

## **Barking Reach Residents Association Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday 21st February 2018  
Rivergate Centre (7:30pm to 9pm)

Committee: Pete Mason (chair), Venilia Amorim (treasurer), Habib Qazi, Fran Mitchell, Nabila Sherkhan, Siarul Islam, and apologies from Nuno Amorim, Nishma Patel, Syed Islam, Marta Varesi and Rumina Sultana  
27 residents present

### **Meeting started at 7.40pm**

Agenda agreed as amended.

### **Minutes and Matters arising:**

Minutes were agreed.

### **Matters arising:**

**Fly-tipping:** The Barking Reach Residents Association (BRRA) has written to councillors and Margaret Hodge is also following up but has not had a reply as yet. We plan to write to the council direct. Fly-tipping on Animal Way off of Marine Drive reported by a resident.

**Freehold:** Margaret Hodge has now signed up to the All-Party Parliamentary Group on leasehold reform. Chair proposed that we might now consider drawing up demands for what this group should do next.

### **Link Parking**

The chair outlined how committee member Syed Islam had beaten Link Parking.

**The chair proposed a Motion on Link Parking:** “We call on Link Parking to cease taking residents to court for payment of fines incurred during the first three months of the imposed restrictions dating from 27 March 2017, due to the confusion that reigned over the three letters issued by the landlords in April.” Proposed by Pete Mason, Seconded by Venilia Amorim. Agreed overwhelmingly.

### **Parking**

The chair reported that on Monday 19 February he and the treasurer had met with Matt Carpen of Barking Riverside Limited (BRL) who are the developers and landlords in the Barking Riverside development. BRL will apply for planning permission next week. The council will run a public consultation. Opposition is expected.

The chair proposed a **Motion on parking:** That the residents’ association submits to the council's consultation on the new BRL parking planning application the following:

“That this meeting welcomes the additional spaces but believes that the single yellow line restrictions proposed for the streets Gatward to McAllister north of Galleons Drive should be 9-5pm Monday to Friday, not 7am-7pm.

“Otherwise, residents with two cars will have nowhere to park when they return from work and carers who run their children to school in their second car will have to move their car before 7am while looking after children.

“Consequently the current proposed restrictions are unworkable.”

We encourage residents to submit the same.

Proposed by Pete Mason, Seconded by Venilia Amorim. Agreed overwhelmingly.

### **Service Charge**

Venilia Amorim reported that there were a number of questions that the residents association wanted to ask Pinnacle Places, which are the management agents for BRL. A group of volunteer residents had been formed to approach Pinnacle. There was discussion about the role of this group and it was agreed that in addition to the main issue of the service charge, it would be able to raise other issues. Venilia reported that the committee wrote to Ben Dixon and Priya Rawal of Pinnacle on the 1st February asking to meet, and again on the 8th February after meeting with Ben informally. However, no formal reply was forthcoming. The Chair reported that the association took the opportunity to raise the issue with BRL directly in the meeting on Monday 19th February, noting that Ben usually replies the following day, but in this instance we had not had a reply. Ben had been on holiday. BRL said that Pinnacle should reply on the service charge issue and promised to raise it.

### **Constitution**

The new constitution was adopted by 17 votes to 4.

### **Heating**

The chair reported that Zing Power, which had taken over the heating supply of four blocks of flats but had refused to undertake maintenance on them, had been removed after they threatened to remove the communal heating systems from the four blocks by 25th January. Residents of Samuel Garside House were without heating for just over two weeks and Ernest Websdale House for roughly 40 days. This is a life threatening situation and compensation is surely due. A resident of John Miller House reported they had not suffered a complete loss of heating. Residents of Robert Lewis House got £200 each. The Chair reported on the reply from BRL to the letter from Margaret Hodge written on our behalf and the ten questions emailed to Zing, Homeground and Pinnacle asking "What is the requirement to pay on an estimated bill?"

**The chair proposed a Motion on Heating:** "We call on Adriatic to provide adequate compensation to residents for the loss of heating."

Proposed by Pete Mason, seconded by Venilia Amorim.

### **Any Other Business**

Proposal moved by resident Andrew Boff and seconded by resident Yvonne Thomas: "That all communication relevant to the association is posted on social media accessible to all."

Agreed unanimously.

It was proposed to invite the police to the next meeting.

It was proposed that the residents' association ask that bollards be erected to keep cars from parking on the cycle lane on Galleons Drive as residents find as it is, it's dangerous to cycle or even walk on the pavement. This is mostly experienced towards the end of the road, approaching the junction with Crossness Road.

**Meeting closed 9.10pm**