

# NORTH CRAY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Thursday 17 September 2009, 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  
Bridget Harrington  
Michael Heath  
Linda Moore  
Irene Waldmeyer

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were conveyed for Mary Stubbs.

Action

### 2. Chairman's Introduction

David welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending this first meeting of the new Committee. He then outlined the proposed agenda: getting to know one another, receiving updates from Jean and Angela and exploring ideas for the future.

### 3. Secretary's Report

Jean distributed a summary of current Planning & Enforcement Matters.

- 3.1 Weatherley's new boundary fencing: Although a number of local residents found the new fencing unsightly it was reported that the people living closest welcomed it as being an improvement to the eyesore behind. It was consequently agreed that the NCRA should not express a view to Planning.

- 3.2 Stuarts and Kelsey Farm Shops: Concern was expressed about the increasing number of caravans. It was agreed that the Secretary should write to Bexley: not to complain but to ensure that Bexley noted/recorded the existence of the caravans in order to avoid their becoming an 'established fact' in the future.

JG

### 4. Membership Secretary's Report

Angela said that her aim this year was to gain as many members as possible. She then summarised the progress of the Subscriptions Collection, for which £141 had been collected to date. It was proving difficult to cover every road as some collectors were no longer able to carry on. This was placing a heavy burden on Jean

and herself and she asked all those present to help in any way they could. Michael Heath confirmed he would be happy to assist and Jacky confirmed she was about to commence her allotted collection. *MH/ ALL*

Angela's aim was to complete the exercise by the end of October and to make the period July-Oct the regular time for collecting. This was agreed. The Committee then explored ways of making the collecting task easier in the future, e.g. finding a person in each road to whom people could deliver their subscription.

## 5. Thoughts and Ideas for the Future

5.1 Website: Nik was thanked for all his hard work on this, which had become a valuable asset for the Association as a means of quickly conveying information to those residents with a PC. Ways of utilising it further were explored and it was agreed that the Planning Applications section should report what line had been taken by the NCRA. *JG/ NC*

5.2 Newsletter: The problem of keeping members informed, especially those without a PC, was discussed and Jacky offered to resurrect the NCRA Newsletter. This was welcomed and her appointment as Newsletter Editor was agreed. The aim should be to issue one Newsletter mid-term (July-Oct) and another just before the AGM. Members were asked to consider suitable content and give their ideas to Jacky. *JC ALL*

5.3 Constitution (dated 2003): It was agreed that this remained valid but that Committee members should examine it over the next few weeks and consider whether or not there needed to be any changes. *ALL*

5.4 Friends of Footh Cray Meadows: It was felt that, as this association and the NCRA had common objectives, ways of working together more closely should be explored. Our website could provide information about it and our collectors could deliver its flyers whenever there was an opportunity to do so. *MH/ AG/ NC*

5.5 Social Events: In view of the advantage of these as a way of bringing members together, it was agreed that the Committee should consider arranging a social event whenever a suitable opportunity occurred and aim to provide a major attraction to encourage people to attend.

## 6. Any Other Business

6.1 Parsonage Lane and Cocksure Lane - potholes and unemptied public bins: Jacky reported that on numerous occasions she had telephoned Bexley Council to report that the public bins were full to overflowing and had been thus for some time. She had also reported the potholes in these lanes to Highways Dept. The Secretary would write to Bexley expressing the NCRA's concern. *JG*

6.2 High Beeches – pavements in poor condition: John reported that, arising from a member's concern at the AGM, he had walked this area with Ron Bridgeman (Highways) who subsequently promised that this problem would be attended to from November 2009 onwards.

6.3 Tree Planting: David reported that our councillors had been invited to nominate roads where the Council could plant some trees and Cllr. Don Massey had invited

the NCRA to express its preferences. It was agreed that the NCRA should nominate Ruxley Close, where members had complained about the new flats overlooking them. However, such planting should be subject to the wishes of local residents and after normal consultation procedures.

*JG*

**7. Date of Next Meeting**

To be held in mid-December and be part 'business' and part 'Christmas get-together'.  
Date to be confirmed later.

*DC/  
JG*

The meeting finished at 9.15pm