



# OWGRA

Osterley & Wyke Green Residents' Association

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Tuesday 23 May 2017, St Francis Church Hall

Present: Gerry Stevens (Vice-Chairman), Barbara Stryjak (Secretary), Ian Speed (Treasurer),  
Cecilia Hodgson (Communications Officer), David Pavett (Webmaster),  
Guests: Sheila O'Reilly, Tony Louki (Ward Councillors)

There were about 70 local residents present.

### 1. **Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

The Vice-Chairman welcomed those attending the meeting, and asked for a minute's silence for the victims of the terrorist attack at the Manchester Arena bombing the previous evening. Apologies were received from Brij Rathor (Chairman).

### 2. **Approval of Minutes of last AGM held on Tuesday 24 May 2016**

The minutes were approved.

### 3. **Chairman's Report**

The Committee held monthly meetings with minutes published on the OWGRA website. Four newsletters and a questionnaire were issued and delivered to the 5,000 homes in the OWGRA area. Two public meetings held with guest speakers from the Council and Hounslow Highways and attended by over 100 residents each time (6 Dec 2016 on Planning and Development and 28 Feb 2017 on Transport/Traffic/Parking/Roads & Pavements). Website and Twitter account set up. 49 Street Reps recruited to cover the 90 streets in the OWGRA area. Built a membership base of around 250 residents. Set up a Gmail account for OWGRA emails (50-100 emails received each week with the objective of answering them within 24 hours). Built an email list of around 350 local residents and sent about a dozen e-newsletters with local news (sent every 2-3 weeks). Attended meetings of other local Residents Associations, LBH planning meetings, Isleworth & Brentford Area Forum, Residents' Association' Forum with LBH, Ward Panel, Hounslow Highways, etc. Held meetings with Cllr. Steve Curran, Leader of the Council and Council Officers to discuss several planning and transport issues. Rewrote the OWGRA Constitution for approval at the May 2017 AGM. Issued a Code of Conduct for Committee Members. Developed a new OWGRA logo and new image. Monitored the construction of the Nishkam School and works on Syon Lane and Wood Lane and established regular contact with BAM, the construction company. Attended exhibitions for the Bolder Academy and the Gillette South site. Persuaded the Bolder Academy people to hold a Public Meeting. Supported Councillor Louki in holding a Public Meeting on the Gillette South development. Helped the police and residents to set up or re-establish Neighbourhood Watches. Intervened in various planning issues on behalf of residents such as mobile phone masts, Osterley Park Cycle Ride, Nishkam School, Bolder Academy, Grasshoppers RFC, Gillette South, Dudley House, Jersey Gardens, Osterley Library, Bowls Club. The Vice-Chairman thanked our Ward Councillors, who have been prepared to help 24/7, and we couldn't have achieved all of this without their invaluable advice. The Chairman's report was approved.

#### 4. **New OWGRA Constitution**

The new OWGRA Constitution was approved.

#### 5. **Treasurer's Report**

OWGRA had reintroduced membership fees for 2017/18 (£5 per person pa) to fund its activities, and had begun a robust membership drive.

Income for 2016/17 was £1,223.23 (membership fees and donations).

Expenditure was £3,059.93, much of which was for printing of 4 newsletters and room hire and refreshments for 2 public meetings. Newsletters are published using our own software at no cost, printed at low cost and distributed at no cost by the Street Reps.

Balance sheet: The group's net deficit in 2016-17 was £1,836.70, owing mainly to printing costs and the costs of holding public meetings and the gradual start in building up the membership. The group's assets consist of £11,517.91 in the Manchester Building Society and £2,793.62 in the Co-operative Bank account, of which £1,053.73 belongs to the Friends of Jersey Gardens.

Budget Expectations 2017-18: To maintain the level of funding four public meetings pa and printing 5,000 quarterly newsletters at c £400-500 per quarter, meaning that the coming year's costs should be manageable within the level of about £2.5k per year, up to £2k of which would be printing and hall hire/refreshments, and the other part would be the website, group subscriptions and other ad hoc expenses depending on events. This would require us to increase the membership up to 500 (at £5 each) to break even.

The accounts were approved.

#### 6. **Election of OWGRA Committee 2017/18**

The following new Committee was nominated and elected unopposed.

Chairman: Cliff Assi; Vice-Chairman: Gerry Stevens; Secretary: Barbara Stryjak; Treasurer: Ian Speed; Webmaster: David Pavett; Communications Officer: Cecilia Hodgson; Planning Officer: Hamid Khan; Street Rep Co-ordinator: Lis Guest.

The outgoing Chairman (Brij Rathor) was thanked for his contribution.

#### 7. **AOB**

Cliff Assi thanked the Committee for doing an excellent job. David Pavett stated that it was an extremely efficient and well-organised Committee. Sheila O'Reilly stated that it was a pleasure to work with OWGRA and that when something needed to be done, 'people in Osterley rose to the challenge'. Tony Louki stated that the transition of OWGRA over the last year had been 'amazing', and was particularly impressed with the number of Street Reps. Barbara Stryjak thanked the Street Reps for their help and co-operation.

#### 8. **Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

There followed a session on Crime and ASB led by PCSO Robert Miller and Ward Panel Chairman Colin Hume. The OWGRA area is not high on the 'hit list' for crime. Police priorities for the Osterley & Spring Grove ward are: burglaries, theft from vehicles, and ASB.

The following areas were discussed: Braybourne Drive, Jersey Gardens, Isleworth station, Osterley Court, Tesco & Homebase car parks, use of CCTV, drinking, drug dealing, travellers, brothels, Neighbourhood Watch, enforcement.

Advice was given on how to keep safe and prevent burglaries and to report crime on 999 (emergencies) and 101 (non-emergency number).