



KRA
KINGSWOOD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
KRA Annual General Meeting - Agenda

Apologies - Jo Beale (Kingsway Junior School), PS Ellena Berry, Betty Ashton, Jo Corcoran

Minutes of the previous year's AGM - proposed by Julie Parsons, Seconded by Gerrard Hanscombe.

Matters arising - none.

Chair's Report

- Thanks to the committee for all their hard work during the last year and to the Street Reps who work tirelessly every month.
- Another busy year for the KRA.
- Issues with new street lights have been discussed at committee meetings and a representative from HCC has visited. They say new lights are better than old ones for lighting up street but they are not designed to light residents gardens and driveways. There is also an issue with the distance between lampposts in certain roads.
- The issues with the A405 junction and Greenwood Drive has been a priority. The KRA successfully won funding for a feasibility study. This has now taken place and it is hoped the results will be produced towards the end of April. One suggestion is installing a long-about which would reduce speed at the junction.
- Burglaries continue to be a problem on the estate. It is hoped that the Kingswood would become a Smartwater Village. The KRA are looking to purchase kits for all KRA members and it is hoped that Chemilab and the local councillors will be able to make a donation. The cost will be in excess of £8,000. Smartwater can be applied to high value items then if recovered by police, they are identifiable to an address. The initiative will also include signage around the estate and a big launch event which will be well publicised. Kingwood would be the first estate in Hertfordshire to become a Smartwater Village. A representative from Smartwater will address the meeting later.
- In addition to the Kingswood Facebook page, a separate page has been created purely for members. It will provide information for residents but will not have adverts, recommendations etc that the general page has. The residents page is called 'Kingswood Residents Association (Watford)'.
- The meeting was reminded that it was agreed at last year's AGM that membership subs will go up to £5 this year and everyone was still in agreement.
- Pot holes continue to be an issue. The councillors have reported many but residents can also do this on the Herts Portal.
- Concerns have been raised about the old Baptist church which was purchased by the Imam Hussein Foundation. There has been very little done and the front area is looking very messy. The councillors have emailed the owner but they say that they do not now have the funds to do the improvements.

Vice Chair's Report

- Thanks to Committee and Street Reps but especially for John for all his hard work on the committee.
- The Big Clean up was a great success last year and it is hoped to do again later in the year. Details will be published in the newsletter and on Facebook and it is hoped that it could turn into a social event with a barbecue at the end.
- The Christmas Party was a great success and thanks to Jo and the 'elves' for organising and running the event.

- One of the objectives for the year was to look at making the Kingswood a 20mph zone. A survey has been completed but it was noted that some areas of the estate we discounted due to the high speed of vehicles. The project is continuing and it is hoped it will be in place late spring/early summer.
- The re-opening of Kingswood Cafe has been warmly welcomed by residents and is providing a hub for the community to meet.
- It is great to see so many members attend the AGM.
- If anyone has any ideas on how the KRA can provide assistance of support, please get in touch via Facebook or contact details on the newsletter. Every Christmas, donations are made to local charities, please nominate any worthy causes.
- The KRA is a highly thought of residents association and it is hoped that they will be able to join with other successful associations to form a super committee. This will allow a bigger voice.

Secretary's Report - nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report and Audited Accounts

- Copies of the accounts were circulated before the meeting. They were agreed, proposed by Pat Gascoyne and seconded by Joy Keane.
- Membership is down slightly this year and currently stands at 673.
- The discrepancy in last year's advertising revenue, due to administrative problems, have been rectified. All advertisers are fully paid up.
- The Lucky House Draw revenue is slightly up with a profit of £2126.
- The Seniors Citizens Lunch was subsidised by £954 which is lower than previous years. They also raised £132 for Herts and Essex Air Ambulance during the event.
- The Spring Trip appears an expensive event but money comes in and goes out is over two financial years and the trip balances itself.
- The Children's Christmas Party was subsidised by £129, again a lower subsidy than previous years.
- All other events and day trips only led to a subsidy of £86.

Social Secretary's Report

- Senior Citizens Lunch was well received although it could do with more people attending.
- The trip to Brooklands on 14th April has been advertised in newsletter.
- There will be a trip to Compton Acres, near Bournemouth on 16th June.
- It is hoped to run a trip to Leeds Castle in July.
- In September, RAF Hendon will be celebrating 100 years and it is hoped to run a trip.
- There will also be the annual trip to the seaside in the summer and the shopping trip in November.
- The Children's Christmas Party is always very popular and is scheduled for December.
- Trips and events will only run if there are enough people to make them worthwhile. Please support all the events!

Fundraising Secretary's Report

- Thanks to all Street Rep for their hard work. We are sad to say goodbye to Mary Temple who has been involved in the KRA for many years along with her late husband. We wish her well.
- New Street Reps are needed for Kingswood Road and Meadow Road.
- Any help to sort and deliver newsletters to Street Reps would be gratefully received.

Editor's Report

- Jo apologised for being unable to attend meeting due to childcare. John read out her report.

- The KRA Logo has been redesigned and has received many positive comments.
- The Good Neighbourhood Scheme was set up. One award has already been presented and another due later this month. If anyone has nominations, please contact Jo - details on the newsletter.
- The format of the Newsletter is slowly being changed. If anyone has items of interest, please let Jo know.

Planning Manager's Report - nothing to report

Website Manager Report

- There have not been many hits on the website in the last year. It was created so members could access newsletters and history information about the estate,
- There have been concerns that old newsletters have members names, addresses and photo's and there was a request to remove these, which has been done.
- The meeting considered discontinuing the website and it was suggested that Watford Museum could be contacted as they may be interested in the historical information.

Dissolution of existing Committee/Sub-committee's and election of new Committee

There were no changes to committee. This was proposed Dominic Dunne and seconded by Moira Murray.

Break for Tea and Biscuits - thanks to Chemilab for sponsoring the refreshments.

Any Other Business/Open Forum/Prize Draw

- The Membership Prize draw was made and winners of £50 were Mr and Mrs Narroway, Mrs Gascoyne and Mr and Mrs Welch.
- A representative from Smartwater gave in-depth information about the company and also about the proposed Smartwater Village initiative. The idea is to deter crime on the estate by making any stolen property identifiable and therefore unwanted by criminals. There will be lots of signage to show the estate is covered and a high publicity launch event.
- Thefts from vans are still a concern but it was noted that the local neighbourhood teams run property marking events publicised on their website.
- There are concerns about the wooden fence on North Approach near the A405 is in poor condition in various places. The Councillors offered to look into this and hope to initiate repairs from their locality budget.
- There are a handful of resident who have turned 100 years old. It was agreed to make these people honorary members of the KRA and they do not need to pay memberships.
- It was also agreed that Mary Temple would become an honorary member due to her work on the KRA over many years.
- Residents were disappointed that police representative did not join meeting but it was noted that apologies were given due to an early morning operation tomorrow.
- The police are wishing to create a CCTV Map so they know where private CCTV could be recording and this could help with crime detection. The meeting was in agreement to this, however, it was noted that police are not always very pro-active in viewing any footage.
- Youths riding recklessly on their bikes was raised. Incidents should be reported to Police on the 101 number and they are also doing campaigns in local secondary schools.

Close of meeting - 9.15pm