

SPRA Committee meeting
7.00pm, 22nd July 2024
The Barn @ The Cross Keys

NOTE: the meeting was recorded and transcribed, to support minute taking and accuracy. Recordings and transcripts will be deleted from all cloud spaces and devices.

Present: Alessia Pulieri Lichtenberg APL (Secretary), Steve Askins SA (Vice Chair), Lou Devonshire LD, Oliver Leigh Wood OLW.

On video Call: Joanna Edmunds JE (Chair).

1. Apologies: Philip Back, Elizabeth Ryland, Charlotte Reed CR.

2. Approval of Minutes of previous Committee Meeting

Minutes approved and available on the shared drive. They will also be published to the SPRA website.

3. Key Topics

3.1 Feedback on recent events (Shakespeare, Summer Fair, Leaning Woman relaunch)

3.1.1 Shakespeare in the Square - 'All's well that ends well' was very successful, with similar numbers to last year, that is around 230 in the audience, despite being in June rather than July as previously. Pleasingly a number of new faces were in the crowd. The committee thanks LD for organising it and confirmed that we would seek to continue to support this in 2025 if possible,

3.1.2 Summer Fair - everything seems to have gone well although no feedback has been received.

3.1.3 Leaning Woman unveiling - Thank you to all involved in particular to JE for really making it happen and to Steve and Oliver for helping to organise the event itself. It was a very good showing from the community. The committee agreed to refund JE for the SPRA contribution towards the food and drink at the event (£32.75). The landscaping around the statue remains outstanding and JE is waiting for the council to provide an update.

ACTION: JE to write to HOLT to thank them.

ACTION: JE to follow up with the council re. landscaping

3.2. AGM

To be held at the Cross Keys on September 26 at 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

Possible guests would be the Vicar, Karen Fraser, Richard Farthing from the Hammersmith Society, David Millar, Stef from Parks team, Theresa Keely & co from Ravenscourt Police, and Andrew Slaughter MP.

All committee members attending the meeting confirmed their agreement to stand for reelection for the coming year. Charlotte had agreed this prior to the meeting.

ACTION: JE to write a newsletter to be distributed late August/early Sept.

ACTION: SA and JE to agree a newsletter format that can be used by both.

ACTION: JE to issue invitations. UPDATE: David Millar has it in his diary, Stef and the police sent apologies. Yet to hear from the others.

ACTION: JE to check with Liz and Phil if happy to continue to stand

3.3. Wheelie Bins

The wheelie bins rollout has been completed. All residents received a waste caddy, but not all residents wanted the wheelie bins. A blog on the website provides all the details.

Some residents complained that their regular bins are no longer emptied, despite being accessible

ACTION: SA to email residents with clarity on bins

3.4 Ward panel meeting feedback and attendance

A meeting between the community and the police to discuss policing priorities in the area. At the last meeting In attendance there were about 10 people from the police but only four residents. Despite this it was a very constructive session, talking about drug dealing, local muggings, phone stealing, and car crime in particular. But to have any effect more people who have an interest and a concern need to participate. The risk is that if it doesn't develop, it's going to fold.

ACTION: JE to include in the next email newsletter and update website once date for next meeting is agreed.

3.5 Content for the next email

- Wheelie Bins
- AGM
- Crime/Ward Panel
- Flooding

3.6 The Greek Runner (cleaning of the statue: funds and priorities)

Conservation experts on the Leaning Woman think that it is the copper running into the base of the Greek Runner that needs an overhaul (cleaned up, re-wax, re-patinated). First, a condition survey is needed. HoLT have said that it is too small a project for them, they're focusing on bigger projects, and they have no funds this year. However, we could potentially re-approach them after the results from the condition survey.

4. Update on actions from previous Committee Meeting

4.1. Shop Units at Entwistle Terrace

(carried forward to the end of summer).

4.2. Cycle Highway

(carried forward to the autumn).

4.3. St. Peter's Square paving (east side dangerous)

(carried forward to the end of August).

UPDATE: the council requested feedback (given by OLW) about the creation of a small vehicle access route into the Square in the area next to the Gardeners Hut. This should allow for cheaper quotes for the path as well as benefiting the tree and grounds contractors with immediate effect.

4.4. Scott Hall rental

The noise post-school hours has diminished, but there has been a rise in noise from drumming lessons during school hours. Although sympathising with the affected residents, at this stage, this is a matter between neighbours. If residents don't get response from the school to their complaints, or there is an infringement to music guidelines, SPRA will intervene.

4.5 The Bull Statue (outside the Bull pub)

HoLT now have this on their radar and have been discussing it with Oliver. Oliver suggested the statue could be rehomed in the Square albeit Ravenscourt Park might be a more natural fit.

ACTION: SPRA to provide support as and when necessary.

5. Planning Applications

Applications previously discussed:

1. 20 St Peter's Grove - received approval for the subsequent application, but the original one is still outstanding. It appears to be in abeyance because the second application was approved and works are underway.
2. Two applications on King Street, Sovereign House - overdue since January of this year, but there has then been a subsequent application for the change of use which was approved today.
3. 351 King Street - overdue since April and remains so.
4. 44 St Peter's Square - approved earlier this month.

New applications:

1. 10 Berestede Road - applied to have a single story rear extension, and approved in mid June.
2. Behind Sainsbury's, there is a commercial premises - applying to add an extra floor. It has been overdue since the past couple of weeks.

6. AOB

6.1. Accounts

Carried over.

6.2. St Peter's Square Maintenance & Leaning Woman

JE has liaised with the council on four issues: 1. The landscaping for the Leaning Woman: to confirm the revised landscaping plan (to take account of consultation feedback) and timetable; 2. The Square: The path in disrepair, when they are going to take some action. They have promised to look at alternatives, tbc; 3. The Greek Runner, to which they verbally committed to fund the condition survey; 4. The maintenance programme for the Square and around the Leaning Woman, to give us clarity of what is expected to happen.

ACTION: SA, OLW, JE to set up a meeting with the council re. garden maintenance.

6.3 Website

The new website has proved popular with some blogs advertised in the Hammersmith Society weekly newsletter.

Raised the issue with the form enabling the public to submit their own details to be contacted back by SPRA, as it is prone to be filled in with a person's incorrect email.

Raised the possibility to appeal to residents to donate funds for dog poo bags by writing a blog.

Raised the possibility to update residents post-events as close to real time as we can, rather than just advertise the events in advance. Shakespeare in the Square was a great example of teamwork re. blog post-event. It would be nice to do the same with all events.

ACTION: JE to remove form and replace it with SPRA's email.

ACTION: APL to write a blog, once data on poo bags is received.

ACTION: Each event organiser to provide feedback including 'photos, as soon as possible after events so that a blog can be written, or ideally provide a draft blog which could be uploaded

6.4 Cross Keys

A number of residents have complained about noise from the Cross Keys including loud music, outdoor television, and patrons in the front and back gardens after 11pm.

ACTION: SA and JE to have a conversation with Mick to discuss residents' concerns.

6.5 Next Committee meeting

To be held on 29 October.

ACTION: APL to follow up and book venue.

UPDATE: Booked The Barn at the Cross Keys for Tuesday, 29 October from 7pm