

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ICKENHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, SWAKELEYS ROAD, ICKENHAM, ON FRIDAY 11th April 2014 - NOT APPROVED AS YET (Not until AGM 2015)

PRESENT: H Tizard (Chairman), J Reyner (General Secretary), J Squiers (Membership Secretary), Jill Dalton (Treasurer), P Daymond (President), Committee Members V Silk B Buckle D John B Adams D Millen N Hurd M.P. GLA Member Onkar Sahota Ickenham Cllrs. J Hensley, D Simmonds and R Puddifoot, P Corthorne and 140+ members of the Association.

Apologies for absence: Patron Malcolm Beaumont and David Fenton, Dave Grimshaw, Hanne & Hans Raeder, Harmeet Minhas, Andrew and Diana May, Mr & Mrs Orr, Dimitrios Giannopoulos and Si Taylor

The Chairman introduced the Committee members on the stage and welcomed our M.P. N Hurd and Councillors: J Hensley, D Simmonds P Corthorne and R Puddifoot.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: The Minutes of the last AGM held on 19 April 2013 had been distributed with the last newsletter. Correction to previous minutes AOB item 7 should read Mrs Waters not Walters. Minutes were approved.

Proposed: E Leggett. Seconded; A Node. On a show of hands, there were no dissenters.

MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising from the minutes.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Membership: John Squiers, our Membership Secretary, runs a well-oiled organisation of Area and Road Stewards who collect subscriptions and deliver the newsletters. They do an excellent job and we thank them heartily for their efforts. Our current membership stands at 3235 a marginal increase on last year which is about 65% of the village. We have gained 20 members in Ickenham Park thanks to the sterling efforts of one of the Brackenbury road stewards, with our new link with the associations in The Drive we have recruited more members there. Mr Tizard stated we always seek new area and road stewards particularly for Ickenham Park, so if anyone is interested please see either our Membership Secretary John Squiers or our General Secretary June Reyner after the formal meeting.

Communications: We continue to publish our printed newsletter on a quarterly basis. Hanne Rader (Editor) is responsible for its production, Brian Adams publicity office keeps us in the public eye through the local press and is also our webmaster. Our co-opted member Dimitrios Giannopoulos has opened a Twitter account which has been used extensively in our HS2 campaign. On digital communication General Secretary June Reyner manages our email account which has become the main means of contacting the association. We use it to disseminate time critical information such as crime reports and planned travel disruption. Also for the benefit of the wider community, for example the request for careers speakers at Vyners School. If anyone is interested in being added to this email communication list please add your email address to the list available at the rear of the Hall.

Planning: As always Planning has been a major activity for the committee in order to help preserve and enhance our local environment and amenity. To this end we scrutinise every planning application relating to the Ickenham area. The planning subcommittee is led by Hanne Rader with other members Pete Daymond, David Millen and our new recruit Harmeet Minhas. Harmeet is a prize catch for the committee as he comes ready equipped with in depth planning expertise. In 2013 we looked at a total of 236 applications for Ickenham and sent a total of 95 planning letters of objection or observation to the LPA. This is in addition to our voluminous general correspondence with the council on planning issues.

There were 12 North Planning Committee Meetings scheduled in 2013 with Ickenham and West Ruislip Wards applications on the agenda, and we were represented by committee members at most of them and petitioned to speak at 2 of them.

There were four major planning issues which we have been working on.

TESCO and Morrisons: We objected to the TESCO and the Bride Hall/Morrisons proposals to build at Hillingdon Circus and spoke at the committee meeting which determined them. Both applications were refused. Since then Tesco have submitted a new application which we have yet to analyse, but we did meet with their representatives who explained that the principal change was to reduce the height of the hotel by 1 storey. As we all know the local road network is saturated at peak hours, and therefore it is our position that any development at Hillingdon Circus which attracts significant traffic from outside the local area is unsustainable and would be contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework. We therefore suggested to Tesco that they reduce the size of the store so as to attract shoppers only from the local area. We also made other suggestions regarding pedestrian safety and integration with the local centre, we are awaiting their response. We also offered to meet with Bride Hall/Morrisons, but haven't heard back from them yet.

On the Tesco/Morrison team are Hanne Rader co-ordinating, Pete Daymond and David Millen on visual impact and other matters, Richard Piper on Retail Impact and on traffic matters Simon Taylor and Dave Grimshaw.

SWAKELEYS HOUSE: We objected to the proposals to build a complex of residential buildings on the 1/2 acre of previously undeveloped Green Belt land in the grounds of Swakeleys House and spoke at the committee meeting but the application was approved.

GLEBE SCHOOL: We continue to work on the approved scheme to expand Glebe School by working with the school regarding planning conditions relating to traffic.

Special Projects

HS2: The HS2 subcommittee has been again led by Brian Adams. He, John Donavan and Beryl Upton have been active in local campaigns working closely with the umbrella group Hillingdon Against HS2 run superbly by Keri Brannan, Lottie Jones and Christine Leonard. Lottie Jones and I were lucky enough to get invited onto the Question Time audience in Uxbridge in September last year and Lottie's question about scrapping HS2 was selected. She got an enormous round of applause. We also supported the national campaign groups; Stop HS2 and HS2 Action Alliance, mainly with financial contributions which have somewhat diminished our war chest. We have also been active in seeking mitigation particularly in the form of an extension to the tunnel. Brian Adams prepared comprehensive responses to the draft and final HS2 environmental statements. We gave evidence to the GLA environment committee in June and we have twice met with TfL. The GLA have now publically supported the tunnel extension proposal. We are also preparing to petition parliament for mitigation and a motion to approve this will be put to you before the end of this meeting.

We are also helping individual residents and groups of residents prepare their petitions. Our plan is to have a champion in each major street affected and they will collect signatures from other people in the street to support the petition. Unfortunately it is not a straightforward process but if you want to submit a petition or to help your street champion please speak to Brian Adams or send email to the main association address. Brian will be providing more details about petitioning on our website. Be warned that petitions have to be delivered by hand to Parliament by 23rd May. Our MP Nick Hurd has kindly offered to take the petitions in for

us, but he has understandably asked to receive them a week earlier by 16th May. In this we have had excellent support from our council and their efforts to secure mitigation are nothing short of exemplary. Our heartfelt thanks to the Council's leaders and to name but a few of the officers involved, Ian Thynne, Val Beale, Jales Tippell and Raj Alagh. Compensation proposals announced this week reclassify Ickenham as 'rural' and provide for the first time compensation for some residents located close to the line. According to HS2 Ltd some houses within 120m of the line (with owner occupiers) in The Greenway and Hoylake Crescent will be able later this year to sell their houses to HS2 at market price or receive a onetime payment of 10% of the value of the house. This scheme will remain open until 1 year after HS2 is operational. Others within 300m of the line may receive one time payments of between £7,500 and £22,500 depending upon their distance from the line. These proposals are to be welcomed but the scheme falls far short of what is required to compensate for the blight that will be suffered by many Ickenham residents. The scheme makes no recognition of construction blight. Ickenham with 3 major construction sites will be blighted for 10 + years. If the Heathrow spurs go ahead construction could last another 5-7 years. The compensation scheme is not fair. It was universally agreed that the Property Bond - offered in other major infrastructure projects – would be the fairest scheme. If as the government claimed there was little impact from HS2 there was no risk to the government – however this was far from the truth. If, as alleged, the Minister of Transport this week said they would not offer the Property Bond because it would cost between £1 -2 billion it means we as victims are subsidising this project. This is unjust. The one time payments are also derisory in comparison with previous schemes. When the A40 was realigned Ickenham residents as far as 400 m from the road were offered 7% of their property values, over £40,000 for a £600,000 house, as compensation for the blight from the noise. That noise is far less intrusive than HS2 train noise will be. The scheme proclaims there will be an independent assessor - but it will report to David Higgins chairman of HS2 so this does not fill us with confidence that they will be impartial. Finally the government plans to have yet another consultation on these latest proposals – this means that they will not be part of the Hybrid Bill and therefore remain discretionary.

Schools and Green Spaces: Neena Bedi has been active on Green Spaces and Conservation Matters as well as acting as our liaison with Ickenham schools. She continues to be the driving force behind the Friends of Swakeleys Park. Chris Mountain continues his excellent management of the Marshes partnership, which brings together land owners, managers and local groups to agree ways to improve the marshes. Last year saw:

- Several new paths laid
- New barriers to stop motorbikes
- Himalayan Balsam-Bashing on the Yeading Brook
- Two Path-clearing working parties
AND
- funding has been secured to re-introduce cattle grazing to a small section of grassland.

Schools on both sides of the Marshes have been keen to get involved in projects and will hopefully be taking part in some wildlife surveys this summer.

Several working parties have been arranged for this summer to revive ponds, maintain paths and carry out a baseline wildlife survey so we can measure trends over time.

A Marshes website has been set up, which has full details of the seven events and working parties planned for this summer. You can access the website easily via the main association website.

Our thanks for the enthusiastic support that local people and organisations have given, both last year, and more recently in arranging this Summer's events.

Police: On police matters Vic Silk continued his good work representing the Association on the Hillingdon Community and Police Consultative Group although that has now been closed. He also attended the quarterly Ward planning meeting and the neighbourhood watch meetings. His quarterly report in Ickenham Calling keeps us up to date with crime and crime prevention in the village.

Health: David John monitors Health, a particularly important role with the recent implementation of management changes to the NHS locally. We are members of "The Hillingdon Community Voice" which is essential in keeping up to date with local news and challenges in the Health Service.

Other activities:

Richard Piper has been supporting local sports clubs, in particular Ickenham Youth Football in their efforts to find facilities for their growing membership.

We are also represented on HARA and the London Green Belt Council by Pete Daymond who also with June Reyner attends the RAF Northolt Community Liaison meetings.

We have held three events this past year admirably organised by Barbara Buckle, and she is also preparing for our 90th anniversary celebrations in September this year.

The only other member of the committee not already mentioned in dispatches is Sian Vanderplank our minutes secretary who keeps us to our tasks by accurately recording what we rashly agree to do in the heat of our monthly meetings.

One member of the committee is leaving us this year, David Millen. He has been a vital part of the planning committee, reviewing all the ward planning applications as well as helping on the major applications projects. As you all know David does an enormous amount of other work in the village particularly for St Giles and so we quite understand his reasons for leaving. It is typical of David that he should not go until he saw a successor in place, Harmeet Minhas, and he assures me he will continue to help out on an ad hoc basis. We thank him heartily for his involvement in the Association.

As you can see your committee has been as always very active this year. Each member has his or her responsibilities delegated by the committee and has fulfilled those responsibilities with aplomb.

They have made my job as a Chairman easy and most enjoyable. As you know I am stepping down at this meeting, you can have too much of a good thing, and it's time for me to pass on the baton. It has been a tremendous honour to have served as Chairman and I do hope you will vote for me to stay on as a committee member at the election.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ms J Dalton reported that financially we have had a satisfactory year, but additional expenditure relating to HS2 has resulted in a net deficit for the year of £2257.00. Our income from subscriptions, which is our main source of funds, has increased due to new members. Our bank interest received remained low due to lower interest rates. Overall total income for

the year increased from £6,454 last year to £6532.00 this year. The committee remains diligent in keeping administrative costs down wherever possible. Although overall, expenses increased from £6523 last year to £8789 this year, including £2885 re HS2 donations, and costs of running the Ickenham Forum and Road Stewards' meetings. We continue to hold a reserve of funds which is essentially there to give the Association and therefore the village, a fighting fund for example in case of a need to challenge a major planning application that would otherwise have a detrimental effect on the village. Miss Dalton thanked our independent examiner, David Thorpe for diligently checking the books this year and has agreed to be independent examiner for next year.

Proposed: Mr B Cable. Seconded: Mr A Edwards. On a show of hands, the accounts were adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Changes to the constitution have been put forward, for more people to be elected to the committee. Part 8 from 9- 12 in particular, 9D- to add 4 additional committee members. Proposed: **Lesley F**, Seconded: Brian Cable Humphrey Tizard has decided to step down as chairman- presentation to him took place.

David Millen has also decided to stand down as a committee member.

As required by the constitution, all the current members of the committee must stand down, they have all agreed to put their names forward for re-election. We thank them all, as well as our very hard-working President Pete Daymond who does not need to be re-elected, for committing their support again this year.

So the full committee seeking election are as follows:

CHAIRMAN:

Miss Jill Dalton

) Nominated by Mr P Daymond
Carried unanimously

The election was confirmed by a show of hands.

PLANNING OFFICER

Mrs. H Raeder

GENERAL SECRETARY

Mrs. J Reyner

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Mr J Squiers

TREASURER

Ms J Dalton

PUBLICITY OFFICER

Mr B Adams

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Neena Bedi

Barbara Buckle

Dave Grimshaw

David John

Chris Mountain

Richard Piper

Vic Silk

Sian Vanderplank

2 Co- opted members

Simon Taylor and Dimitrios Giannopoulos

On a show of hands, all were elected

Election of Honorary Independent Examiner to serve for one year: Independent examiner: Mr D Thorpe.

Proposed by Mary Adams seconded by Eric Leggett. On a show of hands elected.

The Chairman thanked the Examiner for standing and for his important services.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

1. **Authority to petition in parliament to oppose HS2.** This motion asks members of the Ickenham Residents Association to determine whether it is expedient to oppose the High Speed Rail (London- West Midlands) Bill and if so, to authorise the deposit of a petition in parliament. Proposed by John Donovan, seconded by Brian Cable. 1 abstention.

2. **N Hurd MP** was invited to speak, commenting that we had an impressive Residents Association. We must use all we have to protect Ickenham, petitions make change. He will support all petitioners in their process. However he stated better compensation from HS2 was needed, offering something now rather than nothing is progress. He mentioned that the ground should be prepared for if HS2 goes ahead, to extend the tunnel. Try to drop the Heathrow spur, as it complicates the tunnel extension in Ickenham and costs money. David Higgins agrees with Nick Hurd on HOAC, as important. A relocation option is making some progress to provide a better deal to Ickenham if it goes ahead. Future government after general election may take a different view to HS2.

3. **R Puddifoot** started by complimenting Humphrey and regarding Ickenham Residents Association as the best residents association in the borough. He spoke regarding HS2, how traffic was going to gridlock the roads. Earth to be dumped from the site causing 2 golf courses in both Uxbridge and West Ruislip to close. There is no business case for the development, with it being a white elephant. He encouraged residents to keep fighting and was confident of a win over HS2. He reminded us of the threat of Warner Bros and winning the fight against that. Also third runway again beaten, keep fighting and right will prevail, believing the same will happen with HS2. He said don't allow HS2 to get us to turn on each other. He also mentioned he backed Boris on 3rd runway. He mentioned the Nursery on Brackenbury estate as a school. The council support the free school, but not the closure of the nursery. Sale will be held until sorted.

4. Darren Walker from Lawrence Drive- He commented on Nick's comment that Labour party may reject HS2, however Darren thought Labour government suggested it in the 1st place. Nick- there is a chance another government may take a different view, however not decided until after next election. Ray- 51 M group- live issue at next election. Labour chose it and the M1 corridor route, coincide with 3rd runway. Why are they building a railway in the wrong place? New airport should come first. Integrated strategy, issue for next government. Ray predicts Labour will pull back.

Alan Node- business case for HS2. Nick- not here to make a case for it. Looking ahead 30 years, what do we need in the future for growth rate. New capacity North 'their view', new line with new technology puts forward business case around faster movement and capacity, not speed. It will balance the economy more- north/ south rebalanced.

5. Humphrey Tizard- he challenged Nick on capacity- no growth in long distance rail travel. Commuter travel- HS2 not a fix. Asked Nick to respond but travel committee did.

6. Brian Cable- aimed at Nick- Brian lives in Harvil Road and will be exposed to noise and disruption if HS2 goes ahead. The amendment to HS2 fails in certain aspects- costly, through countryside, doesn't use current corridors, fails major stations and hubs. You disembark from Euston and no further travel available from there. Amendment- revised HS2, environmentally friendly and cost effective route. Listed issues, as community suffers. HS2 has treated Ickenham badly and no consideration. Assurance from Nick he will act in best interests of Ickenham. Nick- amendment won't make any difference, he is sympathetic. The land dump has been

done in a hurry and has no understanding of local roads, suggested change. Practical conversations need to be had with HS2 about what they can do to make a difference if goes ahead.

7. GLA Onkar Sahota- doesn't believe a case was made for HS2 and not the right move, he is on residents side re. Business case. Regarding Heathrow, he doesn't want Heathrow to expand or close, need jobs and it is a great driver of jobs. Air quality and noise a concern. Ray- he supports residents. Third runway- Not Boris or the council, Heathrow Ltd cause closure. They want to close Heathrow as only there to make a profit. Motion passed at LBH- interim Davis report- reaffirm opposition to expansion. Advantages of using the site for other development for the community. Not let be derelict if close. Heathrow Ltd scaring people, not convincing those that matter.

8. Guy Howard- environment and recreation faculties in area won awards, golf courses and environment valued. Take into account, more compensation, fight harder for compensation for those blighted if goes ahead. Fight the tunnel. We trust LBH and MP to fight on all points.

Lawrence Ben- supportive efforts against HS2. Dubious of future on rail, HS2 will go ahead in some form. Route is wrong- St Pancras North. Assuming it goes ahead Ickenham will be marred by excavators in construction, major problem- soil. Ickenham needs a bypass. Humphrey- construction traffic will cause major traffic not just soil. Bulk of traffic remain. TFL solution suggestion- build on Colne Valley. Viaduct 1st then construction traffic can travel on viaduct. Bypass- practicality not possible, but viaduct is.

Henry Gardner- Eden Academy- Free school Primary Secondary. David Simmonds- special school trust for a small special school for all ages 4-19, depending on Childs needs. Planning to provide school places including the nursery already there- support this. they need to come back with a better proposal as need the nursery and special school. Hope for a solution.

John ???- Rectory Way- suggest put permit parking back to normal parking during day as affecting traders.

John Hensley- review after 1 year- the permit parking was requested and this is what was provided. After put into operation it is reviewed. If not satisfied, petition and consult residents. Residents views first.

Closed- 9.30pm

In closing the Chairman thanked N Hurd MP, Cllrs. J Hensley, D Simmonds and R Puddifoot, P Corthorne, as well as all those members present, for attending and participating. They were all invited to stay for refreshments.

Sian Vanderplank 19.04.13