



Trustees draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Hadley Wood Association Wednesday 14 November 2018 at the HWA Centre, 1-7 Crescent East EN4 0EL

Present

Rupert Mackay (Chairman)

Liz Snape (Trustee)

Robert Wilson (Trustee)

David Harbott (Treasurer)

Gillian Henley (Secretary)

64 Members of the Hadley Wood Association signed in

Apologies

Several apologies were received

1. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

Matters arising none. Minutes of AGM 2017 were accepted.

2. Chairman's Report

The Chairman started his report by reminding everyone of the Association's Objectives (which were printed on the back of the Agenda).

He thanked fellow Trustees; Robert Wilson who it is anticipated will be taking over as chair from the next trustees meeting and Liz Snape. Thanks were extended to the Secretary and Centre Manger.

Committee

A committee has been formed comprising of the Trustees, Secretary, Treasurer (David Harbott) together with Richard Walker, Lisbeth Wirth and Dawn Wellings. There were 6 Trustee meetings and 5 committee meetings along with regular reports in the Hadley Wood News.

Membership

Progress has been made with the aid of QuickBooks. Grateful thanks were expressed to the Centre Manger who has taken on the book keeping role with Julie Nedza's help.

Current figures for membership are:

- 139 family memberships at £50
- 15 paying £30 (out of area family members)
- 25 individual members at £25
- 9 paying £20
- 32 paying £15 (out of area individual members)

This is a total of 220 memberships and £8,685

The Tennis membership (membership fees collected by the Tennis Club and transferred to the HWA) 55 memberships at a total of £1,440.

Grand total 275 memberships and £10,125 (last year £11,821). A reduction of £1,696.

It should be noted that actual members is significantly higher, assuming family memberships are at least 2 people. Total number of members will therefore exceed 450.

A membership campaign was launched through HW News with our GDPR form, there has been a successful parking initiative undertaken by Lisbeth and a new flyer and banner drawn up by Dawn outlining the aims of the HWA which was used by committee members engaging with those who attended the fireworks.

We are seeking a 'Membership Secretary' who can co-ordinate our members list, update all information and help us in a strategy of reaching out for new members.

There are plans to roll out a membership benefits card that will give discounts and offers from local retailers.

Centre and grounds

As part of our 50th anniversary year a professional health & safety check was carried out by Chris Harris. We are working our way through the recommendations with various inspections and details were given of repairs undertaken in the past year.

User groups

We have continued to provide facilities for the main user groups, tennis, pre-school, dance and bridge club. They were thanked for their support and co-operation. Hadley Wood and Wingate junior football team were with us until June 2018, when they moved to their new facilities in Barnet. It was sad to see them go. We have sought other potential users.

HWA have supported or worked in partnership with other community activities; the Rail User Group, Treegate, Neighbourhood Planning Forum, Neighbourhood Watch, Hadley Wood Security. All were thanked for their support. The fireworks team - led by Maria Evans, Guy Cecil, and Richard Walker together with their many helpers were thanked for all their hard work.

There were thanks and applause for John Leatherdale and Pat Taylor for the wonderful 50th Anniversary display they had put together for this evening.

A question was asked about – what is being done to find a replacement for the Football Club? The Trustees advised that a local school had been approached unsuccessfully but the field can be for sports and recreation not just football and other possibilities are being explored.

A suggestion was made that a new cricket club could be found? Offers from a cricket club would be welcome by the trustees.

3. Financial Report

Copies of the Annual Report and Financial Statements for Year Ended 30 September 2018 were available to members and presented by the Treasurer David Harbott.

David thanked the Centre Manger and Julie for their work and advised that he had met with the Accountant and there were no issues with the Accounts. There is a surplus of £11770. A cash balance of £70293 this includes £8500 held on behalf of the Neighbourhood Planning Forum. Debtors £13008 which is higher than last year. However, £3000 from the Football Club was paid in October. There is £7000 owed by the Tennis Club.

During the Year there was an increase of income from hall hire and the Hadley Wood News and a reduction in staff from two part time members to only one.

2018/2019 will be tougher having lost the Football Club income and windows need to be replaced and improvements made to toilet facilities.

Questions were asked about the November 2018 fireworks event and it was concluded that for next year publicity needs to start earlier and tickets need to be on sale earlier than this year.

A question was asked about membership which seems to be going down. The Trustees advised that we do have a solid base now and are working on recruiting new members.

4. Reports of Clubs and Shared Users

Copies of the Tabled Reports were available for members.

A report for the Tennis Club was given by Steve Davis (Chairman for many years till earlier this year). He reported that lots of improvements had been made to the courts, club house and furniture. Currently there are some outstanding issues with the Association including access to toilets and he encouraged dialogue. They have 3 ladies' teams, 2 men's and a floodlit team. They provide supper to visiting teams. He had met with John Leatherdale and handed over some historical records including the 1900 minutes book which demonstrated the strong ties between the Tennis Club and the Association. The Tennis Club has a strong data base set up by Simone Strauss and now with Alison Moon, so it would be easy for the Association to promote events via their list. He concluded that their membership is down possibly due to members moving away from Hadley Wood.

Rupert advised that the Trustees are looking into an idea to turn part of the men's toilets into a toilet accessible from the outside.

5. Hadley Wood Rail User Group

Francesca Caine, Chair, thanked Rupert for the invitation to brief the HWA on HWRUG's activities and all present for their forbearance during a torrid time for the rail service. She then highlighted key points from the information sheet distributed at the meeting and later published on the Rail User Group web page.

In the first quarter, activity was dominated by Network Rail's (NR's) unexpected and extreme tree felling and fencing works here. HWRUG's campaigning organisation was mobilised and the Treerate Campaign initiated, growing into a full collaboration with the HWA and resulting in successes of both local and national significance and participation in the Varley Review into NR's whole approach to vegetation management. The summer months were dominated by work with the train operator GTR to mitigate the effects of the failed introduction of their ambitious new timetable. Francesca announced that the next timetable update on 9th December will restore the improved weekday service level that Hadley Wood had been promised in May. The next challenge will be to encourage people back to the trains to use the full metro service that GTR has committed to delivering and to safeguard our station's footfall figures. Thanks to HWRUG's successful campaigns, Hadley Wood's name is now well known throughout the rail industry, and Francesca asked everyone to use the membership form on the back of the information sheet to increase our strength in numbers for whatever future campaigns we need to pursue to secure the best possible train services and station amenities for Hadley Wood.

6. Treegate, Community Planting and Station Garden

The update on Treegate was given by Robert the HWA lead for this project. This is a very important project for the Community and the HWA. The Community Planting Day on 28th November is the start of the Hadley Wood Trial. Robert referred to a handout/form that had been given out on arrival. A keen interest on the environment has come out of Treegate. The HWA has been offered the opportunity to adopt the Station and create a station garden adjacent to Platform 4 and Network Rail will clear the piece of land in preparation. Rod Armstrong will lead the Station Garden project and volunteers will be needed to help him. Robert again referred to the handout/form encouraging members to volunteer for the Community Planting Day and to set up an environment group.

7. Security and Crime Prevention

Dawn Wellings introduced this part of the Agenda saying that HWA is here to represent the members/resident's views and has set up a security sub-committee to bring the various groups/initiatives involved in security and crime prevention together.

The first presentation was given by Simone Strauss chairman of the Cockfosters CAPE (Community Action Partnerships in Enfield). She explained that Hadley Wood is part of the Cockfosters Ward, which includes Oakwood, Cockfosters and parts of Southgate, (a large area for our local police team to cover- with no car). The Cockfosters CAPE consists of the Safer Neighbourhood Team Police Officers (Carl Bliss, Richard Ellerby and Steve Douglas), the local Ward Councillors, (Alessandro Georgiou, Elaine Hayward and Edward Smith) and residents who either live or work in the Cockfosters Ward and are representative of the community with an interest in helping improve the quality of life for those living, working or visiting the Ward. They meet every 2 months to hear of any local issues and problems in the Ward and seek to address them through Policing, Council or other partnerships. These are ward specific, short-term issues needing low resources. She explained some of the recent issues and what the Police team will be focusing on in the coming weeks. Within Hadley Wood this will be using speed guns with Community Roadwatch in partnership with TFL (Transport for London) – targeting – Waggon Road, Beech Hill and Camlet Way.

The next presentation was given by Richard Walker the Co-ordinator of Kingwell Road Neighbourhood Watch. He explained that Neighbourhood Watch is a very effective tool in crime prevention. The groups use WhatsApp to share information with each other and the local police. Neighbourhood Watch is not just about crime but helps to build neighbourliness. They hope to complete the expansion of the scheme through those roads still to sign up.

The next presentation was given by Simon Lester on behalf of the Hadley Wood Security. He explained the history of the scheme. They have divided Hadley Wood into 2 zones. Zone 1 covers Beech Hill, Camlet Way and the roads off them, which is fully functioning. However, zone 2 which would cover Lancaster Avenue and roads off of it is still to be set up as there are not enough of the 400 households signed up. It is understood that Natasha is trying to get zone 2 set up. The security guards are now first responders and have a defibrillator on board.

The final presentation was given by PC Carl Bliss the local ward officer. He started by advising that for policing Hadley Wood will become part of Haringey and even less of a police priority. Looking

at the ward crime figures for August Hadley Wood has a very low incidence. Regarding the plans for a police base at the HWA he is waiting for information from higher up in the service.

There were some questions about the sharing of information between the Neighbourhood Watch Groups and the time it takes to receive information from Hadley Wood Security.

The answers clarified the following:

Information coming from neighbourhood watch comes through the co-ordinator and can be observations and/or have broader links to security. However, as Caroline Berlin explained, information from Hadley Wood Security has to be substantiated by them before it is passed on to scheme members.

8. Planning and The Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Planning Forum is striving to improve the quality of planning and preserve the environment. David advised that they are trying to develop new policies for Hadley Wood. Hadley Wood has had 200 new houses and 150 new apartments built in recent years on small sites, without any strategic review of the cumulative impact. The Hadley Wood Neighbourhood Planning Forum will be attending the Examination in Public of the consultation for the new London Plan and submitting a consultation response on the Enfield Plan. There have been a couple of drafts of the Hadley Wood Plan which he hopes to be able to share with the Community in a couple of months. Elaine advised of a couple of meetings and consultations that David was not aware of and she promised to provide details. Former Councillor Anne-Marie Pearce warned of a large new application nearby in Hertsmere as another threat to the green belt. David advised the best way to get in touch with the Neighbourhood Planning Forum is via the Association's website. The HWA are looking for a local affairs committee member and volunteers are needed. The views of residents on the use of the Association land will be fed into the Neighbourhood Plan.

9. The Hadley Wood News

Owing to a long-standing arrangement Rod was unable to attend but sent his apologies and a report which Rupert read out. The Hadley Wood News is making a small profit. He thanked Gill for her help in designing the magazine and John Letherdale for his longstanding support and superb cover photos. Along with the many regular advertisers without whom the magazine would not survive there was a special thank you to Statons for their very generous help and financial support. Rod is always open to suggestions and grateful to those who send him articles.

10. Election of officers

Rupert advised that no other nominations had been received. He was due for re-election and happy to continue. The re-appointment was unopposed. The Trustees for 2018/2019 will be Rupert Mackay, Liz Snape and Robert Wilson. He asked for a show of hands of those in favour and support for all the trustees.

11. AOB

Jamie Lesser a resident of Claremont Road is trying to get faster broadband speeds for Hadley Wood. He thinks the only option is the Openreach community partnership – which given Hadley Wood has 3 schools would mean a discount of 75% on the cost. To get an estimate of cost Jamie needs a list of interested addresses. His contact details were in the last copy of the Hadley Wood News and full details are on the HWA website.

Members were asked to support the two new residents in the local shopping parade; Londis has new owners and there is Helen Touli's new design shop. Also, there was local honey on sale at the meeting from the hives of Grant Foster. The hives are located within the HWA grounds.

12. Discussion: HWA Vision 2020

Richard introduced Vision 2020 -with this year's 50th anniversary we have been reminded of the need to look towards the future, in particular the redevelopment of the Centre to accommodate existing users and new users. This is a plan and an idea to benefit the whole community and make the HWA the hub of the Community. It will need the support of the Community volunteers are need with skills in architecture, planning, marketing and how to apply for any grants that may be available. The cost will depend on what facilities are to be included – residents are asked for suggestions.

Hand in hand with this vision is the renewal of the lease and increasing membership.

Robert expressed his delight that Richard and Dawn are taking the lead on this project, which is part of what the Trustees are trying to achieve.

The meeting closed at 9.50 with general discussions to continue in the Bar.

Note added after meeting:

The next AGM will be held on Wednesday 13th November 2019