

Corner Green Residents Society**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

29 July 2009

Present:

Mark Helm (director) (8)
Biddy Macfarlane (director and treasurer) (16)
Khalid Khan (director) (2)
Mac (director) and Jill Cochrane (gardening committee) (10)
David Howes (secretary) (7)
Dan Radcliffe (4)
Juliet Cairns (11)
John Sabapathy (19)
Helen (gardening committee) and Neil MacCormick (20)
Tom Smith (22)
Janet Parrott (23)

Represented by proxies:

- Jonathan Burton (12) held by David Howes (7)

Not represented:

Arum Sivanayagam (1)
Stanley Lee (3)
Peter Ruthen (5)
Simon and Esther (6)
Andrew and Diane Sim (9)
Natasha and Wing To (13)
Stewart and Christine Macfarlane (14)
Ray and Nadine White (15)
Alison Rivers (17)
Claude Perera (18)
Rosie and Dick Hewson (21)

1. Appointment of Chairman

- Mark Helm proposed that he should act as chairman for the meeting and in the absence of dissent was appointed as such.

2. Apologies for Absence

None

3. Minutes of 2008 AGM

The minutes of the 2008 AGM held on 3 September 2008 were agreed

4. Matters Arising from 2007 AGM

- Mark Helm thanked attendees and organisers - Rosie Hewson, Angharad Smith and Nadine White - for making the 50th Anniversary Party a success. Members joined in voicing their appreciation of organisers' efforts.

5. Chairman's report:

- Mark Helm welcomed Janet Parrott as a new member of the Society. He also thanked Mac Cochrane for his efforts as works director, in particular in relation to lights and the rear access lane, and congratulated the gardening committee on the condition of the green. He highlighted trees, expenditure and service charge requirements as issues for the year ahead.

6. Appointment of, and Fixing of Remuneration of, Auditors

Members agreed the appointment of Porter Garland as auditors for the 2009-10 financial year and directors were authorised to fix their remuneration for that role.

7. Election of Directors

- The following existing directors offered themselves for reappointment and were reappointed without dissent:

- Mark Helm (8)
- Khalid Khan (2)
- Biddy Macfarlane (16)
- Mac Cochrane (10)

Mark noted that Biddy had at last year's AGM reluctantly agreed to act as treasurer for a further year, despite already having performed the role for a number of years. Biddy very much wished to relinquish this role and David Howes pointed out that if no other member volunteered directors would need to appoint professional accountants at members' expense. That expense would be considerable if the accountants were required to attend directors' meetings to provide financial information, but without such information directors would not be able to prudently safeguard members' interests.

Mark and members thanked Simon Tilford and Kate Sabapathy - who had retired during the year - for their service as directors.

8. Treasurers Report and Accounts (Part 1)

Members considered the report ([Annex 1](#)) from Biddy Macfarlane. Biddy noted that Dick Hewson had been given a broad estimate from the 2007 painters - Glews - that they would do the work for the same labour cost as in 2007, but with £2000 + VAT extra for materials. This was reflected in her report. Biddy also noted that there were further commitments of £425 + VAT for a tree survey, and around £450 for the planting of nine trees, which were not reflected in her report. In view of current and anticipated commitments and the need to maintain prudent reserves Biddy's recommendation was for an increase in the monthly service charge to £110 per month.

Some members suggested deferring the painting due in 2010 if houses' condition after the winter indicated it could be left another year. Others did not wish to consider any such deferral. Members agreed to a show of hands to give a non-binding indication to directors of the balance of feeling on this matter. Five members did not wish to consider deferral, and seven members wished it to remain an option, though they were happy for directors to seek firm quotations - including from Glews - to be considered at an EGM.

Members agreed to return to the Treasurer's report and accounts item after consideration of the Works Report.

9. Works Report

Mac Cochrane presented his report ([Annex 2](#)) on works. In Mac's view the most pressing call on funds during the 2009-10 financial year was likely to be the repair of the footway on the corner behind Nos 18/19, but that there was little point in doing this until current construction work on houses was complete and lorry

traffic had diminished. At the same time a number of significant spending requirements could not be delayed much longer so it was prudent to build up reserves to handle these - including the circular path and the concreted parking areas.

10. Treasurers' Report and Accounts (Part 2)

Members agreed the accounts for 2008-09.

Members voted on Biddy Macfarlane's proposal to increase the service charge to £110 per month from 1st September 2009. There were 8 votes in favour and 3 against - Janet Parrott having had to leave the meeting before the vote was taken, but having declared herself neutral on the matter before departing. Biddy's proposal was therefore carried.

11. Gardening Committee Report

- Jill Cochrane circulated her report ([Annex 3](#)) on behalf of the Gardening Committee and Helen MacCormick advised that the tree survey from Dolwin and Gray cited in the report was due to be done next Thursday. Mark Helm noted that after several months of enquiries to South London Trees and Greenwich Council it appeared that the nominal debt of trees "owed" was twelve, but since neither the council nor the society had any documentary evidence of this it was primarily a matter for members to decide the appropriate number, location and type of new trees. This would be progressed through the tree survey, the commissioning of Derek Ellis to design a planting scheme, and the presentation of that scheme to an EGM. Members thanked the gardening committee for their efforts - including Nadine White who had retired from the committee during the year.

12. Appointment of Gardening Committee

The following members offered to serve on the gardening committee:

- Claude Perera (re-appointment) (18)
- Helen MacCormick (re-appointment) (20)
- Jill Cochrane (re-appointment) (10)
- Mark Helm (re-appointment) (8)
- Janet Parrott (appointment) (23)

The appointments being supported by all present - including the directors - the above named were appointed to the gardening committee.

13. Neighbourhood Watch Report

Mark Helm reported no break-ins but advised that a number of garages had been broken into and two bicycles stolen.

14. Other Business

- Members asked if the Information for Residents could be re-circulated to residents. A copy is attached as [Annex 4](#).