

# NORTH CRAY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 16 December 2009 at 7.30pm at Wychwood, 29 Parsonage Lane

### Present:

John Harrington (President)  
David Cook (Chairman)  
Jean Gammons (Secretary)  
Geoff Waldmeyer (Treasurer)  
Angela Goodman (Membership Secretary)  
Nik Carter (Webmaster)  
Jacky Cook (Newsletter Editor)  
Bridget Harrington  
Michael Heath  
Irene Waldmeyer

### 1. Apologies for Absence and Chairman's Welcome

Apologies were given on behalf of Mary Stubbs and Linda Moore. The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

### 2. Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 17 September 2009

The minutes were agreed.

### 3. Matters Arising

Action

Min. 3.2 Stuarts & Kelsey Farm Shops: Jean reported that action had been taken, as recorded in the Secretary's Report (Agenda Item 5).

Min. 5.1 Website: Nik distributed statistics, which showed the usage being made of our site. It was agreed that it was proving to be an excellent 'selling point' to members/potential members and the Secretary asked for everyone's help in keeping it up-to-date with local news items so that people would be encouraged to visit it regularly.

*ALL*

Min. 5.2 Newsletter: Jacky reported that she had several ideas for its content and was hoping to have her first Newsletter ready for publication in January. It was agreed that it should feature our website but that the aim should be to produce it in May so that its distribution could coincide with the delivery of the AGM papers. (See Secretary's Report, 6.3 below.)

*JC*

Min. 5.3 Constitution: It was agreed that we should not seek to amend this but that any difficulty arising from Rule 3.2 (i.e. whether or not the status of any applicant for membership was 'overtly commercial') should be put before the Committee.

*AG*

Min. 5.4 Friends of Footscray Meadows: Nik reported that our website now had a link to theirs.

Min. 6.1 Potholes & unemptied public bins - as for 3.2 above.

Min. 6.2 High Beeches etc pavements: John reported that action here had been taken.

Min. 6.3 Tree Planting: Jean reported that she had taken the agreed action here and was awaiting news from Cllr. Don Massey.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

Geoff distributed a copy of his Report, which was noted, including the fact that the two separate deposit accounts had now been combined into one account and the total funds (current account, deposit account and petty cash) stood at £3,573.63.

#### **5. Secretary's Report**

**5.1** Jean's report, which had been distributed on 4 December, was noted. Jean then gave the following update:

**5.2** Bexley Equestrian Centre: A recent letter from the Applicant to the NCRA had been circulated to the Committee and, after discussion, it was agreed that our decision to oppose this Application should stand. **JG**

**5.3** The Stuart Family: Jean read out a letter in which they had invited the NCRA to examine their plans for a new house, to replace an existing one, before these were submitted for Planning Approval. It was agreed that Jean should take the opportunity to do this and advise the family that our main concern would be to ensure that the new house would not be conspicuous and detract from the 'openness' of the Green Belt. It was also noted that Stuarts Garden Centre was under new management and would soon be trading under a new name. **JG**

**5.4** Manor Freehold Farm, 67 Parsonage Lane: Jean informed the Committee of a recent Application for a Revised Certificate of Lawfulness (Existing) for a block of 6 stables and store from one of the many owners of the land forming 67 Parsonage Lane. It was agreed that we should not express a view on this as it would seem 'permission' will almost certainly be granted. **JG**

#### **6. Membership Secretary's Report**

**6.1** Angela's Report which was distributed on 4 December was noted and it was agreed that John Harrington should write to Betty Rae and Malcolm Card expressing our gratitude for their help with this year's Subscriptions Collection. **JH**

**6.2** Referring to the need for Committee members to give more help in 2010-11 with the collection of subscriptions, Bridget pointed out that this might be difficult for anyone working full-time, and this was noted.

- 6.3** Jean suggested that a special appeal for at least one volunteer in every road be made in the Newsletter and at the next AGM, so that our current membership level, and contact with members, could be maintained. This was agreed. *AG/  
JC*
- 7. Any Other Business**
- 7.1** The North Cray Road: Concern was again expressed at how badly the recent traffic Order had been handled by Bexley and it was agreed that David should draft a letter to Highways asking for the roundabout access be restored as it is not interfering with works being undertaken nor is it a ‘health and safety’ risk. David would also request the early replanting of spring bulbs on the roundabout. *DC*
- 7.2** It was agreed that David should draft a further letter to Highways asking for a roundabout or U-turn near Water Lane, including arguments such as this would reduce speed infringements and illegal and dangerous crossing over the central reservation and that a temporary U-turn has been provided in the past during road works. *DC*
- 7.3** Concessionary Community Charge for some residents: The existence of this on account of the extra mileage incurred by the absence of a U-turn between the present one near St James’ Way and that near the road leading to Bexley village) and the unequal way in which this had granted by Bexley in c1970, was noted and it was agreed that this should be the subject of a separate letter. *DC*
- 7.4** Crossing at foot of Gattons Way: It was agreed that Jean should write to Highways asking for an update on the request that “Horses Crossing” notices should be provided. Jacky suggested that it should be a proper horse crossing (i.e. one which stopped traffic on both carriageways so that horses could continue over to the far side without having to stop) with a suitably positioned button for operation by riders. *JG*

The meeting finished at 9.15pm.