



**Minutes of the 4th meeting of the 2024/5 Committee held in The Banks Room
Spring Grove House, West Thames College
Thursday 24 October 2024, 19:00**

Present:

Committee Members:

Cliff Assi (CA)	Chairman
Ed Locke (EL)	Membership Secretary (chaired the meeting)
Pankaj Malhi (PM)	Treasurer
Kirsty Sewell (KS)	Street Rep Coordinator
Barbara Stryjak (BS)	Campaign Coordinator (minute taker)
Leo Vermeulen (LV)	Webmaster

Guests:

Aftab Siddiqui (AS)	Ward Councillor
Loretta Hanrahan(LH)	Street Rep
Alan Willsher (AW)	Street Rep
Bittu Malhi	Member

NB. Minutes to be read in conjunction with the agenda and reports previously circulated, attached to email from EL, dated Tuesday 22 Oct 2024.

1. Introductions and Apologies for Absence

Apologies

Unsa Chaudri (UC)	Ward Councillor
Tony Louki (TL)	Ward Councillor
Colin Hume (CH)	Committee Member (Crime/ASB)
Annalice Fulgoni (AF)	Member
Jenda Martin (JM)	Street Rep
Rajvinder Jagdev (RJ)	Member

2. Minutes of the 3rd meeting of 2024/25 Committee held on 12 Sept 2024

The minutes were agreed, proposed by LV and seconded by AW.

Minute taker for the next meeting to be held on 5 Dec would be KS. EL would chair. The meeting would be held at West Thames College (CH to confirm).

Action: CH

3. Matters Arising (section A of report)

It was agreed that all actions had been done.

4. Governance (section B of report)

PM and KS have access to the OneDrive.

BS would meet with KS to show her the gmail account and info about Street Reps. **Action: BS**

Leaving gifts

It was agreed that £150 Amazon gift vouchers would be presented to the former Treasurer and Street Rep Coordinator to thank them for their service over many years. These would come from OWGRA funds. **Action: EL**

5. Treasurer (section C of report)

PM was in the process of changing signatories to the OWGRA account (PM, EL, LV, BS). CA signed at the meeting. BS would sign, also get LG signature and deliver to PM. **Action: BS**

It was agreed to switch £3K from the current account to the 95 day account. **Action: PM**

There was some discussion on how allocate membership subs received before 31 March, but it was agreed to leave as is.

PM asked whether we might apply for another Thriving Communities grant from LBH.

6. Membership Secretary (section D of report)

2024/25 membership now stands at 378, which continues to be disappointing when there are 5K households in the OWGRA area.

There was some discussion on how to recruit more members.

Does OWGRA have a mission statement? BS stated that there was one on our X page, and she would forward it to the Committee. It is: *"OWGRA is a residents' association in West London working for residents to monitor, protect and enhance Osterley and its environs."*

This is what appears at the top of our latest membership form 2024/5:

"OWGRA is the Osterley and Wyke Green residents' association. It represents residents' views, provides good quality information about the area and liaises with other organisations (e.g. Hounslow Council) on residents' behalf. Its aim is to protect the area's best qualities and to encourage improvements to features which do not enhance it. In this OWGRA is only as strong as the support it gets from residents."

We will look at updating our membership form for 2025/6 and include a QR code to make it easier to become a member.

We discussed whether to promote Syon Park's Festive Market (22/23 Nov) in our e-news and ask Syon Park to publicise OWGRA in return, but decided against it for a number of reasons. Although we publicise various events in our area, Syon Park is outside our area and it is a commercial venture, and we would not get much for OWGRA in return (our aim is to increase membership).

7. Street Rep Co-ordinator (Section E of report)

BS proposed that in 2025 Street Reps might want to knock on the doors of the households in their streets to increase membership. This used to be done by the Street Reps pre 2015, but only CH seems to do that now for his road. **Action: KS/BS**

8. Webmaster (section F of report)

LV had updated the website, and would in future see if anything in the e-news should be posted on the website. **Action: LV**

We discussed the benefits of setting up an OWGRA channel on WhatsApp, its objective and what it might include eg the previous e-news. It was decided that an item on this should appear in the December e-news and also a short survey to see how many members use WhatsApp channels. LH would look at any proposals and respond on how comprehensible and suitable they might be for OWGRA.

Action: LV/PM/BM/LH

9. Communications Officer (section G of report)

We continue to lack a Communications Officer who would be responsible for communications, co-ordinate production of the e-news and paper newsletter and handle social media.

It was suggested that we should consider taking part in the Market Place sessions prior to Area Forums to promote OWGRA and encourage membership. The Communications Officer could prepare relevant material for such a stand including an exhibition panel about OWGRA.

Following receipt of concern about lack of volunteers at Osterley Park from an OWGRA member EL had contacted Friends of Osterley Park (FOOP) and they would be asked to provide items for the OWGRA e-news currently being drafted by EL. It really should be the National Trust at Osterley Park that provides this information for the e-news on a regular basis.

Action: EL

BS would send BM a list of job descriptions for Committee Members.

Action: BS

AS has organise the wreath from OWGRA for the short memorial Service of Remembrance at the war memorial on Borough Road, Osterley on Monday 11th November 2024 at 10:45am. We will mention this in the OWGRA e-news on 2/3 Nov.

Action: BS

OWGRA Christmas Social, Wed evening 18 December, Wycombe House. We will include this in the next e-news and ask people to tell us if they are planning to attend. Someone needs to lead on this; is it CH? [BS unlikely to be able to attend.]

Action: BS/CH

Item on 72nd Annual Osterley Scouts Bazaar to be included in 2/3 Nov OWGRA e-news.

Action: BS

BS will collate the items for the OWGRA e-news by the end of Wed 30 Oct and LV will format.

Action: BS/LV

Include item on Golden Mile Centenary 2025.

10. Campaign Coordinator (section H of report)

BS will attend a meeting on Tues 19 Nov at 11 am about the Golden Mile Centenary organised by Brentford Voice. EL, TL and UC will also attend.

11. Transport and Traffic (section I of report)

PM requested to be included in future meetings with Nishkam about traffic/transport issues. BS would inform CH.

Action: BS/CH

BS was attending a meeting organised by the GLA Deputy Mayor for Transport and TfL on 25 Oct on transport issues in LBH.

OWGRA to be informed and included on meeting of local residents at Isleworth & Syon School about speeding in The Grove and Osterley Road.

Action: Ward Councillors

A speed hump had been replaced outside 185 Jersey Road following complaints from local residents but the problem caused by vehicles speeding over the speed hump has not been solved.

12. Planning (section J of report)

KS will forward comments on the Gillette planning application to BS, who has submitted some questions to the agents. BS will compile a response in support. **Action: KS/BS**

PM would look at the Homebase site planning application. PM and LV to forward comments to BS, who has also asked another OWGRA member to look at this application. **Action: BS/PM**

A proposal has been received from George Andraos to register our open spaces as village greens. We await an item for the OWGRA e-news from him to see who might be able to do this as there is no capacity in the OWGRA Committee to work on such a large and time-consuming project.

BS will be part of a panel for a Q&A session at a meeting on planning organised by The Isleworth Society on Thursday 7 Nov at 7 pm at Isleworth Public Hall.

13. Crime and ASB (section K of report)

Nothing to add, apart from more crime in the Tesco car park on Fri 18 Oct: a lady was in her car when someone knocked on her window to say that her boot was open. She got out to look and the person grabbed her handbag from the front seat. It contained a fair bit of cash plus all her cards etc. To be followed up at the next Ward Panel meeting (Wed 11 Dec), also ASB car driving in the car park.

14. AOB

BM stated that Grasshoppers are holding a Halloween party on 2 Nov and we could include ref to that in the e-news but the e-news won't be sent until 2 or 3 Nov. Grasshoppers had been removed from the extra mailing list for OWGRA e-news following negative comments from the General Manager. BM would provide alternative names of Grasshoppers officials to receive the OWGRA e-news. **Action: BM**

PM expressed concern about weeds in Jersey Road. BS updated on the problem of using only manpower for weed removal since Hounslow Highways stopped using glyphosate. The weed removal schedule is on the Hounslow Highways website as is the schedule for leaf clearance. Any problems should be reported via the FixMyStreet app.

See <https://hounslowhighways.org/street-cleansing/treatment-of-weeds/>
<https://hounslowhighways.org/street-cleansing/leaf-fall/>