

MINUTES

Queensway East Residents Association

Date 07-03-21

(Committee 1)

11:00am – 12:00pm

Meeting called

Sue Pinkerton-Watson - (SP)

Venue

WhatsApp Video Meeting Residents Association Committee

Attendees:

Sue Pinkerton (SP) Chair, Emma Ley (EL) Vice Chair, Anna Watson (AW) (Secretary), Simeon Brookstone (SB) (Treasurer)

Please read: Constitution,

Queensway East Residents' Website

Please bring: N/A

11:00am – 11:05am

Item 1

Welcome

- Minutes of last meeting

All members agreed that the minutes of the meeting posted to the WhatsApp committee group, were a satisfactory record of meeting held on the 21.2.2021 and 31.01.2021. Agreement was made that these minutes should be made available for the wider community to view on the Kilworth Estates Website.

11:05am – 11:15am

Item 2

Website

- Usernames – Accounts

SB said that he had successfully created an account, **AW** said that she had not had the chance due to extenuating circumstances but would have a go. **EL** also had viewed the website and had some problems with creating an account but would have another go, **SP**

said that she was available for support should any problems be encountered.

- Cost

SP reiterated that the cost of developing the website was her contribution and ongoing monthly costs to GoDaddy were £17.99, **SP** said that she would cover the cost for the moment. **AW, SB & EL** agreed this was an acceptable cost and **EL** said she would help **SP** with monthly ongoing fees. The group agreed that fees could be reimbursed if funding is successful.

- Projects

SP showed the committee members the new Update section of the website, specifically the project area. **SP** felt that this area could help with seeing tangible benefits for the community and be useful for funding purposes. **SB** said that it would be extremely helpful for use when approaching potential sponsors. **EL, AW & SB** all agreed that the projects were good, and it would give our group an ambitious long-term goal to work towards. It was noted by all committee members that working toward attaining a similar look to the west of Southend would be a desirable outcome. Committee members agreed that at present as you crossed over the High Street from East to West it felt like entering a different world and this is unacceptable.

- Launch

SP said that she would post the website to our social media accounts – WhatsApp – One Voice Queensway East and Facebook – One Voice Queensway East. **AW, EL & SB** agreed with this. It was reiterated that members of the Residents Association should be asked for feedback regarding the project and suggestions for any areas we may have missed.

11:20am – 11:30am

Item 3

Finances

- Bank Account

SB reported that he had applied to Nat West bank and it would take around two weeks for a response, details from **SP** would be needed to further the application. He had also looked at the Co-op bank and this could be used as a backup if Nat West bank failed to agree to open a Residents Association account.

- Funding Source – Projects

SB said that he had approached Estate Agents – Bairstow Eves, Blackshaws & Pace. He had trouble locating the Essex Sherriff. Website. **SP** said Essex Sherriff had donated around £2000 previously to a project undertaken by an earlier version of the Residents association. **SB** said that Steve Dixon could be approached to provide regular funding to the group. **SAVs** did not seem to be open at present and various telephone numbers of potential sponsors had not been answered when phoned. **SP** said that she had received an email from **SAVs** and **ClIr Dent** saying that the council and **SAVs** had £1.5 million of funding available and were currently looking to recruit members to a board to help distribute the funding to appropriate groups. The board members could not be a member of a group receiving funding.

11:30am – 11:50am

Item 4

Community Engagement

- Council Address

Discussion took place relating to Tricia Cowdreys address to the local Council. **AW** said that it was unlikely that landlord licensing will be voted in as it has previously been attempted but due to

Councillors having a vested interest, they were unlikely to ratify it. It is felt this would be a good way to get landlords to behave in a decent manor with regards to upkeep of their properties, both internally and externally.

- Networking – Engagement with other Fb groups

SP reported that she had engaged with a couple of FB groups since the last meeting. A tenant's sister from Gordon Road just west of Queensway, had posted to one of the Facebook groups stating that they were suffering from serious weekly fly tipping. It was agreed that Kilworth Estate name could be used to include new members facing similar problems with fly tipping without feeling alienated by the RA just covering Queensway East.

- Slum Properties – Engagement with Landlords

EL said that she had a positive experience when contacting Steve Dixon regarding an issue she had experienced in Hastings Road. **AW** said that Steve Dixon had also responded well when she had approached him regarding a problem, she had experienced with his property in Kilworth Avenue. It was generally felt that Steve was kept terribly busy with the empire that he had built but when approached he seemed happy to sort things out. Further discussion took place relating to house inspections, the amount of HMO's and conversions within our neighborhood and the rents being paid for some of these properties. **SP** said that rather than residents continuously providing a free reporting service to Landlords and the council regarding fly tipping, Ring doorbells could be deployed.

- Letter to MP, Councillors and other local RA groups

SP said that she had put off writing an introductory letter to the MP, Councillors and RA's as she wished to add the projects to the website so that our group could be seen to be providing solution suggestions to problems we are encountering. The project page would require further updating with the Neighbourhood Plan however Project Greenery had additional information that could be seen by clicking on its picture on the website.

11:30am – 11:40am

Item 5

Project Greenery

- Response to HARP

SP reported that she had responded to HARP regarding their offer to relocate their rubbish storage area and containers. **SP** had requested that they consider using natural greenery in the screening solution offered. HARP had said that they would discuss this idea and get back to the Residents Association in 14 days,

11:55am-12:00pm-AOB

EL said that she would contact **SP** after the meeting to discuss setting up a meeting with Cllr Dent. **EL** said that Cllr Dent should have money available for RA groups like ours and he should be approached. Discussions took place regarding contacting certain landlords and that the need for a spreadsheet holding contact details would be helpful. **AW** had looked up some owners on the land registry, to sort out an issue with a tree in one of the gardens, it was interesting how no-one was sure of who owned which section of the garden. **SP** said that she had been keeping a record of contact details of landlords on an Excel spreadsheet and she would post this to the Committee Area on the website.

Date of Next Meeting – 21.3.2021