why we should raise the money for bin sheds when they are a basic sanitary requirement, but that CS had not replied

ACTION: Yvonne to email Chris Slater and cc Cllr Anna Wright to ask:

- Has the Sheltered Housing approved the plan for the new shed on its property?
- Why HLRA should have to fund the bin sheds with a DMC grant as this is a basic sanitary requirement that should be funded by the Council.
- What are the financial implications for leaseholders?

Also to inform him that we intend to get quotes for constructing the new shed as Camden only has one contractor to do this work.

ACTION: Lana to get three independent quotes.

5. Heating and Hot Water

Nothing to report as Camden has not sent us any further information, specifically on options, as promised for March.

6. AOB

Shannon reported she had been to the Fire Station with curried goat to thank them for so generously taking part in our recent street parties.

The next meeting has been rescheduled to Wednesday 15th May, 7pm to 9pm. in the Community Centre.