

HLRA ZOOM MEETING  
20TH MAY 2020

Attendance: Grace, Hertha, Jessica, Lisa, Jane, Judith, Shannon, Roger

Apologies: Lorna, Josh. Grazyna, Lana, Yvonne.

The Minutes of the Meeting on 19/02/2020 were approved.

**1. Covid-19 Response**

- The lockdown began mid March and the HLRA immediately set up a Block Rep system in which all 32 blocks have at least one volunteer dedicated to helping any vulnerable resident with shopping, prescriptions or any other help. The Community Centre has become a food hub for HNCC food parcels which are delivered to blocks by the reps. There is also a re-purposed bin outside the Centre for food donations which is regularly filled and the contents taken to HNCC for their food parcels.
- The system has worked well, together with the two WhatsApp Groups: HLE C-19 and Resident Support. However, HNCC now generally ask for a donation for their food parcels after one free every month and there has been a significant reduction in uptake. We are concerned the charge has confused matters and those who are in need and entitled to free parcels may not be taking them up. As the crisis continues, hardship may increase and go hidden as people wait for Universal Credit and experience food price inflation.
- *Grace will draft a poster telling those who are in hardship due to Covid-19 that all food parcels will be free.*
- We have received one grant of £2,500 and another £2,500 has been approved from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) through the Councillors for the HNCC food parcels and meals-on-wheels.
- At present, Lulu cooks the meals-on-wheels at Brookfield Primary School kitchen. When the school re-opens on 1st June, the Community Centre has agreed she can use their kitchen.
- Grace, Shannon, Lana and Roger have had short weekly Zoom meetings together with Mike, the Centre Manager, to sort out practical ongoing matters related to food parcels, funding etc. In future, Grace will send the Zoom link with an agenda to all Committee members; if anyone wants to join they will be very welcome.

**2. Banking**

- We cannot use Online Banking with the current Santander Account. This will be closed and the account moved to Barclays Bank. The signatories will be Lana, Grace and Roger, though as it will be an online account it can be managed by one person with the password.

### **3. Fire Safety Works**

- Gavin Haynes has been in touch about roof fire exits. Due to Covid-19, consultation is on hold. He suggests online consultation if the pandemic situation continues much longer. We are against online consultation as it would exclude people and unnecessarily increase anxiety at this time.
- Work has started on the communal areas of some blocks installing the new fire alarm system. We should liaise with the Leaseholders Association.

### **4. The Pond**

- Ricky says he will repair the pond but it cannot be started until late summer at the earliest because of the frogs and plants. We need to know if he can do it then.
- *Lana to speak to Ricky.*

### **5. Gardening**

- A tree has gone from the garden between Makepeace and HLM, near the top on HLM side. It looks like one of the newly planted cherries.
- Emma has had a difficult time with spring planting because of the drought with no stand pipes in the garden between Makepeace and HLM. However, Jane says the vegetables by the poly-tunnel are doing well and she and Josh are happy to water with buckets.
- The mowing and particularly the strimming in the Makepeace/HLM garden caused a lot of objections by residents on the C-19 WA Group because of the noise and the damage to the drought-ridden grass. The noise was exacerbated by also having the tree surgeons on the estate. Noise is an increasingly sensitive issue during lockdown as so many residents are having to work from home.
- Emma says idVerde will trim the hedges next week.
- *Roger will convey residents' concern about noise and over-mowing/strimming to Camden; he will investigate the disappearing tree and the stand pipe issue.*

### **6. Zoom**

- We have funds to buy two Zoom accounts, one for Andrea's self-help group which we can use for our own meetings and the other for the Young Persons' TRA. Shannon reported that Paris will co-ordinate the Young Person's Group. Projects could include football fitness, cookery sessions, indoor Boxercise, homework clubs and tutoring, mental health issues etc.
- Last week the Young Person's Zoom project was advertised in a general email sent to everyone on our list. More specific advertising may be needed.

### **7. Caretaking**

- There are staffing issues due to Covid-19 and cleaning has been even more sporadic and cursory than usual. Shannon suggests residents should clean their own communal areas at this time but there may be objections that we pay for cleaning and therefore it should be done by the cleaners. Roger said that Camden intends to improve caretaking

with more caretakers and better supervision. However, everything is on hold during Covid-19.

- *Roger will contact Debbie Marno, the Estate Supervisor, to find out what the situation is regarding caretaking during the crisis and what can be done to improve it. We must be sensitive to the fact that Caretakers are front line staff doing a difficult job at this time.*

## **8. Bins**

- Residents in the block by the bins on Makepeace are understandably frustrated by the lack of progress over the bin store.
- *Lisa will ask Yvonne to get in touch with Chris Slater to see what the situation is regarding securing planning permission for the bin store.*

## **9. 5G**

- The application to put a 5G mast on Haddow House has been rejected following many objections. Local TRAs have been liaising over this but we decided not to circulate the request to submit objections about Haddow to Camden so as not to cause unnecessary worry to residents.

## **10. Dates of Future Meetings**

**17 June 7pm**

**15 July 7pm**

**23 September 7pm Zoom AGM**