

**Minutes of the  
Colliers Wood Residents Association Meeting  
Held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

**1. Welcome**

Suzanne Gale, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting, which would be recorded.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Karen Walker, Fiona Sydney, Slawek Szczepanski, Councillors Dave Ward and Laxmi Attawar

**3. Police Feedback**

Councillor Caroline Cooper-Marbiah reported that the Neighbourhood police were beginning to return to their normal duties. There were few problems to note, although there had been problems of littering by people using the parks at night. A security company was assisting police to monitor the use of parks.

Leci from the Neighbourhood police team joined the meeting. She reported that burglaries had reduced since the lockdown. There had been problems with anti social behaviour at the Abbey Mills. A security company had been hired and cctv installed. The situation had improved.

The crime figures would be forwarded to CWRA for distribution.

**4. Councillors' Feedback**

- Veolia Stats : Complaints  
Performance
- 20mph : consultation and implementation

Officers have not replied to questions yet. Suzanne asked how CWRA could obtain the information if council officers did not respond to councillors. Caroline explained that the councillors should be able to obtain the information but it is very difficult in the current situation. She would follow up. A discussion would be held outside the meeting.

**4.2 Local developments**

Caroline talked about the Street Safe temporary measures which were aimed at encouraging walking and cycling. Work would begin in July. The details were on the Transport for London Website.

Everyone was encouraged to complete the online consultation on Parks.

#### 4.3 Infrastructure Levy/Ward allocation fund

Ideas for improving the ward would be welcomed by councillors.

Proposals for a plaque in the memorial garden and mending the broken sign in the Recreation Ground would be funded.

The Community Centre would be requesting a bench.

#### **5. Feedback re: Merton Vision Consultation**

Kevin Godding had attended the recent steering group on behalf of the sub group.

The short consultation had produced 214 responses: 75% included negative comments, 25% were all positive. A group of residents had leafleted the nearest houses to the proposed development to increase awareness of the consultation.

Some changes had been made to the plans as a result of the consultation. A formal application for planning permission will be made at the end of July and a 3 month consultation period will follow.

Tom Searle reminded the meeting that the Residents Association did not have to take a view on the plans – the duty of the Residents Association was to ensure that residents were aware of and able to contribute their views to the consultation.

Tatiana confirmed that members of the Sub group still wondered if there was a better location for the surgery. In their view the Steering Group had addressed the most important points made by the sub group.

#### **6. Bids**

##### 6.1 Green Spaces Bid to the Ward Allocation fund

Helen McAuley explained that she, Margaret Rogers and a few others had been making improvements in Colliers Wood, most recently they had tackled the bindweed and the dead box hedge in the Recreation Ground. Subsequently IDVerde had been more active there. Local people had responded well, and several people were happy to give time to make the area more pleasant.

Helen had drafted a bid for equipment, plants and training to make improvements to the parks, the planters and to clean up the river where it runs through Wandle Park.

The idea was to re establish the Open Spaces sub group of the Residents Association. This would give the group a formal footing to work in partnership with IdVerde, apply for funds, consult residents, and encourage volunteers.

##### 6.2 Singlegate Playground Bid to the Neighbourhood Fund

Zoe Benouali reported that she and Justin Swarbrick had submitted a bid for the recreation ground last week. This was a larger bid, and there was more competition for this fund. The idea was to provide more for older children to do in the recreation ground. Another table tennis table, more benches and a proposal to link the three

play areas with gates were included in the bid. The internal gates would mean parents did not have to go out and in again if they had children in more than one play area.

### **Planning Applications**

Tom reported on the recent applications sent in for planning permission:

95 Devonshire Road to be converted into 6 flats by adding a basement and another storey.

227 Western Road (past the Tandem Works) plans to build a 4 storey block

A mast to replace the current mast at Mitcham gas works

The landlord at 2 Cavendish Road had applied to add another two storeys to the building. Caroline reported that the application would be rejected. Nevertheless local residents had begun a petition which would demonstrate the strength of local feeling.

Delivery motorbikes were using Byegrove and Denison Roads as a cut through to Haydons Road. Caroline asked to be emailed with the details.

### **AOB for Future Meetings**

Suzanne asked for ideas for future meetings.

### **Date & Time of next meeting**

Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 at 7.30pm