

Spring Grove Residents' Association
Minutes of the AGM – 25 April 2013, Parish Hall

PRESENT

Chairman: Alan Leeds **Treasurer:** Karol Smal **Secretary:** Jackie Steinitz

Committee members: Gordon Bell, Phil Chapman, Phil Harvey, Paul Hemmings, Emma Poole, Pippa Sparks, Dawn Trigg **Residents:** Approximately 30 **Guests:** *Local Historian:* Isobel Robinson *Grove Ward Safer Neighbourhood team:* Sgt Paul Smyth *Kingston University:* Mark Horne (General Manager of the Students Union), Chris Ford, Student Engagement *Grove Ward Councillor:* Chrissie Hitchcock

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Phil Chapman, Sean Yeates

2. **Minutes of the 2012 AGM :** Approved.

3. **Chairman's Report:** Committee continued with all its regular activities (organising events such as the barn dance and barbeque, keeping contact with councillors/ MP/ police/ university, monitoring all planning applications in the area, delivering Springboard, running the website, Facebook page etc.). It also co-organising the street party on 2nd June to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee RBK with St John's Church Regeneration Fund, and Kingston Kindergarten Nursery mother, raised concerns with Kingston Council about the destruction of trees at the Berrylands end of Lower Marsh Lane, organised a public meeting about the Kelly arms and is co-organising a Festival "SpringFest", which will take place on 27 April in the Church grounds. Other community events this year have included two fundraising acoustic nights which together raised £700 for charity, and Plan B's "Movember" event which raised £1100 on the night plus £700 from sponsored Mo growing! Congratulations to local resident Joan McConn who was awarded the British Empire Medal for community service in Kingston.

4. **Treasurer's Report:** Income totalled £2757, considerably up from £625 in 2011/12 mostly due to the extra £2357 income generated from the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Street party. Other sources of income included net profits from the barn dance (£267) and advertising receipts from Springboard (£128). Expenditure totalled £2670 of which almost £2000 (£1967) was a donation to the St John's Church regeneration fund with £1700 being donated from the Street part and £267 after the barn dance. Other items of expenditure included: Springboard costs + admin (£339) and annual public liability insurance (£163). On 31 March 2013 the SGRA had an accumulated fund of £932, up £87 on the previous year. The accounts have been audited.

5. **Election of the Committee/Approval of SGRA representatives on Kingston Conservation Area Advisory Council:** Previous committee member Natascha Logan has now moved from the area. She was thanked for her contribution to the community. All the remaining previous year's committee members were willing to stand for re-election and there were no further volunteers to join the committee. The committee for 2013/14 thus remains: **Chairman:** Alan Leeds **Treasurer:** Karol Smal **Secretary:** Jackie Steinitz **Committee Members;** Gordon Bell, Phil Chapman, Phil Harvey, Paul Hemmings, Emma Poole, Pippa Sparks, Dawn Trigg, Sean Yeates. Sean Yeates and Joan McConn were approved as SGRA representatives on Kingston Conservation Area Advisory Council

6. **Talk by local historian, Isobel Robinson** Isobel Robinson gave a fascinating talk on the history of the area with particular focus on the opening of the Parish Hall 110 years ago (on 19th December 1903) with an audience of 300 people at the event!

7. **University Issues (Mark Horne):** Student numbers are down about 12% this year and are predicted to fall another 10% over the next three years. The university receives about 20 emails of complaint each month. MH continues to be proud of the volunteering by the students. In the 3 months from November to

January 168 volunteers put in 790 hours of volunteering helping at the Bradbury Centre and in the Field of Remembrance and in cleaning up the Thames and Hogsmill. Suggestions for volunteering opportunities are welcomed. The new point of contact for community issues is Josie Golden on (answerphone 020 8417 3662 and mobile 07748 650330 for urgent enquiries or contact form on the website <http://www.kingston.ac.uk/enquiries/99/community-enquiries-complaints-form/> . There will be construction on the Penryhn Rd site as the university improves the Town House site. Chris Ford spoke of initiatives to improve student engagement and the student experience.

7. Grove Ward Safer Neighbourhood Team: (Sgt Paul Smyth)

PS said that the Grove Ward SNT now comprises 1 Sgt, 3 PCs and 3 PCSOs. There will be changes in September 2013 when 2600 more police will be put on the streets in London. Residents will have new ways to contact the police and Kingston will be divided into two policing areas (with Grove Ward part of Kingston North). Current priorities for the SNT, as identified by the community panel include burglary, drug dealing and anti social behaviour. This is an anti-terrorism hotline on the Metropolitan police website for reporting any activity or behaviour which strikes you as not quite right.

8 Kingston Council: Cllr Chrissie Hitchcock

CH offered to answer any questions from residents. Questions pertained to private student halls of residence in Kingston, the replacement phone mast in Princess Mews and issues with potholes particularly in Villiers Road and Geneva Road.