

Lant and Bittern Streets TRA

Committee Meeting

12th May 2009

Attendance

Joe Beckles	Chair
Damien Cheetham	Secretary
Mona Hamed	Treasurer
June Cook	Bittern House resident
John Cook	Bittern House resident
Sola Jacobs	Lant House resident
June Tremlett	Bittern House resident
Daniel Tremlett	Bittern House resident
Carol Price	Bittern House resident
Semira Sultan	Lant House resident
Patrick Thomson	Lant House resident
Irene Thomson	Lant House resident
Jemma Dixon	Housing Officer, LBS
Lynne Ottaway-Reid	Resident Involvement Officer, LBS
Nicky Torode	SGTO

Apologies

1. Matters Arising from previous minutes

Housing Surgeries

The Housing Officer is to hold a surgery before TRA meetings. It is the opportunity to discuss issues - not repairs – such as dog fouling with the Housing Officer. There was a discussion as to the start time for the TRA meeting which today was 7.30pm. It was suggested that 7pm would be ok so the surgery would be from 6.30pm.

Committee membership

JB pointed out that the Presiding Officer at the AGM had indicated that the TRA needed four officers to be on the committee. In fact it should have read four as minimum. JB proposed Shola Jacobs as a new committee member and Mona seconded. This decision can be ratified at a General Meeting. LOR read out relevant part of the Constitution which stipulates that it should be agreed at a general meeting.

2. Finances

Mona will produce a financial statement as soon as the new bank account receives funding. The new bank account has been opened. The closing balance from Lant and Trundle's account was £2,322 which will be transferred to the new account. There is also approximately £1,200 from the former Redman and

Bittern account which will be paid into the new account. There is an outstanding debt of £700 + to Joe Beckles.

As a new TRA there is a start-up grant of £350. The TRA would need to check with Yetunde.

Auditing accounts

NT explained she had been going through the receipts from expenditure incurred by Joe Beckles as Chair of the previous TRA. The spreadsheet would cross reference the receipts with decisions recorded in previous minutes which authorised expenditure. RIO suggested to contact RIM who has some agreements for expenditure in emails.

3. AOB

Closure of Lant Street – apparently tenants had received two consultation documents. However, most tenants present agreed that they had not been aware of this proposal. JB had been contacted by South London Press enquiring what the TRA thought about it/planned to do about it. It was agreed that Samira, Shola and Joe would draw up a petition. The TRA would also approach the Head of the school to discuss the TRA's plans to draw up a petition.

Dog fouling – DC informed the meeting that a Flag-the –dog- poo campaign had taken place on the estate. Residents were invited to discuss how to resolve this issue. Community wardens do operations including day and night surveillance. They also contact the alleged perpetrators. TRA wants to find out if dogs are allowed on the grass on the estate. One tenant suggests having a designated dog toilet area which would be cleaned up by owner when used.

Bike sheds –JB asks HO whether the Housing Office provide funds for bike sheds? The HO would get feedback on this. LOR informed the meeting that other TRAs are raising money to have them installed.

Cars - Over the last four months there has been an increase in break-ins and vandalism to cars. It was suggested the TRA to ask for more security cameras. Another suggestion was to introduce a neighbourhood watch scheme. The gate to Bittern has been damaged for 6 months. A repairs sticker has been put there but still not fixed. The Housing Officer will chase this up. Also lighting near the playground is out and the coping stones. It was agreed for the TRA to send a letter to LBS to see if they can install security cameras. RIO wondered whether the rise in car crime could be related to the closure of Lant Street?

Ward panel meeting – a tenant suggested that the TRA should be sending a representative to the ward panel meetings held every 6 weeks.

Parking Permits Charges - HO stated that a lot of tenants had come to the office/called the office to protest about the increased prices for visitor permits. It was agreed to discuss at a general meeting. JB asked if SGTO would be doing anything about it. NT would discuss with management at SGTO.

The meeting ended at 9.00pm