

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
KENLEY AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
HELD ON 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024 AT 7.45 PM AT KENLEY MEMORIAL HALL**

**Present :105 Members; Councillors Gayle Gander & Ola Kolade; Chairman of Kendra, Christine Heal and 7 Committee Members.**

**Apologies: John Davenport , Mike Street, Dawn Bennett**

1. Chairman, Christine Heal welcomed Councillors and Members and outlined the format of the meeting and were overwhelmed by the number of members attending.
2. **Address by Local Police** – Chairman introduced the Local Metropolitan Police. Police Team Sergeant, Tony Brown, PCSO Karolina Asmit and PC Jack Killian. PS Tony Brown began his speech saying that Kenley is the 2<sup>nd</sup> best Ward in the Borough of Croydon with burglary being quite random. North of the Borough is far worse for crime. He spoke about one day with a radar gun where they stopped 27 vehicles and seized 4. One refused to stop. One vehicle the driver arrested and was in possession of cannabis. Another related to a theft the day before and the driver is due to go to court. PS Brown continued saying that a speed camera will be set up at top of Hayes Lane in the next few weeks. Member said that there should be more speed control over the Godstone Road, there is a lack of 30 m.p.h. signs. Tony Brown said that in future months he hoped there would be more PCs on the streets and to save them driving over from Addington.  
Chairman thanked PS Tony Brown
3. **Address by local MP The Rt Hon. Chris Philp** – Chairman gave a very warm welcome to Chris Philp and said that he would take questions after his speech.  
**The Rt Hon Chris Philp, Minister for Police & Crime** began by thanking the Police and said he spends a great deal of time with the Home Office and the Police around the country, He highlighted the stabbing which had recently occurred in Hainault and said we need to get knives off the streets. He mentioned the **NHS** with Purley Hospital's expansion over the last 4/5 years. Also government funding has enabled the development of a new medical centre close to Chipstead Valley Road. Previous Croydon Councillors knocked down so many family homes to build blocks of flats and tried to spoil areas such as Kenley. Our area is now protected under Mayor Jason Perry. **Purley Pool**, Chris Philp said plans are going ahead for a new leisure centre with 250 retirement flats and car park to help regenerate Purley. The pool will be built first and the flats later. **Police – a facial recognition data base** is being built with funding of £1/4b to spend over 3 or 4 years. Exciting matches leading to more arrests can only be beneficial. Chris Philp continued saying he had meetings with the Met Commissioner and Ministry on Justice about new prisons being built with 7000 more places. A grant of £18.5m to **develop Croydon centre** to make a visit more enjoyable. Chris Philp then answered some questions on Assisted Dying also one member so pleased Purley Pool going ahead. Chairman thanked Chris Philp for his time to come and update the members of KENDRA.
4. **Chairman introduced Kenley's Councillors Gayle Gander and Ola Kolade** who updated members of work that they had been doing.  
Flood alleviation works by Kenley Station; the Reduction of Planning Applications and appeals dismissed. Connecting Kenley, Community Hubs, Number of people helped by the Food Stop; Removal of Travellers and added security at the Recreation Ground on Higher Drive. A fight for short term cheap parking at Kenley Station to help local shops. Gayle said a Local Plan consultation which be published very soon for a 6 week consultation with the aim of submitting the plan review to Secretary of State. These include Removal of Intensification area; refining the housing targets; Contributing to meeting the borough's housing need; Confirmation of the Spatial Strategy to concentrate development to the most sustainable locations, such as the Croydon Opportunity Area and District Centres.; developing vibrant places for people to live, work and visit focused on Town Centre renewal and regeneration; Amending policies to place more emphasis on design and character over density; Inclusion of a new policy in respect of Houses in Multiple Occupation; Identification of Local Green Spaces; Updates to policies to address climate change and Updates to policies to reflect changes to the National Planning Policy Frameworks and relevant legislation.  
Gayle said they were very annoyed about the bus service trial that was cancelled a couple of days before it was due to take place due to turning in Wattendon Road. Further consultation to take

place. A member asked about rising Council Tax – Gayle said it is only rising by 2 ½%, it had risen by 21% in the last few years. Croydon Council in much better position financially.

Chairman thanked Gayle and Ola and said we are really lucky to have you and all the hard work you do.

**5. Chairman introduced Steve Dennington, LBC Head of Spatial Planning, The Kenley Good Growth Fund** – Spoke about the projects that he has been involved in after funding was secured in 2021 and the Advisory Group was established. Air Cleaning project of OLL, Kenley Memorial Hall – new kitchen and charging unit and revamp of car park. Cycle hub at the station, New signs for walkers around Kenley, parklets at OLL introducing plants, Reducing speed around the airfield and trying to keep speed down on Hayes Lane.

**6. Chairman's Review of 2023/24** – Looking back over the past year April 2023 to now 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024, our plans, discussions at meetings and activities have been dominated by two topics. (1) Many of you will have been expecting our On Line Member Mojo System to be very much in evidence on the Agenda and, yes, Geoff James will be outlining this new scheme after my review is complete. You will be able to ask him questions after. (2) Our second committee topic dwells on our On-going problem of not having enough actual committee members. Therefore there are fewer voices to raise essential discussions and opinions that need to be aired and/or their respective availability when help is needed for other activities we try to carry through. So could you be a committee member – there is a number of vacancies shown on our 2024/25 nomination form – and help boost our numbers!! Recently we were able to co-opt a new enthusiastic member to our committee, Mike Lott, as our Police Liaison Officer. He will be attending the periodically held Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panel meetings and then reporting back to the committee. However, at this AGM we are resigned to losing our Hon Treasurer, Angela, as this particular role raises conflicting issues with her Senior Role in her professional career. So if you know someone who would be willing and able to take this position on, we will be pleased to speak with that person. We have also met and been introduced to Dawn Bennett, as the newly appointed Croydon South West Local Community Officer, based at OLL Baptist Church to help encourage 'Connecting Kenley', as well as fostering more local voluntary community partnerships across this part of our Borough. The Chairman then moved to display board and went through KENDRA activities showing

1. Committee Meetings (monthly except August) 2. Production of KENDRA magazine 3. Planning issues/reports 4. Discussion re Kenley Road/pathways 5. Part of Kenley Good Growth Committee 5. Working with TfL/Councillors re transport and ESTC attendance 7. Police Activities (Police Liaison) 8. Regular Litter Picks 9. Advertising Kenley Social Events on Noticeboards 10. Work on Wattenden Pond (to restart) 11. Searching for new Committee Members and Road Stewards 12. Running 'Save a Life Day'. The Chairman thanked Paul Keating for setting up Save a Life Day where nearly 200 people attended. Members applauded the Chairman.

Geoff James spoke about Member Mojo and said that majority of members have moved over to Member Mojo and their subs from December 2024 will automatically be flagged up. Road Stewards need to know those who are unable to pay by Member Mojo and remain paying by BACS/cash. Any member who pays 3 years in advance Member Mojo will help reduce our admin efforts. If any payments are duplicated they will be taken as a donation in that year. By end of February 2025 hopefully as many members as possible will be on Member Mojo.

#### **9. Minutes of Autumn General Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 –**

The minutes of the Autumn General Meeting held in October had been circulated to members and as there were no matters arising the Minutes were agreed and signed.

#### **10. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer, Angela Morrison introduced herself and reported that she had prepared 2023 accounts in line with previous years and that they had been verified by an independent examiner. In our opinion they have been properly prepared and they give a true and accurate reflection of the state of KENDRA'S financial affairs as at 31 December 2023. The final accounts have been made available on the KENDRA website and a shortened version published in the Spring Kendra magazine. There are some copies available to see this evening. The main points of note in the accounts are: (a) Subscriptions received are higher than last year and have exceeded those in immediate pre-Covid years (whilst this includes subs for 2022 and 2021 this is less than £200 so majority is for 2023 and future) (b) Newsletter advertising income is up slightly compared to last year and note that this will be the final year of issuing 4 magazines per year. (c) Operating expenses are lower than last year, with reductions in insurance, printing costs and IT equipment (one of) (d)

Additional costs incurred in 2023 included Kendra Website renewal, AGM costs including sound system rental, KMH rental, Member Mojo software. We ended the year with an operating surplus of £4,099.73. Reserves have increased to £28,437.40. Angela said she was happy to answer question. There were no questions.

Angela thanked Jerry Connor from Kenley Financial for his support reviewing the accounts. Can we have a show of hands for Acceptance of Accounts for 2023 and that we are happy for Jerry Connor to continue as Independent Examiner. **The vote was unanimous.** There was a round of applause for Angela's report.

**11. Election of KENDRA Committee for 2024/25** – Chairman read out the names of the Committee who were willing to stand for 2024/25 and Christine Heal had agreed to stand another year as Chairman. **There was a unanimous vote of agreement.**

**There was another unanimous vote for Gayle Gander to be President.**

**12. Motions to be Voted On –**

- (i) KENDRA subscriptions remain at £5 per household for Year Commencing 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025
- (ii) Committee expenditure limit to be £1500. Above this figure approval must be sought at next AGM.
- (iii) Production of Kendra Magazine to continue until the next AGM with an approval limit up to £5000 which may be to one supplier.

**There was unanimous vote on all three motions.**

**13. Review of Current Local Issues - Planning** – Geoff James reported that the number of Planning Applications has gone down by half. The aggressiveness of contractors has also improved. Not nearly as many desperate residents contacting Geoff. Plan for Kenley is that the Intensification Zone be removed and that Kenley remains a leafy suburb of Croydon. Chairman thanked Geoff for all his work.

**14, Any Other Business** – Welcomes Road Residents Association thanked Gayle Gander, Ola Kolade and Geoff James for their help with many planning applications.

Gayle said that they were flabbergasted when trial of new bus route was halted. Chairman and Gayle had been working with TfL. Member asked for more publicity when bus will run.

Paul Keating showed members a leaflet which will be circulated in the CR8 area to try and encourage more members.

**Chairman, Christine Heal closed the meeting at 21.53 and thanked the Members for attending**