

MINUTES

Queensway East Residents Association

Date 028-03-21

(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

Please read: Constitution,

Queensway East Residents' Website

Please bring: N/A

11:00am – 11:05am

Item 1

Welcome

- Apologies Anna Watson, Simeon Brookstone
- Minutes of last meeting

All present members agreed the minutes of the WhatsApp committee group, were a satisfactory record of meeting held on the 07.3.2021.

11:05am – 11:15am

Item 2

Website

- Usernames – Accounts

EL said that she had successfully logged on to the website committee account area.

SP mentioned the spreadsheet containing a log of various house deeds that had been purchased from the land registry could be

made available. Purchases made by different members of the group could be pooled. EL said that she had purchased some to identify a landlord in Hastings Road.

EL said that she held a paper version of all the members of the resident's group and that she would make this available to SP so that it could be checked against the current list and update it where necessary.

- **Cost**

SP said that she has spent more than £70 at the land registry.

- **Projects**

Postponed until next full committee meeting.

11:20am – 11:30am

Item 3
Finances

- **Bank Account**

Postponed until next full committee meeting.

- **Funding Source – Projects**

Postponed until next full committee meeting.

11:30am – 11:50am

Item 4
Community Engagement

It was generally felt that the successful introduction of landlord licensing and the benefits of not having rapists, fraudsters, violent and other law-breaking landlords being allowed to randomly open houses to rent is a good idea. £12-13 a month seemed a reasonable amount to pay for this. Other long-term benefits may include neater and better maintained properties and improved social cohesion.

Discussion took place relating to the cost of renting rooms compared to the cost for renting flats. Quite a few houses seemed to be split into many different rooms.

• **Slum Properties – Engagement with Landlords**

One committee member had spoken with a landlord and asked him to have a little more respect for the local area as this area is where people's owned and lived in their homes. It was explained that the resident homeowners loved their properties and were finding it difficult when rented properties being left in a bad way. This discussion seemed to have a positive impact and certain home in the area have since been tidied up.

EL said that quite a few properties were now on the market via Dedman, SP said that she had look at on the market and she thought it did not seem proportionally greater than would be expected.

SP mentioned that she thought a pattern could be seen with families purchasing properties next door to poorly run conversions and HMO's and then these same properties being put back on the market rather quickly. Normal family life was being denied when living near these poorly run conversions and HMO's, leaving families the only option to sell the property and disrupt family life again. SP was aware of at least two or three properties that seemed to have this pattern of buying and swiftly selling.

• **Council Address**

SP asked EL if Cllr Dent had responded to EL's post on One Voice Queensway East discussing to issues with litter clearance from our roads. EL said no further response had been heard. SP said that fly-tipping reported to Veolia seemed to be taking much longer than usual to clear up.

SP mentioned that the Samaritans property that EL had featured on a post last year had been purchased and seemed to gain permission to be altered to a five bedroomed property under an old planning permission for four properties. SP had raised a complaint with the council but had

not head further from them. Emma was happy for the house to be converted, SP would have preferred a maximum of one or two properties as our area is losing family accommodation and turning to housing a great many single people. This in turn is having a devastating effect on the amount of rubbish and bins turning up in the area as single people tend to be more transient than families and as residents move on more rubbish fills front gardens and spills over onto the streets. One member mentioned they had reported an incident of fly-tipping and were still awaiting a response. The mattress, armchair and foot stool had been on the pavement outside Dr Siddiques HMO for at least a couple of weeks.

Discussion took place relating to Tricia Cowdrey objecting to the strip club along Lucy Road being relicensed. It was felt that this club's current location was too near to family entertainment, residential housing, shopping, and religious places of worship.

- **Networking – Engagement with other Fb groups**

EL said that she had approached the council with reference to sending out notifications to all properties within the area relating to fly-tipping and keeping the area neat and tidy. The council response was that this department within the council had now been closed. EL said this was something that the council she worked for in London did when these types of issues arose. EL said that she would provide a template of a letter that could be used and EL also knew a neighbour that would be happy to print hard copies for a leaflet drop. SP had some worries that these might just be thrown straight in the bin.

11:30am – 11:40am

Item 5

- **Project Greenery**

EL said that a friend was purchasing properties that had been put on the market and that this landlord was of good repute and very considerate towards her tenants. Discussions took place relating to the positioning of bins, SP felt that bins should be placed towards the rear of the properties and shrubs should be placed in the front gardens. She acknowledged that

in some properties this could prove difficult as the council had allowed some properties to be created without access to the rear of the property. EL said that her friend the new landlord made very decent wooden bins for properties.

11:55am-12:00pm-AOB

EL reported that a theft had taken place in her garden and sadly she had lost her family pets.

Date of Next Meeting – 17.4.2021