**CAMDEN RESIDENTS’ ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes of the meeting 6th November 2024**

**Held at the Claremont**

**Attendees:**

Johanna Schwartz

Carrie Stockton

Bob Williams

Jonathan Saunders

Kate Curran

**Apologies:**

Jeremy Labram

Nigel Pollard

Ann Sadler

Lorraine Van Tis

Nick Clement

**Liveable Neighbourhoods**

Bob opened the meeting by informing the committee of an anonymous email he had received via the website from a couple living in Fairfield Park who were opposed to the Liveable Neighbourhood for various reasons. Bob had drafted a response which he shared with the group, and it was agreed that it was a good idea to remain very neutral to this and any other similar email received in the future. Johanna will copy the text that was drafted by Bob and send to all committee members to consider an appropriate set of words which we can then use going forward. Kate also suggested that a generic statement with the same meaning was added to the website.

Jonathan had previously circulated a flyer to all committee members on WhatsApp regarding a meeting taking place on 20th November in New Oriel Hall for residents to share their opinions to Cllr Manda Rigby who has been asked to attend by the hosts, The Green Party. Jeremy had confirmed he will be in attendance to hear what has to be said.

The sub-group on LNs was mentioned (Jeremy, Bob, Richard S and Michael?) and there was a question mark on whether this group was officially part of the CRA given two of the members were not members of the CRA committee. To be clarified.

**Previous meeting minutes**

Everyone agreed these were approved.

**Accounts**

Nigel had sent through the latest accounts which were unchanged since the last meeting.

**Spooky Camden – Halloween 2024**

Everyone agreed that this year, with dryer weather and over 200 children taking part, the event was a huge success. However, it was felt that there were a lack of participating houses on the street. Estimated to be around 15-20 max taking part. All houses ran out of treats early on too!

It was agreed that next year we should aim for 30 houses and that we should target residents along the street that we think would be good to participate. We have agreed to start mentioning it at the Progressive Supper. Next year it falls on a Friday so we are hoping that we can make it more of a party night at the Claremont afterwards.

A few learning points/ideas for next year:

* Start it at 5.30pm instead of 5.00pm
* Send the flyer in early September giving residents plenty of warning about the event and sending helpful ideas on how and where to decorate your house.
* We could hang Halloween bunting outside the Claremont
* We could encourage people to decorate the front/street level of their homes so that it is more obvious they are participating

**Christmas Busk**

On track for 7th December; nothing to do as this now falls under the Camden Meadow group.

**AGM**

* The AGM will be held on 27th January in the Claremont.
* Carrie to investigate whether we are able to show the presentation through the 2 television screens. If so, Johanna will collect our screen from Burdalls Yard and attempt to sell it and use the proceeds to top up the bank account.
* Jeremy has suggested we invite the councillors to the meeting again and will follow this up.
* Johanna suggested we get a neutral expert to come along and talk to the residents – Jeremy to follow up please
* Now need to consider – the agenda and the wider comms that will need to be distributed in December (it was mooted that the progressive supper goes on the reverse of this flyer.

**Progressive Supper**

The date for the second progressive supper has been set for Saturday 1st March and it will follow a very similar format to last year. Carrie will be responsible for managing comms and as above the first notice should be on the reverse of the AGM flyer.

It was agreed that this year we should charge guests who are not hosting a £10 ticket price and this will go into the CRA funds.

**Fundraising**

Johanna was keen for us to raise funds so the balance of the account was no worse than it was prior to the street party this year. Ideas for fund raising were:

A further silent auction as the next street party in May

The progressive supper funds

The possibility of a garage sale – venue TBC

**Next meeting date**

Suggestions for next meeting date will be shared on WhatsApp and it was felt we should meet again before Chriistmas.

Carrie will share dates.