

**Minutes of the
Colliers Wood Residents Association Meeting
Held on 3 March 2020**

1. Welcome and introductions

Tom Searle, chairing the meeting, welcomed everyone.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from the neighbourhood police.

3. Election of Officers

Suzanne Gale had offered to stand as Chair of the Residents Association and Zoe Benouali had offered to act as her deputy. This was agreed.

4. Chimneys on Briscoe Road

The planning application for a second chimney on the site at Briscoe Road had been turned down before it reached the Planning Committee. Tom noted that there were vacancies on the industrial estate which would be a more suitable location. Caroline Cooper Marbiah would approach the owner of the unit, following advice from Siobhan McDonagh.

5. Update from Councillors

Kevin had been informed that he needed to apply via a Freedom of Information request for details of the decision to erect the mast in Colliers Wood Recreation Ground. He believed he recalled that Nick Draper had said that he would agree if a hedge was planted in front of the boxes associated with the mast.

The councillors had had a meeting on site about fly tipping at the end of Marlborough Road. Tenants in the flats above the shops did not have wheelie bins. If they used anything other than purple or blue sacks the waste was regarded as fly tipping. The councillors would be meeting with the landlords to ensure that tenants are informed when they move in.

A general letter about refuse collection will be going out to all residents.

There had been a proposal to remove wheelie bins from College Road because residents had complained that they did not have room in their gardens. This had been reversed because they had become accustomed to the bins.

The Council Officer had visited the area near Kiss Me Hardy and had not seen obvious signs of rats. He had asked for the area to be re-baited.

There had been an application for planting in the Recreation Ground from the Infrastructure Levy. Work on the Memorial Garden would be funded from the Highways budget. The shared space with Singlegate had not reopened. Caroline reported that it should reopen for the Easter holidays. She would establish who was responsible for funding and maintaining it.

Nat West would be willing to speak to local groups about the latest scams. People at the meeting would welcome this.

Caroline highlighted the Virtual Reality Festival to be held in Mitcham that weekend.

6. Update on MertonVision/GP surgery

Tatiana feedback from the sub group. The sub group continued to have concerns about the location of the entrance. The planners were still using the same floor plan and the subgroup had not received any information about the assessment on whether demolition of the existing building was necessary. There would be a public consultation before the plans were submitted to the planning committee.

7. National Trust and uncared for green spaces

The National Trust had asked if they could speak to the meeting. Kevin would liaise.

At the last meeting sewage was reported in Wandle Park. Laxmi Attawar had reported this. A resident explained that she had also been following this up. Thames Water have tested and say that it is not sewage but that the outflows are blocked. It is a problem for the Environment Agency. Laxmi and the other councillors agreed to follow this up.

8. Bench opposite Chicken Shop

The area outside the tube station was not attractive. Enforcement Officers were often in the area but could not impose fines on children dropping fast food litter from the bench. It was agreed to keep the matter on the agenda, looking working with local businesses to improve the area.

9. Infrastructure Levy

This had already been mentioned. Caroline offered to look into whether the paths in the Colliers Wood recreation ground could be raised as they have not been passable in the wet weather.

10. Police Report

Recent issues had been thefts from cars, in particular catalytic converters. The police will be using plain clothes officers to tackle this. There have also been a number of instances of people preying on vulnerable adults. A brothel in Byegrove Road has been closed down.

11. Any Other Business

Woodlands, the nursing home at the end of Cavendish Road, would like to come talk to the Residents Association. It was agreed to invite them for a 10 minute slot.

Margaret asked if anyone would be interested in joining up to look at enhancing green spaces locally.

The street party in Park road would be for residents of Park Road only this year.

There was a brief discussion on the expanding population and the extension of primary schools to match. 3 local primary schools expanded their intake.

The Myrna Close workday would be Sunday 15 March 10am - 1pm and Keep Britain Tidy would be litter picking in Wandle Park on 28 March 10 -12. Volunteers welcome to both.

12. Date & Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday 5 May 2020 at 7.30pm in St Joseph's Church Hall, Park Road.