



OWGRA

Osterley & Wyke Green Residents' Association

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Wednesday 23 May 2018 at Isleworth & Syon School

Present: Cliff Assi (Chairman), Gerry Stevens (Vice-Chairman), Barbara Stryjak (Secretary), Ian Speed (Treasurer), Lis Guest (Street Rep Co-ordinator), Cecilia Hodgson (Communications Officer), David Pavett (Webmaster), Ed Locke (Committee Member)

There were about 130 OWGRA members and local residents present.

1. **Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

The Chairman welcomed those attending the meeting, and handed over the meeting to the Vice-Chairman. Apologies were received from the local police (Safer Neighbourhood Team), Colin Hume, Basil Mann, Marion & Richard Jennings, Lyn & Andy Christou.

2. **Approval of Minutes of last AGM held on Tuesday 23 May 2017**

The minutes were approved.

3. **Chairman's Report**

Ten Committee meetings were held with minutes published on the OWGRA website. There were 4 Public Meetings (on Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour, Pros and Cons of Heathrow Airport Expansion, Waste Management/Recycling/Littering/Fly-Tipping, and Local Health Issues) attended by between 50-70 people. Four newsletters were delivered to the 5,000 homes in the OWGRA area and 24 e-newsletters sent to the OWGRA e-mail list. The OWGRA website is continually updated and we are active on Twitter and our tweets feed into our Facebook page. There are 60 Street Reps covering the 90 streets in our area. There were 434 OWGRA members in 2017/18 (with a membership fee of £5 per person pa). We get about 100 e-mails into the OWGRA e-mail in-box every week and endeavour to reply within 24 hours. We attended Council planning committee meetings, Isleworth & Brentford Area Forums, Residents' Association Forums, Ward Panel meetings, Hounslow Highways meetings. We also held meetings with Tesco, SKY, West Thames College, the National Trust at Osterley Park, and the heads of Nishkam and Bolder, and had regular contact with BAM and Dawnus (the construction companies for Nishkam and Grasshoppers). We have been instrumental in increasing the numbers of streets in the OWGRA area with Neighbourhood Watches, and are working very closely with the local police to prevent crime. We tried to set up the Friends of Osterley Library to ensure we don't lose the library, but there were too few volunteers. We prepared detailed responses to numerous planning applications eg Bolder School, Adini, Shisha Lounge at the Osterley Park Hotel, and got involved in various planning issues on behalf of residents, and dealt with other issues such as fly-tipping, school-run parking, CPZs, potholes and so on. The Vice-Chairman thanked our Ward Councillors for their invaluable help and advice, and welcomed the newly elected Councillors, Tony Louki, Unsa Chaudri and Richard Eason. He also thanked all the Committee members for their dedication and hard work.

The Chairman's report was approved.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

OWGRA is in good financial shape. Over the past year there was a surplus of £644.01 on membership and other income over expenditure, partly by proactive membership recruitment and partly by stripping out non-essential costs such as paying for leaflet delivery and usage of a paid postbox. Room hire costs & refreshment costs have increased as a result of having a greater number of public meetings. There is over £3,000 in the everyday Co-op account, of which £1,000 belongs to the Friends of Jersey Gardens, and still £11,500 in the Manchester Building Society. It is important to continue in this prudent manner in case we feel we need to put money into assisting a planning campaign such as the Champion Concerns or Keep Osterley Green one.

The membership fee remains at £5 per person per annum.

The accounts were approved.

5. **Election of OWGRA Committee 2018/19**

The following new Committee was nominated and elected unopposed.

Chairman: Cliff Assi; Vice-Chairman: Laurence Hawcroft; Secretary: Barbara Stryjak; Membership Secretary: Ed Locke; Planning Officer: Sheila O'Reilly; Communications Officer: Cecilia Hodgson; Webmaster: David Pavett; Street Rep Co-ordinator: Lis Guest. The position of Treasurer remains vacant.

6. **AOB**

There was no AOB.

7. **OWGRA Public Meeting: School Travel Plans for Nishkam and Bolder and Traffic Management Plans**

After a break for refreshments, the new OWGRA Vice-Chairman then chaired a public meeting on the School Travel Plans for the new schools due to open in Sept 2018 (Nishkam and Bolder) and Traffic Management Plans. These were presented by Tom Cragg (Principal, Nishkam School), Heidi Swidenbank (Head, Bolder Academy) and Mark Frost (Head of Traffic and Transport, London Borough of Hounslow). There followed by a lively Q&A session. There was insufficient time to answer all the questions that residents wanted to raise on these issues so it was agreed that a follow up meeting would be organised, which eventually took place on 17 July.

The Chairman closed the meeting and thanked the speakers and everyone for attending.

Prepared by: Barbara Stryjak/13.9.2018