

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY RESIDENTS' FEDERATION

Minutes of a
FEDERATION COUNCIL MEETING
held on Thursday, 21st November 2019
@ 7.45pm, Epworth Room
Methodist Church, North Street, Bromley

The Chairman opened the meeting and pointed out the fire exits. There were no new delegates present.

PRESENT and APOLOGIES (overleaf)

3266 **Minutes of the Council Meeting** held on Thursday, 19th September 2019 were signed off as a reasonable record.

Matters arising – None

3267 **Issues from Residents' Associations**

(a) *(Sundridge RA)* Proposed Boundary Changes:

The proposed boundaries seem to be completely arbitrary, cutting across roads and interrupting the community. The RA has written to the Council objecting to the proposal. Question to the Federation – can they remain affiliated. Reply was affirmative, it is entirely up to the RA whether to continue despite changed boundaries.

i) In answer to the question whether other RAs were similarly adversely affected:

- Petts Wood and their close neighbour The Knoll will be differently allocated, they have objected
- Pratts Bottom – used to be with Darwin Ward, at the last reorganisation moved to Chelsfield/ Green St Green but is now back with Darwin. No complaints.

(b) *(Downe RA)* Road disruptions due to repairs – by Thames Water/ SGN and UKPN. Downe's roads do not lend themselves easily to diversions. It seems that once the holes have been dug and concrete poured, there is a lull in operations – the concrete needs time to cure, diversions stay in force much longer than probably strictly necessary. The Council is not helpful as not their 'fault' but at least better communications could be had.

(c) *(Downe RA)* Waste Collections – the new system has been a bit of a disaster, the Council admitted this at their RA meeting and will look into adjustments.

- Andrea Stevens (Petts Wood) has monitored the new collection system from 16 September, many critical comments were made, particularly with refuse vehicles seemingly going up and down the road all day long. However now the pattern has settled down, very few complaints are noted.

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY RESIDENTS' FEDERATION

Council Meeting: 19th September 2019

Federation Chairman	Robert Hadley	Tel: 01689 851208	email: robert.hadley@btinternet.com
Vice-chairman	Andrea Stevens	Tel: 07894 450959	email: andrea.stevens@gmail.com
Treasurer	Don Benjamin		email: donaldbenjamin@hotmail.com
Secretary	Katrina Iddon	Tel: 020 8776 1252	email: katrina_iddon@hotmail.com

	PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Alexandra RA		
The Beckenham Society	David Wood	
Beechwood RA		
Biggin Hill RA	Geoff Gosst	
Broadoaks Estate Association		
Bromley Civic Society		
Chelsfield Park RA	Paul Norman	
Chelsfield Village Society		Pam Ames
Chislehurst Society		
Coney Hall Village RA	Mike Lever	
Copers Cope Area RA		
Crofton Place & Sparrows Drive RA		
Crofton RA	Bob Hadley	
Cudham RA		Terry Morris
Downe RA	Dave Evans	
Farnborough Village Society		
Green St Green Association		
Hayes (Kent) Village Association	Diana Taylor	
Keston Mark & BCMV RA		Rev Roger Bristow
Keston Village RA		
Knoll RA		
Leaves Green & Keston Vale RA	Peter Osborne	
Links Estate RA		
Mottingham RA	Sally Babi	
Oregon Park RA		
Park Avenue RA, Orpington		Peter Daintree
Park Langley RA		Alistair Milliken
Petts Wood & District RA	Andrea Stevens	
Pratts Bottom RA	Liz Turnbull	
Quinton Close		
Ravensbourne Valley Residents	Judy Adcock	
Shortlands RA		
Sundridge RA	David Hanrahan/ Jan Frankham	Ron March
West Beckenham RA		
West Wickham RA	Katrina Iddon	
Wickham Common RA		
Treasurer	Don Benjamin	
Observer		Bernard Waine
Members of Parliament		
Assembly Member		
Councillors		

New member

** New delegate

Prospective new member

3268 Chairman's Report

Note: The Secretary attended meeting on 25 November, similar topics have been combined.

- (a) Round Table and Budget Discussions, Monday 18th November, Civic Centre (Bob Hadley)
12 Residents' Associations attended. Council is looking for more income. Points raised by RAs and comments by Councillors (in no particular order):
- Money received from Government is down by 75%, possibly necessitating increase in rates/ rents ?
 - Council to dispose of non-working assets, ie.
Beckenham Library – move closer into Beckenham centre (Public Hall), providing a five storey block of flats on the site.
Against this proposal –
 - i) 50% of books borrowed by children, present location, close to pool, advantageous
 - ii) Detrimental effect on the resurgence of Clock House ward
 - iii) Public Hall loses valuable meeting space. Book shelves on castors so movable.

Hayes and West Wickham libraries – no change planned. West Wickham will eventually move into new Leisure Centre.

- Housing targets – Units per year – where? Green Belt? Currently 641 per annum,
 - i) London targets say 1424, inspector is recommending 770.

LBB said they do not want to raise money from council tax by encouraging high rise flats (*Croydonisation*).

- ii) Site G – submission of planning application imminent.
 - iii) Another possible solution – take a road with semi-detached houses near a transport hub, and replace with small blocks of flats (viz Beckenham)
 - iv) More houses do not equal more Council tax as reset every 3 years.
- Are youth activities still a priority? Yes, and are constantly being reviewed. But apart from citing a number of cadet services, not other programme was mentioned.
 - Refurbishment/ development of Norman Park considered an asset. Track relayed by Council.
 - Freedom passes – no change, will continue.

[post-meeting note: Same meeting – 25 November – attended by Secretary, Present the other side of the Borough)

- Climate change emergency – is LBB as landlord ensuring Biggin Hill Airport's compliance?
- Financial return – is LBB as landlord getting a fair return on its contract with the airport which is a massive growth area? Council admitted contract was flawed. Meetings occur frequently with BHAL CEO.
- Bakerloo Line Extension – LBB attitude explained. For the future prosperity of Bromley it is essential that Bromley North is included in any transport plans. TfL said no to extend DLR as too expensive. A transport hub at Bromley South would also be welcome or if tube extended to Beckenham Junction with connections to Bromley South. An extension to Hayes would have little benefit for Bromley town centre prosperity.

3268 Round Table and Budget Discussions (cont'd)

- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - a charge that local authorities can set on new developments in order to raise funds to help infrastructure, facilities and services - such as schools or transport improvements - which are needed to support new homes and businesses in the areas. LBB will start to impose CIL next year at £100 sq.m.
- Fly-tipping – The relevant Council group meets weekly to identify current 'hotspots'. To help catch offenders mobile cameras are employed. Progress is slow, the papers are full of incidents, fly tippers do not usually leave a visiting card. However we are successful in many instances and the cameras will be a big help.
- Anti-idling powers – LBB wants to introduce those, initially round schools but suggestions where else to target would be helpful.
- Reduce Retail Space in town centres because of on-line shopping? LBB is confident that there will not be a large reduction.
- Electric Cars – Council charging points – too expensive. LBB is aware of the three main types of EV – rapid, fast, and slow but the main traffic in Bromley overall is local and therefore assume that cars are fully charged. The EVs are there for the odd occasion and not expected to result in a full charge.
- Play Street Schemes (Liverpool neighbourhood scheme) – LBB has not ruled out the schemes but with road closures involved it needs more detailed investigation.
- Safeguarding vulnerable adults and children – the OFSTED report was very critical but an amazing turnaround has been achieved since then. How can the story about a child being taken into care and located in Kent be true? LBB answered that that was a special case – both parents (separated but living on the same estate) had applied for custody and it was impossible for the child to remain on estate whilst the case was being heard.

The programme of supervising 16-18 year olds in care and evaluate their ability to support themselves has also been commended.

Closing the meeting, Cllr Colin Smith thanked everyone for their contribution and added that parliament had been concentrating on Brexit, this had very much clouded any budget discussions.

He proposed that 2% be added to the 2020/ 21 Rates for adult social services (as last year) – ringfenced. Those present agreed.

3269 **Secretary's Report** (Katrina Iddon)

- (a) Your newsletters: Thank you for including me in your distribution list. Interesting reading – liked the **Adopt a tree pit** scheme initiated by Ravensbourne Valley RA whereby residents keep tree pits free of weeds and plant up – obviously nothing too big. LBB has no objection.

3270 **Treasurer's Report** (Don Benjamin)

- (a) Current account: Still in the black (£4.50 interest added) but will transfer £500 from deposit account as rent for church hall and insurance due soon. Agreed.
- (b) Unpaid Subscriptions 2019: Reminders have had no effect, we will invoice next year for two years (ie. £20). It seems odd that those wanting to leave don't send an email.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

3271 Airport (Peter Osborne)

(a) Consultative Committee Meeting – 17 October:

- i) *Hangar* - The subject of the proposed hangar was raised again with the CEO who commented that I was right to raise the issue at the last meeting and that in future he would ensure greater transparency in these matters, although he denied any deliberate subterfuge. He also said that in consultation with the likely occupiers (almost certainly Bombardier) they have reduced the footprint by 30%. I asked if this is yet available for inspection on the planning site but he said he thought that some fine detail was being worked upon but that it should appear soon. He also said that he has or will soon be offering to meet with representatives of Flightpath Watch but I don't know if he has yet been in touch.
 - ii) *Jet movements* - He also reported that there were 80,000 business jet movements in Europe which showed a slight decline but that Biggin Hill traffic is remaining fairly consistent. He also added that 65% of their business was now with business charter and that private biz-jets only occupy a small area of the market.
 - iii) *Air Quality Study* - Following a meeting with Biggin Hill RA he has undertaken to begin a study at LBH.
 - iv) *Complaints* - it was stated that in the last quarter some 18 pilots have been given various degrees of warning of infringement of the NMTC (Noise Monitoring and Track Keeping) equipment. This was not the result of complaints, but were automatically generated by the equipment. Several complaints have been made about the numerous Spitfire flights from Biggin Hill (sometimes as many as 14 flights a day) and the operators have been asked to vary their track so as not to fly over the same area repeatedly.
 - v) *West Camp* (owned by Pentbridge Properties) is seeing some tidying up. The old Officer Aircrew Selection Centre (OASC) has apparently been gutted and turned into a storage facility for Bernie Ecclestone's racing car collection. The whole building has had a facelift and looks quite smart again. The old Station HQ building is likewise being refurbished and it seems likely that and an area containing the two hangars, OASC and the Station HQ will remain in Bernie's hands as and when the rest of the site is sold off or purchased by LBB.
- b) Hotel and College – In reply to a question - Construction expected to start in May.

3272 Biggin Hill Museum and Chapel (Peter Osborne)

- (a) Biggin Hill Memorial Museum is still attracting visitors although it is doubtful it will continue to do so as there is no facility to have changing displays. It is also becoming apparent that the warnings concerning what seemed to be porous bricks and poor roof drainage are coming home to roost. Only part way into winter and already green algae is seen to be forming on areas of the walls.
- (b) The new Museum's Director is Katie Edwards.
- (c) Lectures – Monthly adult lectures are programmed as well as other activities.

3273 **Planning** (Andrea Stevens)

- (a) The attached was discussed – Mixed use developments continue to appear. Safeguarding the Green Belt continues to be a concern.

3274 **APCA** (David Wood)

- (a) Conservation officer: No successor to Robert Buckley has been appointed yet. Will one ever be appointed?
- (b) Meetings: Full quota of meetings has been held this year. It is surprising, and worrying, the amount of new housing proposed in conservation areas.

Transport – No report

- (a) Bakerloo Line Consultation dates (emailed after the meeting to delegates):

Sunday 24 November at Catford Cornucopia (near Catford Food Market) 10:00 – 16:00

Unit 23-24, Catford Shopping Centre, London, SE6 4JU

Wednesday 27 November at Beckenham Library 14:00 – 20:00

Beckenham Road, Beckenham, London, BR3 4PE

Thursday 5 December at Catford Cornucopia 12:00 – 18:00

Unit 23-24, Catford Shopping Centre, London, SE6 4JU

Wednesday 18 December at Hayes Village Hall 14:30 - 19:30

Hayes Street, Hayes

Information – No report

3275 **Road Safety** (Peter Daintree by email)

- (a) Accidents
 - junction of Sevenoaks Rd/ Park Avenue – driver error, no adverse conditions
 - Crofton Rd (near church) involving car and bus. Person waiting in road awaiting emergency services to blame.
- (b) Vision Zero: TfL has renewed its offensive with the Mayors Vision Zero from the living streets. Presentation was politically orientated as TfL was using the opportunity to increase revenues. Vision Zero = roads at 20mph (not generally implemented by LBB only in specific areas), zero emissions and zero people killed/ seriously injured.
- (c) Road Pollution Maps: As Bromley has few 20mph streets there is less pollution compared to boroughs with speed limit.
- (d) Electric cars: supposedly have a 300 mile range, but only do 150/ 200 miles under real conditions. With different companies installing charging points could afford free parking for some.

3276 **Health** (Bob Hadley)

- (a) Welman Clinic has opened in Orpington High Street.
- (b) Second Deck for Car Park: Funding has been procured for this at the PRUH; decision not yet made which deck will be for staff.

3277 **AoB**

- (a) (David Wood, Beckenham) Move of Beckenham Library: The Council is planning a feasibility study into pros/ cons of moving the library away from its current location near the pool to the Public Hall more in the centre of Beckenham. The vacant site could then be used for housing.

3277 AoB (cont'd)

- (b) (Sally Babi, Mottingham) Lidl Planning Application: Lidl has again submitted plans for demolishing the Porcupine pub and building a supermarket. Previously been turned down on account of insufficient parking. Katrina Iddon (WW) added that the way Lidl car park is constructed, only really accessible for minis not for SUVs – hence a lot of ‘illegal’ on street parking.
- (c) (Judy Adcock, Ravensbourne Valley) Royal Bell: No progress to note. David Wood replied that it will happen in time.
- (d) (Dave Evans, Downe) Sevenoaks District Plan Planning applications at Fort Halstead, Broke Hill, adjacent to border with Bromley, have so far been rejected but eventually might get through – with all infrastructure – hospitals, schools, medical services – provided by Bromley.

Close The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.34pm

Next Meeting **Thursday** 16th January 2020
Start: 7.30pm @ Methodist Church, North Street, Bromley – Epworth Room

2020
Meeting Dates **Thursday** 19th March (+ AGM), 21st May, 16th July, 17th September and
19th November

Signed.....
16th January 2020