

RA Council Meeting Report

26 October

EMMA HOWARD, RA CHAIR

RA Council meets (via Zoom) four times a year at 8 pm, to be updated by its Executive and to discuss various matters related to the Residents Association. Our October meeting was attended by 12 Council members and two visitors. Suburb residents are most welcome to join these meetings and can ask a question at the beginning of the meeting but are not able to join in wider discussions but can listen in.

If you are interested in standing for Council, then please contact chair@hgsra.uk. You will also be expected to join one of our standing committees or take on a role for the RA: there are always things to be done and Head of Litter Picking remains an immediate opportunity!

We discussed finance and membership; grants and events, including the forthcoming events questionnaire emailed as part of the November eNews and available on our website hgsra.uk.

The editors of Suburb News updated Council members on a new team of Year 10 pupils from Henrietta Barnett School who have written this edition's Youth Section of Suburb News which we hope appeals particularly to the younger residents in the Suburb.

We heard from Council member, Maria Schlatter, who is leading the effort to create a new community fruit orchard in Lyttleton Playing Fields. There are still some details to agree with LB Barnet and the delivery date for the specially grafted fruit trees selected by our volunteers is awaited, but a recent volunteer meeting was well attended, and we are extremely pleased that this has generated so much interest and support. If you are interested, please contact Maria on fruitorchard@hgsra.uk.

UPDATES ON MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST:

1. Charitable giving: I wrote in the previous edition that RA Council members have the usually pleasurable role of bestowing grant support for local charities and bodies doing good work. The recent meeting was no different and we agreed funding as follows:

- **Northway Gardens Organisation:** up to £4,815 to support expenses incurred here including 2 new park benches (exact details still to be agreed) and general maintenance works. RA Council remains extremely supportive and appreciative of the excellent work done by volunteers in the gardens. If you would like to support their efforts as a volunteer or financially, please contact Brian Ingram on 020 8458 5313 or ingrambluebird@hotmail.com.

- **Hampstead Heath Extension:** the Hampstead Heath management team is committed to installing new playground equipment in the existing enclosed location on the Extension aimed at a wider age range up to 12 years, subject to funding being available. They have been carrying out a community engagement exercise and are in touch with several local families who are keen to see this put into place in 2022. We await further details and costings but all money for the playground, estimated to cost around £40,000, will need to be raised from community funding and donations with the City of London in the process of setting up a fund-raising site for this purpose. RA Council agreed to contribute £10,000 towards the project and will work with the Heath team to raise local funds. More information to follow when available.

2. Road and Traffic Matters: RA volunteers continue to seek improvements in our area. The number of issues and CPZ requests raised in the area of HGS south of the A1 has led LB Barnet to carry out a Garden Suburb Engagement on Parking: we hope residents will have made good use of the survey to voice concerns they might have.

- **Willifield Way/Asmunds Hill junction:** LB Barnet have now repainted this roundabout as well as carried out repainting of line markings and repairs to potholes here.



- **Addison Way width restrictors:** works here seem to have made the posts more robust, but it doesn't appear that they do much to deter drivers from using this residential road as a route to avoid Henley Corner traffic lights. No doubt residents here will have commented in the Garden Suburb survey.

- **Meadway/Hampstead Way roundabout:** this continues to make progress through the LB Barnet system and the report on this was tabled for the 30 June Finchley & Green Residents Forum. Detailed plans are available via the link below but essentially involve putting traffic calming measures and crossing points for residents in on Meadway: <https://tinyurl.com/mkx8uyup>.

- **Kingsley Way:** it looks likely that there will be a LB Barnet led review of the need for a pedestrian crossing outside the entrance to Lyttleton Playing Fields.

3. Publications: readers will have noted the refresh of Suburb News. Readers may be interested in the fact that the 'new' Suburb News costs less to produce than the previous version as printing and editorial costs have been reduced. Advertising income results in the newspaper making a small profit for the RA. Editors continue to receive excellent feedback on our local newspaper delivered free to over 5,000 households and businesses in the Suburb. The volunteer distribution team is going strong again following its long Covid enforced absence and did a brilliant job on distributing Issue 147 despite a hiccup in delivery from the new printers. We continue to seek volunteer distributors in several locations: please email lornapage@talktalk.net if you can help especially on Falloden Way/Market Place, Winnington Road and Ingram Avenue.

We receive a lot of interest in advertising in Suburb News. Advertisers commit to at least four consecutive advertisements to maximise publicity they receive, and their adverts have more impact on our smaller paged newspaper. If you are interested in advertising, please email chair@hgsra.uk.

The 100th Edition of Suburb eNews for November was emailed to members on Halloween. This is a monthly newsletter packed full of



Play your part in keeping our Suburb special

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association was formed over 100 years ago. Membership is open to all residents, and non-residents can join as associate members. With nearly 2,000 members, it has grown in strength to become a positive and powerful force on the Suburb, by:

- organising social and cultural events including fêtes, picnics and a New Year's Eve party •
- arranging open meetings for residents to express their views and pre-election political meetings •
 - maintaining and enhancing our environment and the character of the Suburb •
- representing member views by lobbying local councillors, politicians, planning authorities etc •
 - supporting local societies and voluntary organisations •
 - donating to various local charities including The Proms at St Jude's •
- producing the RA website, Suburb News & eNews, the Directory and the HGS List email group •
- giving access to the Master Tradespeople List: recommendations made by fellow Suburb members •
 - helping to keep the Suburb safe and engendering an inclusive community spirit •

Join the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association online at hgsra.uk/join (or post the form below)

Join the HGS Residents Association or renew your membership. (One subscription covers everyone at the address)

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Postcode _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Annual subscription amount (Minimum payment £15 per annum) £ _____

Fellowship donation* (Optional) £ _____

(To support Fellowship, a Suburb charity, in its work for Suburb senior citizens)

Total £ _____

* I declare by making this donation that I want to Gift Aid my donations to Fellowship House and am a UK taxpayer paying sufficient tax to meet the Gift Aid on my donation. I agree to Fellowship receiving my details for this purpose.

(Delete the above declaration if you do not wish to Gift Aid your donation or do not pay sufficient tax)

I wish to pay:

by cheque (payable to HGS Residents Association). Please write your address on the back of the cheque.

by bank transfer to HGS Residents Association: Bank: HSBC Sort Code: 40-03-11 Acc. No: 91605747

Please return this form (with cheque if applicable) to:

The Membership Secretary, HGS Residents Association, PO Box 67700, London NW11 1NS

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