



Brightons and Rosefield Residents' Association

Est. 1978

Minutes of AGM held at Portobello Baptist Church Hall – 7.30pm, 15 October 2015

Chair: Diana Cairns
Treasurer: Stephen Hawkins
Minutes Secretary: Megan Bastick

Attendees

Megan Bastick, Anne & Geoff Brocklehurst, Diana Cairns, Maria Devoy, Stephen Hawkins, Sue Hurford, Tom Smith, Margaret Smith, E McCulloch, A Johnstone, M Livesly, John Maule, Gillian Eunson, J Read, D Read, Derek Miller, Jim Hurford

1. Chair's Welcome

Chair welcomed all, in particular guest speaker Eve Roberts.

2. Apologies

Jan Waugh, Lewis Waugh, Pamela Carr, Stephen Carr, Liz Williamson, Mike Williamson, Anna Neubert, Gordon McCulloch, Margaret Coutts, John Berry, Peter Bradley, Vic Michel, Hannah Brocklehurst, Daniel Croft, Bob Jefferson, Clare Kellagher.

3. Minutes of 2014 AGM

Proposed by Anne Brocklehurst and seconded by Stephen Hawkins.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

4.1 Extending BRRA membership to Williamsfield Square residents

Action: Chair and street reps. to include Williamsfield Square in future newsletter distribution; Chair to contact their residents association.

- .1 Survey of BRAA members: general survey not carried out and no longer considered a priority; focus to remain on surveying on specific issues of interest.
- .2 Proposed Local Development Plan: Noted Chair has shared information.
- .3 Resurfacing of Brighton Place: BRAA consultation held. 93 responses, 80% in favour of retaining setts. Resurfacing expected to start January 2016.

5 Chair's Report

5.1 Activities have included:

- Meeting with Council Parks Officer to discuss bringing Rosefield Park to Green Flag Standard.
- Community Planting Day, November 2014
- Meeting on Towerbank Primary catchment review, March 2015, and submission to Council consultation
- Annual spring clean of Brighton and Rosefield Parks, May 2015
- Consultation on resurfacing of Brighton Place (see item 4.4)
- Big Lunch in Rosefield Park, June 2015, well attended
- Meeting with police on crime and antisocial behavior, June 2015, well attended and useful information imparted by police
- Meeting with Green Flag judges, June 2015 (see item 8b)

6 Treasurer's Report

6.1 Statement of Account dated 15 October 2015 was circulated. Accounts unanimously approved.

6.2 Subscriptions: Noted distribution of envelopes for people to pay subscriptions has been successful. Noted John's continued success collecting subscriptions in Lee Crescent. Jeff Brocklehurst noted he still to submit some subscriptions collected.

6.3 Noted that excess funds could potentially be used for planting in parks.

7 Election of Office Bearers

Diana Cairns offered to continue as Chair.

Stephen Hawkins offered to continue as Treasurer.

Megan Bastick offered to continue as Minutes Secretary.

All nominated by Sue Hurford seconded by Derek Miller, unanimously elected.

8 Parks

a) Brighton Park growing spaces – guest speaker Eve Roberts

Eve shared idea of a community project to grow food in Brighton Park, in raised beds, near to Sandford Gardens entrance, planned to be decorative. Project would be developed only after consultation, for example, with those living adjacent to the park, BRAA members, and more broadly. Council Parks Officer has encouraged idea. Eve would anticipate leading a committee of volunteers, and herself being responsible for overseeing the upkeep and presentation. In discussion, some concerns were expressed as to possible vandalism; some support expressed. 33 Noted thanks to Eve Roberts for presenting the idea.

Action: BRAA to support consultation.

b) Parks – general issues

In August 2015, Rosefield Park was awarded Green Flag status. Application for Green Flag status noted to help motivate Council attention when repairs and refurbishment required. Agreed Rosefield Park is looking much better than in previous years.

Council has declined to place litter bin near MUGA in Rosefield Park, citing vehicular access problems. Because of litter, seagulls becoming a menace.

Action: Chair to follow up with Council parks officer re: i) maintenance of Brighton and Rosefield Parks' walls, ii) trimming of holly trees, iii) maintenance of wooden snails.

Regarding litter, Chair to i) write to Head Teacher of Portobello High, ii) request Council deploy Environmental Wardens to challenge litterers, iii) request repair of bin on Brighton Place

9 Brighton Gardens Open Day 2016

9.1 Gardens Open Day planned for 15 May 2016, as part of Scotland's Gardens Scheme, raising money for charity. Already 5 gardens registered and others encouraged.

Action: Chair to share information with members

10 Towerbank school catchment review

10.1 Council is recommending much of BRAA area be moved to catchment for Duddingston Primary, despite BRAA submission opposing change. Support for BRAA deputation to Council Meeting on 22 October.

11 Crime and antisocial behavior

11.1 Vandalism by children continues to be a concern, particularly around Rosefield Park.

Action: BRAA to form subgroup to meet with police and seek ways to engage positively with the problem. Chair to follow up with police their suggestion of surgeries at the library and propose further meeting with community members.

12 AOCB

12.1 Portobello High School site: welcome suggestion for allotments and other growing spaces.

12.2 La Favorita pizza take away/ restaurant has changed to a bread factory, leading to problems of noise and question whether appropriate planning requirements for the changed use have been followed.

Action: Chair to inquire with planning authority

12.3 Diana applauded for her work as Chair over the last year.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 9.13pm