

Rivermead Residents Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting, Flat 14, 8th March 2010, 7.30pm

Present

Rachel Goodinson (Chair) [RG], Tim McCormick (Vice-Chair) [TM], Peter Walsh (Treasurer) [PW], Nicki Puckey (Secretary) [NP], Cat Coombes [CC], Gill Catchpole [GC], Tim Gregory [TG]

Apologies

Apologies received from Marilyn Ash and Phil Luckett..

Rachel's position as Chair

RG was attending the meeting to potentially resign from her position as Chair of the Association. RG has recently moved out of her flat in Rivermead, but is remaining as a leaseholder and renting her property. With this in mind she was of the opinion that it may be in the best interests of the Association if another committee member take over the position of Chair. The constitution states that as long as members of the committee are long term leaseholders they are entitled to remain on the committee. GC raised the possibility that RG could remain as Chair at least until the next AGM in November. TG also stated that RG should not be put under any pressure to remain as Chair, but that it must be her decision and one that she is willing to take should she remain. The general opinion of the committee members present was that RG is an excellent Chair and representative of the committee in communications with Freshwater and that should she remain it would be more than welcomed! After a short discussion RG agreed to remain as Chair until the AGM and then the position would be open to other members.

Service budget

Residents have recently received the new service charge invoice and accounts details. It was noted that £10k has been added to the budget for the installation of a digital communal aerial. At the last meeting it was understood that Freshwater were to canvass residents on the potential installation of a communal aerial before proceeding. RG has written to Freshwater but has as yet received no reply, and will now email them again. NP is to put on the noticeboard notices about the aerial installation charge and the potential connection charges will incur for residents wishing to connect to it.

Rubbish bins

RG informed Environmental Health about the concerns about the bins not being emptied properly over the last few months and the potential health risks. GC says that they visited site but only seemed to check one bin in Yale, which was in a reasonable state at the time. Therefore they didn't get a true assessment of the problem. GC had rung Freshwater about the lack of the forklift and this arrived on 3rd March. There is concern about the costs of hiring this forklift as listed in the service charge expenditure (£3250) which is a large sum to be continually paid.

Card reader in garage 1

The card reader for entry into garage 1 is still not working. NP also related to the committee the recent theft from garage 2 and the security concerns. There is a concern about the security of entering garage 1 since it takes so long for the card reader to activate.

Steps

The metal step edges had started to be installed. The steps at Harvard House have been done and look very good.

Noise problems

GC reported on a noise problem in Yale. Some residents tried to find out who was making the late night noises which resulted in a note being put through doors. When residents are new to the complex this can be a problem as the noise carries and new residents can be unaware of this. Also the chutes are being

used later than officially allowed. After a general discussion on noise problems GC said they would continue to monitor the noise in Yale and report again at the next meeting.

Treasurer's report / Website

No further expenses since Xmas. NP will get some "change of signatory" forms from HSBC so that the signatories can be updated. Website needs updating and the renewal of the email needs paying. TM will deal with these issues and take over the maintenance and updating of the website.

Leases Sub-Committee

PL has the recent letter to be sent to Freshwater about the lease extensions. Letters had been sent to residents who wanted to be involved and the next meeting needs to be arranged and the Freshwater letter finalised and sent off.

Any other business

GC had arranged and sent a card to Geoff for his upcoming 50th birthday, which was a very nice idea. She also mentioned that she would be absent for the next meeting in May as she will be in sunny Spain.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting was arranged for Monday 10th May 2010 in flat 19.