

Minutes of the Colliers Wood Residents Association virtual meeting held on 5 October 2021

1. Welcome

Suzanne Gale, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Helen McAuley and Zoe Benouali

3. Actions from the previous meeting

3.1 Cllr Dave Ward had not had a response from Cllr Laxmi Attawar about Transport for London's response to her request for an update on changes made in the High Street.

3.2 CWRA had submitted a response to the Local Plan.

3.3 Councillor Irons was attending to discuss fly tipping.

3.4 Letters were going out to College Road residents following the consultation on wheelie bins.

4. Fly-tipping Action Plan

Cllr Natasha Irons and Charlie Baker gave a presentation on fly tipping (slides available on CWRA website). The majority of flytips reported were of household waste left by local residents. The council would be piloting a new approach to fly tipping in Colliers Wood, informing residents that it is illegal, using a mobile camera and visible patrolling. They would also be partnering with a mobile app "Fix my streets" to provide a simple seamless reporting system for residents. The app would inform the person reporting when the fly tip was removed. The app (which is already in use across London) should be launched for use in Merton in November.

Charlie Baker reminded people to use the waste.enforcement@merton.gov.uk address to report any additional intelligence about fly tipping.

When the pilot was launched the messages would use pictures as well as words. The council had a 100% success rate prosecuting people who challenged or refused to pay the fixed penalty notice.

Councillor Irons and Mr Baker would return to the February meeting to consider the results of the pilot.

5. CWRA 2022/23 plan

Suzanne presented (slides on website) the aims of the committee for the coming year.

The committee would review the case for reapplying for charitable status.

The Residents' Association would benefit from more volunteers on the committee and more skilled people willing to be co opted for specific issues.

The meetings would alternate between zoom meetings and face to face meetings in St Joseph's Church Hall.

7 December 2021 would be short meeting followed by an early Christmas Party.

The AGM would be a brief meeting in January 2022.

The April meeting would be face to face. Candidates standing for the council elections in May would be invited.

The August meeting would again brief and followed by a social event.

6. Development Sub-Group Update

Phil Geraghty confirmed that the response to the Local Plan had been submitted, A copy was on the CWRA website. Dave Ward explained that the Eddie Katz planning application and the application for the CW Towers were likely to be discussed at the next meeting of the Planning Committee. It would not be confirmed until two weeks before the meeting.

7. Shared Play Area Bid

Zoe Benouali had submitted a bid to the Neighbourhood fund for teenage appropriate play equipment in the Recreation Ground. She had worked with the council and it's contractors on producing the bid.

8. Parks and Green Spaces Sub-Group Update

Maria Barker reported that the Colliers Wood Councillors, Dave, Laxmi and Caroline, had organised a visit by the Mayor to say thank you to Colliers Wood volunteers. He had been given a tour of some of the green spaces and met with Street champions, Green spaces volunteers and the 'spin us a yarn' group in the Recreation Ground.

The group would be clearing the floating pennywort in the Wandle.

A bid for a bee friendly garden in the dormant beds at the Cavendish entrance to the Recreation Ground had been submitted.

The group had over 2 000 bulbs to plant in the next month.

Keith Spears had organised a concert and donated the £95 raised to the group.

Maria mentioned concerns that had been raised about trees being felled as part of the High Path development in the neighbouring ward.

The group was looking for a space for a greenhouse and would welcome suggestions.

8. Air Pollution Monitoring

A small group of people, led by Tom Walsh, had been monitoring levels of air pollution following a request from the Residents' Association. Tubes had been placed on the High Street, outside Singlegate School and behind Wandle Park in Byegrove Road. The tube on the High Street showed that it was a pollution hot spot.

There would be a discussion on what could be done to reduce pollution at the February meeting.

9. Any other business

9.1 Fiona Sydney, Chair of the local police panel, was seeking more volunteers for the panel.

9.2 The police would be conducting an operation targetting speeding on the high street in March. They would be appealing for residents to work with them.

9.3 No one present was sure how to report blocked drains. One suggestion was to use the Fix my streets app discussed earlier in the meeting.

10. Date & time of next meeting

Tuesday, 7 December 2021 at 7.30pm. This will be a meeting in person and, to celebrate it will be a short meeting followed by a Christmas party.

Actions agreed	By whom	Initial Deadline
Update on TfL changes	Dave Ward to remind Laxmi Attawar	Before 5/10/21 OUTSTANDING
Flytipping pilot	Suzanne Gale via Natasha Irons	Results to come back to February meeting
Implement results of College Road bin consultation	Suzanne Gale via Natasha Irons	Letters going out to residents
Discussion on actions CWRA could take to reduce air pollution	Tom Walsh	February meeting