

NORTHWOOD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Extracts from the minutes of Meeting 11 July 2023, 8pm in the Family Room,
Methodist Church, Oaklands Gate

Present: Tony Ellis, Sue Mansfield, Hoda Lacey, Ros Plume, Peter Lansdown, Philip Green, Andrew Egan, Paul Barker, Amir Lakha, Jan Harding, Miles Gillman, Trevor Sherling, Rajen Shah

1 Apologies for Absence: Valerie Mellor, Vijay Kotecha

2. Minutes of 13 June Meeting

were approved with one correction in 9f to the name of the organisation receiving £103 for Business Watch signs to go on lampposts.

3. Matters Arising:

None.

4. Correspondence

From RP:

- Email from a manager at the Greene Manne pub organising a charity dog show for Mount Vernon hospital, asking about publicity. Referred him to MG.
- Email from resident applying to us for provision of a PO Pillar Box at a named location. Referred her to Royal Mail and suggested contacting our councillors if she met any obstacles.

From TE:

- 6th Northwood Scouts requested help with tree control. £500 was approved and TE will give JH their bank details
- JH will investigate setting up an account with Nationwide to facilitate deposit of cash.
- Cllr Higgins will provide Jennifer O'Dwyer with an application form for Ward Funds to pay for ongoing defibrillator usage expenses. TE to check

5. Former Police Station

No further information.

6. TfL Development

No further information.

7. MVH Cancer Centre

No further information.

8. Pop-up events

September event.

From RP

11am to 1pm. Northwood Lions have accepted our invitation. I haven't invited the Scouts as they have finished their fund raising for the World Jamboree. Does anyone have any suggestions for other stall holders?

SM will approach MHA Communities (Northwood Live At Home).

TE will invite our councillors and David Simmonds MP

HL has informed all Ward Panel members. NHW and John Usher have said they will attend.

If required, MG will arrange getting another gazebo from the police to put up more stalls.

9. Subcommittee Reports

TE,
JH

JH

TE

SM
TE

MG

9a	<p>Membership PB will check with VK on the workload proposed for the Membership Secretary in PB's documents. If too great, some work will have to be passed to a new position.</p>	PB VK
9b	<p>Finance The increase of very convincing spam emails was noted. TE reported the latest to the bank concerned and the police.</p>	
9c	<p>Woods and Open Spaces As in the report below.</p>	
9d	<p>Planning The application for an Advertising Station in Clive Parade was turned down and is now being appealed. TS will check whether another Northwood Golf Club plan has been submitted recently. TE wrote to Cllr Lewis to remind him of the Grange marquee situation, and understands Cllr Lewis has written to the council.</p>	TS
9e	<p>Business membership Business Watch now has a 93% membership. Many NRA efforts in the past to get the businesses to coordinate have failed due to lack of interest. Membership window stickers advertising their membership have not been of much interest in the past. PG to consider their future use. Not enough past interest in a Christmas Window Competition to make it worth reinstating.</p>	PG
9f	<p>Police PCSO John Usher's training for a three yearly check on his life saving skills is now scheduled for 17 – 18 July. Lack of this has prevented him from working in Northwood for 6 weeks.</p> <p>Sergeant Blackburn may have to step in temporarily as sergeant of another 3 wards. As he is already responsible for 3 wards, we may be left with 1/6th of Sergeant Gareth Blackburn's time. Andrew Egan reiterated that on his travels he sees police officers patrolling in Pinner and Northwood Hills but are rarely seen on the streets of Northwood.</p> <p>Meeting coppers in coffee shops or such venues is of little use, compared with actually patrolling Northwood. HL/TE will take these concerns to Sergeant Gareth Blackburn and higher up the police command chain, if necessary.</p> <p>HL will send details of the recent knife attack at Tesco, and lack of police response, to the police. TE will follow up Ian Edwards' promise to look at policing in Northwood. In future we should put a formal complaint on the Metropolitan Police web site.</p>	HL TE HL TE
9g	<p>Traffic and Highways PL will ask the council to widen its traffic survey back to the original.</p> <p>The ULEZ court case may not give its verdict until mid-August.</p>	PL
9h	<p>Communications. <i>From RP</i> IT. Rajen has helped HL and PB with their NRA email accounts. Hopefully, he will be able to help all committee members to use their NRA emails correctly in due course. I have demonstrated the workings of the Krystal Hosting control panel to Rajen. He now has administrator access to our Krystal account and will be the one to contact if</p>	

you have any queries regarding your NRA email accounts. He is investigating having a dummy email account which will actually be a group email e.g. exec@northwoodresidents.co.uk This would enable me to keep the group email up to date without having to remind exec members to update their lists.

Website.

- 1049 sessions made by 864 users during June. In future the plan is for Rajen to receive the Google Analytics statistics and for him to report them in his own way.
- Posted on website since last report:
 - Police community engagements for July
 - AGM minutes
 - Various forthcoming local events

A disappointing month as far as news items is concerned. I reminded newsletter contributors to check their website entries, and several have requested amendments.

- Rajen now has administrator access to the website. He is familiar with WordPress sites, so will be a good back-up should I be unable to post items at any time.
- The website needs some software updates installed; this is not something that Rajen wishes to undertake, so I would like to ask Emma Clarke to do them for us as per our contract with her.

Press. The June issue of Northwood & Ruislip News carried a piece about Northwood Business Watch, thanks to HL. Hoda also featured in their 'My Favourites Q&A'.

9i Health

At an Open Day at Mount Vernon, TE spoke to the chair of four major health trusts about restoring the Urgent Care facility back to the Minor Injuries Unit operation. The chair had asked NHS England to do this and had an absolute refusal. TE thought a petition might now be needed.

9j Environment

No further information

Base growth on trees in Dene Road needs cutting back. AE to follow up.

AE

10 AOB

- a) *From RP.* Summer newsletter. After a very slow start, the articles have come flooding in over the last few days, much work to be done before getting it ready to go to press next week.
- b) RP noted that nothing has been received from Sergeant Gareth Blackburn, but post meeting he has asked PC Mani to write on behalf of the SNT.

The meeting ended at 21.57

Next Meeting: Tuesday 8 August, 2023

Appendix: REPORTS

CRS Report

Much more work has been done in preparing to go-partially-live with our new NRA membership database mmjo.

- In particular with Philip Green to accurately populate the “Business” section.

I have prepared concise updates to documents defining the duties of CRS, Treasurer, MemSec, ARSs and RSs in gathering outstanding subs and recording (or correcting) membership data.

Jan Harding (Treasurer) and Vijay Kotecha (MemSec) have met to review these and suggest any adjustments before they are circulated hopefully this coming week.

Vijay has done more work on setting up filters in mmjo to allow RSs and ARSs to see pertinent current data for just their “patch” members.

- Vijay will prepare concise instructions for them to securely log-in to mmjo before the Summer Newsletter is available for distribution late this month.
- RSs will then be able to see which of their members are to be chased for '23 subs payment.

I will use the mmjo data to prepare for our printer the numbers of Newsletters (to be boxed by ARS) for “members-of-record” and advise all.

Paul Barker
CRS & DPO

Woods and Open Spaces Report

Nothing major to report in the woods.

The Trust has redesigned its website for all info in the woods. <http://www.ruislipwoodstrust.org.uk/>

There are no cows in Poors Fields this year to give the plants a chance to come back after the last hot summer.

A large group of volunteers helped clear invasive Himalayan Balsam this week.

Miles Gillman

Health Report

Advance Notice from Hillingdon Hospital NHS Trust regarding Strike Action

What if I have an appointment on a strike day?

Owing to planned industrial action we are cancelling some activity between 7am on 13 July until 7am on 18 July 2023, and also some activity on the 20 and 21 July. This is to ensure that we are able to redeploy staff to cover priority services.

The Trust will contact you if your appointment needs to be rescheduled due to strike action. This is likely to be a text, phone call or a letter. If we have not contacted you, please attend your appointment as planned. We apologise for any inconvenience. You will receive further communication confirming an alternative date.

If we have not contacted you to cancel your appointment, please attend as planned.

What if I need urgent or emergency care?

Anyone who needs urgent care should use NHS111 online to be assessed and directed to the right care for him or her. If you do not have Internet access then 111 helpline is available. When someone is seriously ill or injured and their life is at risk, you should seek emergency care in the normal way, by calling 999.

Will emergency care be affected on strike days?

Emergency care will continue to be available across all parts of the country. It is really important that in emergency and life-threatening cases - when someone is seriously ill or their life is at risk a patient continues to come forward as normal.

I have a loved one who will be a hospital inpatient on strike day – how will their care be affected?

All hospital inpatients will be informed of how their care will be impacted on a ward-by-ward basis by the staff involved in delivering their care.

Will GP services be affected on strike days?

GP services will be running as normal on strike days. Please continue to attend scheduled GP appointments as planned.

When will I find out if my appointment is rescheduled?

The NHS will contact you if your appointment needs to be rescheduled due to strike action. This is likely to be a text, phone call or a letter and you should be offered an alternative date for your appointment. If we have not contacted you, please attend your appointment as planned.

If my appointment is rescheduled, will I be put back to the bottom of the waiting list?

Any appointments that need to be rescheduled will be done so as a priority.

Is there anything I should do now?

No, the NHS will contact you if your appointment needs to be rescheduled due to strike action.

Should I cancel my appointment on the day of strikes?

No, if we have not contacted you, please attend your appointment as planned.

What should I do if I need an ambulance?

Patients should only call 999 if seriously ill or injured, and there is risk to life. Ambulances will be dispatched where clinically appropriate.

For all other health care needs support will be available through NHS111 online (if you do not have internet access then 111 helpline is available) or at your local GP or pharmacy.

What is considered an emergency?

Patients should only call 999 if seriously ill or injured, and there is risk to life.

Environment Report

Pavement defects reported outside the hairdresser's shop in Rowland Place were inspected subsequently by the Council within a wider inspection of pavements covering Green Lane. This is a location where at least 1 customer of the hairdresser fell. A comment received from the council included, "no actionable defects were found that exceeded council guidelines".

My only comment is that if the inspector concerned had used a long straight edge and placed it over paved areas outside the shop it would have been difficult to miss the deformities reported. Either the council guidelines are too lax or perhaps the inspector concerned or inspection team should visit an optician for eye testing. This is not satisfactory.

A water leak onto the newly resurfaced tennis courts near the bowls club in the Recreation Ground off Chestnut Avenue was reported and copied to Cllr Henry Higgins.

Dog waste bins near the golf clubhouse in The Drive were emptied after a request was made – with the increase in dog ownership post pandemic these bins are regularly filled or overfull thus suggesting a higher regularity of emptying may be required.

Many trees lining the pavements in Maxwell and Murray Roads need to have base growth cut back and low-lying foliage removed – some is as low as 5 feet so it is quite difficult to walk on pavements. This has been reported to the Council. A slight trim is required, not major pruning and pollarding as yet.

On a general environmental note, the lack of visible policing in Northwood may make home owners feel less safe and whilst home owners in the more affluent areas may employ private security firms to patrol and protect property, for others the application of camera doorbells with motion sensing is a sensible idea as long as there is recording of callers and triggered movement. Some of these doorbells require a subscription to have access to recording, others have on-board memory cards. It is essential to understand the specification and facility of these devices prior to purchase.

Andrew Egan - Environment

NRA / LBH Northwood Ward Planning Report : June 2023

NRA / LBH Northwood Ward Planning Report : July 2023 (23:07 Planning NRA)

Planning Applications – No Objection / Comment

Validation Date	Address	Application Detail	
2 nd June 2023	ST HELEN'S SCHOOL EASTBURY ROAD NORTHWOOD	Details pursuant to the discharge of Conditions 7 (Ecological Enhancement Plan) and 10 (Tree Replacement Details) of planning permission ref.7402/APP/2022/2148 dated 28-02-23 (Construction of two storey extension to existing sports centre to provide changing accommodation and an office for PE teaching staff.)	
6 th June 2023	34-38 SEYMOUR HOUSE CHESTER ROAD NORTHWOOD	Erection of a first floor glazed link walkway between existing dwellings.	
6 th June 2023	28 NICHOLAS WAY NORTHWOOD	Details pursuant to the discharge of Condition 4 (Landscaping), 5 (Biodiversity enhancements) 6 (Construction management plan) and 7 (Basement statement) of planning permission ref. 63937/APP/2022/3692, dated 17-02-2023 (Replacement dwelling house with two storeys and new basement level).	
8 th June 2023	5 RAVENSWOOD PARK NORTHWOOD	Conversion of roof space to habitable use to include a rear dormer with 2 Juliette balconies and 3 front roof lights (Application for a Certificate of Lawful Development for a Proposed Development)	
14 th June 2023	5 RAVENSWOOD PARK	Erection of a single storey side extension	
13 th June 2023	4 WILDWOOD NORTHWOOD	Erection of a part single storey, part double storey side and rear extension, single storey porch, following demolition of part of the existing building and double garage. Conversion of roof space to habitable use to include raising of the eaves and ridge height, 4 front roof lights, 2 rear roof lights and rear dormer. Amendments to fenestration.	
9 th June 2023	NORTHWOOD HEALTH & RACQUET CLUB DUCKS HILL ROAD NORTHWOOD	Installation of solar PV panels (Application under Class J, Part 14, Schedule 2 of the General Permitted Development (England) Order 2015 (as amended))	
21 st June 2023	17 WOODSIDE ROAD NORTHWOOD	Erection of a double storey side and part first floor rear extension with new front door and amendments to fenestration.	
20 th June 2023	4 SILVERWOOD CLOSE NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery - to remove 2 x overhanging limbs to one Oak within Area 1 on TPO 391- (overhanging from garden of 8 Linksway)	
29 th June 2023	60 THIRLMERE GARDENS NORTHWOOD	Erection of a part single storey side extension, single storey rear extension & conversion of garage into habitable room following demolition of existing conservatory.	
29 th June 2023	12-18 Whittles Yard Rear Of HALLOWELL ROAD NORTHWOOD	Conversion of 1 detached workshop into 2 no. 2-bedroom houses (Application for Prior Approval under Schedule 2, Part 3, Class MA of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended)).	

Planning Applications – Objections / Comments Made

Validation Date	Address	Application Detail	Comment
7 th June 2023	91 COPSE WOOD WAY NORTHWOOD	To fell One Oak within Area 1 on TPO 398	Whilst there are some notes in the application and a photo attached, there is no detailed Arboricultural Report attached to the application justifying the proposed work
21 st June 2023	100 COPSE WOOD WAY NORTHWOOD	To fell one Silver Birch within Area 1 on TPO 397	Whilst there are some indicative notes in the application and reference to professional advice, there is no detailed Arboricultural Report attached to the application justifying the proposed work
21 st June 2023	129 KNOLL CRESCENT NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery-cut back overhanging branches by 2 metres to one Scots Pine in front garden -T106 within TPO 124.	Whilst there is a reason in the application and some photographs, there is no detailed Arboricultural Report attached to the application justifying the proposed work
22 nd June 2023	8 WOODSIDE ROAD NORTHWOOD	To fell one Silver Birch at T8 within TPO 99	Whilst there is a reason in the application and attached document, there is no detailed Arboricultural Report attached to the application justifying the proposed work
21 st June 2023	13A HALLOWELL ROAD NORTHWOOD	To carry out tree surgery including to reduce by 3 metres and lift to 6m one Sycamore at T18 within TPO 57	Whilst there is a reason in the application, there is no detailed Arboricultural Report attached to the application justifying the proposed work.
29 th June 2023	7 ROGERS RUFF NORTHWOOD	To fell one Lawson's Cypress (T1 on map) - in area A1 within TPO 95.	Whilst there is a reason in the application and some photographs, there is no detailed Arboricultural Report attached to the application justifying the proposed work

**Planning Appeals :
Planning Appeals : Decisions**

None

Planning Appeals : Submitted

PAVEMENT OUTSIDE 8 CLIVE PARADE GREEN LANE NORTHWOOD

Installation of 1 no. internally illuminated free standing multi-functional Communication Hub including advertisement display (Application for Advertisement Consent)

Also appealed:

Installation of a multi-functional Communication Hub including advertisement display (Application for Planning Permission)

Planning Decisions Where Objections / Comments Made:

34, 36, 38, GREEN LANE NORTHWOOD

Demolition of existing outbuilding and partial demolition of the ground floor of nos. 34 and 38. Erection of an outbuilding for use as a workshop. Installation of an external staircase to retained upper floor residential units. Amalgamation of ground floors of nos. 38 and 36 to form a combined retail unit including a new shopfront.

Decision: Refused

Reasons: By virtue of its box form design, orientation, appearance and disruption to the pattern and rhythm of the linear parade of shops posed by the proposed workshop building and the removal of traditional characteristics to the shopfront of 38 Green Lane, the development would fail to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the Northwood Town Centre, Green Lane Conservation Area.

22 WATFORD ROAD NORTHWOOD

Erection of part single storey and part double storey side and rear extensions with amendments to fenestration and erection of new porch to front, following demolition of existing garage (revised description)

Decision: Approved:

Reasons: The application proposes a single storey side extension adjacent to no.20. It is accepted that the single storey side extension would be set up to the boundary and reduce the sense of openness between plots, but this is not uncommon in the area and not harmful on this particular site. In addition, this element has been reduced in depth to overcome issues with neighbouring amenity.

The extensions would be subordinate and proportionate to the dwelling in terms of character and appearance. As such, the extensions would not be detrimental to the form, proportion and appearance of the dwelling, character and appearance of the area and the visual amenities of the streetscene and character of the area.

The proposal would sit comfortably outside of the 45 degree sight lines at first floor.

18 HIGHFIELD ROAD, NORTHWOOD

Retention of an outbuilding located in the rear garden for use as an office (Retrospective)

Decision: Approved

Reasons: It is considered that the proposal would not result in harmful noise, disturbance or loss of privacy for neighbouring occupiers.

Enforcement Action By LBH

None

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

None

ACTION POINTS FROM LAST MINUTES:

None

Business Report

Subscriptions

I recently contacted a number of businesses that have not paid their subs. It garnered a number of responses and payments. In my message to them all I said that if we do not get payment by end of July they will be deemed to be outside of membership and their details removed from our website.

We welcome the following **new members**:

Studio Garelle.

Marjans Café has taken over the Village Café. This is good as Village Café was never a member.

MoveWell

Wyld Thyme

Cook have re joined

We welcome back **Northwood Auto Services** although under new ownership.

Parker & Hammond joined when the planning issue appeared on that parade.

The general mood seems to be positive. The Tfl estate continues to let the rest of Northwood down with its poorly maintained shops, rubbish disposal (lack of) and its lax attitude.

The Business Watch initiative has gained some traction especially after recent crime issues. Hoda, Keith and the ward panel together with the SNT have done very well to get this up and running and special thanks to Jennifer at The Three Wishes. Pub Watch also seems to be up and running and again thanks to Jennifer.

June has been very busy at work so I apologise for not having as much time as usual.

Philip Green

Police Report

Overview:

Currently we have the same staffing levels. 3 officers and a sergeant.

Sgt. Gareth Blackburn: Gareth is sergeant for three wards. Due to sick leave he may be asked to step in temporarily to oversee three other wards.

PCSO John Usher: John has been on office duties since his return from sick leave due to his training expiring. However, he has now seen a possible opening in Hendon for a two-day training in July. He has applied and we are waiting to hear the outcome.

PC Maninder Kaur Sohal (Mani): A new recruit with previous SNT experience in Hayes. She is learning the ropes.

PC Mike Fowler: On a law degree at Brunel. He spends around 50/50 of his time between studies and policing Northwood.

Recent Activities:

1. The NPWP met on 21 June. We were hosted by Sohail Syed of IronAid, as usual. Neither Gareth, Mike nor John could attend. The only member of the SNT available was Mani.

John was due to attend but Sgt. Blackburn vetoed this as John was not cleared for anything other than light duties

Therefore, John attended remotely by telephone.

The minutes of the meeting and the stats provided will be available on our website shortly.

2. I met with Sgt Blackburn, PC Sohal, and Jennifer O'Dwyer, spokesperson for Business Watch. This was to discuss the recent business crimes, including the knife threat at Tesco Express, Maxwell Road. I also needed to establish lines of communication and ensure that the businesses were well patrolled, in addition to the "police engagements" they relied on
3. I have made approaches to various committed people who might be able to join with me in other projects.

Hoda Lacey
8 July 23

Traffic

Northwood Traffic Survey

Last month I reported that I had sent a copy of all relevant information over the last six years to both Ian Edwards and Henry Higgins. Replies are awaited.

Here is the response so far:-

“The study has been revisited by officers and the intention remains to better facilitate pedestrians crossing at Rickmansworth Road j/w Green Lane. Now that TfL funding has resumed (although not to the previous level) consideration of this project is recommencing and the Director has diarised a meeting with Cllr Bianco, Cabinet Member for Highways, for early next month to progress”.

I have thanked the Leader for his reply, but I think the response is not good enough. Ian appears to have picked up on only one of 10 recommendations in the report, which was subsequently covered by a petition. Comments please.

ULEZ

The legal action brought by Hillingdon Council, along with Bexley, Bromley and Harrow and Surrey County, has been heard and a decision is awaited. This may take a few weeks!

The action has challenged the expansion in the High Court on five grounds:-

1. Failure to comply with relevant statutory requirements
2. Unlawful failure to consider expected compliance rates in outer London
3. The proposed scrappage scheme was not consulted upon
4. Failure to carry out any cost benefit analysis
5. Inadequate consultation and/or apparent predetermination arising from the conduct of the consultation.

The expansion of the ULEZ area is still scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 29th August 2023.

Peter Lansdown
traffichighways@northwoodresidents.co.uk

END OF REPORTS