

# FORTESCUE PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

*You are reminded of the restrictive covenants which attach to all houses on the estate. No extensions, conservatories or other external alterations are permitted without the prior written consent of the Residents Association.*

## MINUTES OF THE 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FORTESCUE PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (FPRA) HELD ON MONDAY 11TH MAY 2015

In attendance: 26 residents including 7 Committee Members

The chairman Giles Norman formally welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the members of the committee.

### 1. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Ray Wood, already put a pie chart showing the breakdown of spending for 2014 on the Fortescue Park website but explained for those who had not seen it yet. Expenditure for 2014 was £20,600 broken down as follows: Gardening £17,898.93 ( Gavin Jones £15,980.13 and The Tree Company £ 1918.80), repairs and maintenance £706.00, insurance £ 445.20, professional fees £611.14, administration £818.78, bank charges £ 119.95. Ray advises that the balances are both adequate and healthy. Only ? houses have not yet paid their fees and Ray will be sending out reminders and taking legal action if necessary. Residents are reminded to ensure they specify which house they are making the payment for otherwise the payment cannot be traced easily. However, the outstanding debt figure is very low compared to the last few years. The annual accounts will be available on the website around September-October this year.

### 2. Maintenance Fees for 2015

The fees are currently £270 per annum (reduced to £240 for early payment or by Standing order) – Ray proposed we maintain the same amount for 2016 and this was seconded by the residents.

### 3. Gardens & Communal Areas Report

#### Gardens

Betty Wood advises that Gavin Jones continue to do an excellent job in the gardens working on a weekly basis but they have a limited period of time and cannot do everything. Betty meets the gardeners every Friday morning at 07.30 to walk round the estate. Senior management at Gavin Jones also attend every two weeks. She also spends time with The Tree Company checking the condition of the trees we are all responsible for.

Betty was thanked for her work and several residents commented on how lovely the gardens were looking. There will be some new planting of grass and shrubs. Betty requested residents not to ask the staff of Gavin Jones for work they needed but to send an email to our email address or approach Betty directly at no 56 with any requests. Of course there is no problem to ask the staff of Gavin Jones for help/work after hours.

One resident requested some work be carried out to an overgrown hedge close to houses 31-44 to allow full use of the pavement.

Betty also mentioned there would be some lovely new flowers beds along Wellesley Road. The appointment of Gavin Jones was proposed and seconded

#### Communal areas

Lloyd continues to search for a solution to repairing the wall between the estate and the school path having found the documentation required for such a task very alarming to most contractors. However, Lloyd advised he was close to a solution on this particular task.

#### 4. Neighbourhood Watch & Policing - Charles Owens

Charles Owens attends all local meetings on behalf of the FPRA and liaises on our behalf with the Safer Neighbourhood Team. The crime rate is in general very low in our vicinity – mostly cars not being locked, garages left open. South Twickenham is probably the safest place to live in London.

Charles reiterated advice about not letting strangers into your homes –possible frauds. He also recommends that residents advise Charles regarding anything suspicious rather than tackling it themselves. Take photos of suspect vehicles and if at night call 999.

Contact Clare at no 91 for a new Neighbourhood Watch sticker .

Residents mentioned about use of the school paying field out of hours - this is Jarvis' responsibility. Our grounds are private property and we can do something about young people coming over the wall onto our land. Residents who have issues with the school playing fields can write to the school board or just speak to the kids and ask them to play nicely.

**AOB House prices** - Vanessa commented that prices are moving upwards – and since it is clear houses are in much demand and snapped up quickly residents should not allow their homes to be under-valued. The feeling amongst residents is that some estate agents under- value our properties for a 'quick sale'.

**Parking on estate roads** - Residents commented upon this issue with special concern at the poor parking on the estate corners. This can be very challenging for larger vehicles, emergency vehicles and delivery vehicles. There has been and will continue to be an increase in vehicles as younger residents learn to drive and require their own cars. The use of the Loch Fyne gate by non-residents is very low – after a trial by Betty and Charles armed with clip-boards. Please advise Charles regarding any presumed abandoned cars on the estate

Giles commented that there are only two areas on the estate where cars could park on the pavement if this was permitted by the council. One resident advised caution when approaching the Council to discuss CPZ routes or parking permits for FP. These permits are £70 and there is no guarantee of a parking place. In fact parking would have a reduced capacity. However, most residents are opposed to this and the unwelcome signage it would bring . Not considered to be a need at present therefore no proposal made to the AGM. The members of the committee were asked for a show of hands of those who actually used their garages for cars – the result was 50:50.

**Refuse Collection** - Giles asked if all residents were aware that the refuse collectors do collect your rubbish from the cupboards under the stairs – there is no need whatsoever to put this rubbish out on the driveway or street. We have a problem with foxes on the estate looking for food and according to one resident they are becoming daring and are breeding. It was requested that residents should not leave food out for foxes. In fact it was universally agreed that we have a fantastic refuse collection service.

**Crumbling pathways** - Vanessa advises that she knows a builder who is trying to make a prototype for the steps. Another resident used Affleck ( no 21) and another resident suggested silicone.

**Summer BBQ & Flowering Doorstep competition** - weather permitting it is planned for Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July when we will also present Squires vouchers for three winners

**Election of Committee and Directors:** All the current members agreed to continue and were formally re-elected.

Committee members Ray Wood no 56/ Giles Norman no 62/ Vanessa Cozens no 6 /  
Charles Owens no 74/ Betty Wood no 56/ Lloyd Reynolds no 6b  
Wellesley/ Clare Marsden no 91

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