

SCRA AGM – 10 April 2019

1. Welcome - Meeting began at 7.35pm

2. One Public Estate (OPE) Update - presented by Gordon Cooper (Project Manager, Property Unit - Resources, Brent Council)

- Update on the last 2 years - aim is to encourage Public Sector organisations to collaborate with others, to improve services and deliver affordable homes.

- What they are not doing – they are not building on the playing fields.

- Brent's response to Sadiq Khan's plan – re: building more homes. Northwick Park has been identified as a growth area from the Brent plan – this is a potential for property development.

- Northwick Park – is one of the 8 growth areas in Brent. Recognised as low density. It suggests a net increase of 2,500 homes. Should be no loss of green space. Property development cannot be higher than the height of Northwick Park hospital & University. – This is still at draft stage.

- Traffic/ Roads – more government funding – housing infrastructure funds. Brent bid for it and has been granted £9.9m funding – this can help with improving congestion on Watford Road and improving housing in the area.

- Seeking to improve public transport in the area. CIL – tax that is put on any planning application that goes towards development in the local area. We would like Northwick Park area to be supported.

- Full public consultation – will happen in the summer and we will inform everyone soon.

- The council would like to know how our community would like to spend the CIL.

Q&A from residents:

Q: How much has Brent spent so far on this consultation?

A: All funding came from OPE.

Q: Brent did not take into consideration when we objected to other projects, recently Byron Court expansion. Majority of residents objected, it went ahead anyway; Brent promised they would not put a back entrance or a 3G pitch, both happened anyway. The community objected to this. Waste of money. Examples given of the developments that are already on the top of SCD, Sudbury Hill, etc. Brent is allowing all the planning, but we are left to deal with all the congestion.

A: Cannot answer the question.

Q: You've mentioned 2,500 units, we recently had the experience of local developments – Carlton Avenue West – blocked full of traffic. Building 2,500 units—construction deliveries will block the area. Can only foresee massive traffic jams, massive problems.

A: We don't know yet, they still need to do a construction plan.

Q: £9.9m to improve Watford Road, what about this new access road? At least 3 routes are being looked at. Discussions are in play with the Golf course. Can you tell us about the options for the access road for the development? Can we have more details about road proposals? Can you clarify the details of the contract?

A: Due diligence completed recently, contract isn't signed yet. We'd like to be transparent. There is no transport report, they have employed a transport consultant. The options of the preferred route

will be covered at the public consultation meeting. Contract for the grant has not been looked at. There is no Highway consultant report as of yet.

Q: What happens when accidents occur? Please consider this when speaking to the consultant.

A: Will be discussed.

Q: Where are the other sites? Will it affect our site?

A: Wembley, Burnt oak, Colindale, Alperton, South Kilburn. Cannot answer the 2nd question.

The general consensus of residents – Public consultation means nothing; lack of trust— Brent pays lip service to consultation but don't listen and do what they want anyway.

3. Sudbury in Bloom Update - presented by Martin Page (Tree Officer, Brent Council)

Q& A from residents:

Q: Contacted Brent Council, many times about pruning a street tree and have had no response. Causing damage.

A: Will pass on the details to Gary Rimmer— he is responsible for this. Note—easy to get funding to for small projects but harder to get money for maintenance.

A: from Cllr Perrin—tree maintenance is due to happen in our area over the next 12 months

A: from MP—he (along with Keith Barker from the SCRA Committee) will undertake an audit of trees across the Estates—as some have been lost in the recent storms, as well as some historic gaps—and will apply for funding for replacement trees.

Q: There is a cherry tree (Abbotts Drive), the centre part is dead, and has been for some time.

A: Martin will look into this—it may need maintenance, or replacing. Any replacements—a number of residents commented on a preference for Cherry Trees—MP said, where possible, it depends on the right tree for the right situation, and cross-pollination.

4. Safer Neighbourhood Team Update - presented by PCSO Charlie Charalambous

- Only changes to your team—they were Brent Policing but now 'North West Policing'

- Negatives – the aggravated burglaries on Pebworth Estate, concerning for everyone. Crime rates have not changed in the Northwick Park area – with WhatsApp and Courier articles it can seem as if there's a lot happening, but still relatively low crime rate in the area.

- Positives – haven't had any around recently. Aggravated burglary 'teams' have been arrested. Owl – It is a system to email us a lot quicker to advise us of updates.

- Anti social behaviour – barely anything around. About 1-2 'scrappy' vehicles are getting lifted every week.

- Summer is approaching – more likely to be more cold callers, and opportunists.

- Hugga Mugga and lottery ticket scams, etc—keep reading the articles in The Courier and, if you can join the Watch WhatsApp groups—they're really useful.

Q&A:

Q: Parking is a nightmare on The Fairway, vans obstructing the views, etc.

A: Unless the car is not taxed/MOT, legally there is nothing we can do. If there are vans owned by HMOs let us know, we will check on occupancy – recent raid on a local HMO, co-ordinated with

Council Officers, there were 20 occupants.

A: KJ—we will be having a residents meeting to discuss parking, etc in (probably) June.

Q: SNT in Sudbury Hill/Perivale have been able to negotiate a discount for Ring door bells with the company. £50 discounted has been offered.

A: Will look into this.

5. Pebworth Estate Private Security Trial Update - presented by Akee, organiser and resident of Pebworth Estate:

- One month in to a 3 month trial (11 March – 11 June). Purpose of the trial is to see if the solution works for us. Felt a physical deterrent needed, especially after aggravated burglaries.

-7 days a week, different shifts.

- Feedback so far – really positive. No incidents as such. Security patrol officers are very engaged. Meet and greet service has been used a lot.

- Cold callers & ASB – reduction has been seen. A report is provided on any incidents occurred and how the patrollers approached the situation.

- Next step to see how to move forward.

- Frequency was a concern – may be an option on obtaining another officer.

- SNT are being updated by the security patroller.

KJ—on the Sudbury Court Estate—we currently have a couple of residents doing some research for us—we will pass this on in due course.

6. AGM 2018 Minutes: Unfortunately the 2018 Minutes were not available for ratification. They will be ratified at next AGM. If anybody would like access to them in the meantime, contact us and we'll email them.

7. SCRA Elections:

- Chair: Vacant (KJ has continued as Acting Chair for 2 years now)

- Vice-Chair: Vacant

- Treasurer: Pareet Shah

- Secretary: Noura Abdul-Cader

- Executive Members: Sukaram Chopra, Beverley Persaud, Dolores Davis, Paul Davis, Vanessa Barker, Keith Barker, Hardip Singh, Narinder Bajwa, Alison Silva, Alisha Patel, Kaye James

- Honorary Auditor: Paul Lorber

- Honorary Solicitor: Vacant

- Membership Secretary: Aileen and Chris Bommer

- Courier Editor: Kaye James

8. SCRA Accounts - presented by Pareet Shah - good financial health

9. Membership - up slightly on last year

10. SCRA Senior Citizen Outing 2019 - 7th August

11. Thanks and closing remarks - meeting closed by 10pm