

THE HIGHAMS PARK PLANNING GROUP

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On Wednesday 11th October 2023 at 7:30 pm

At All Saints Church, Church Avenue, Highams Park, E4 9QZ

Attendees: 95

(1) Welcome & introductions

Gordon Turpin (GT) welcomed members to the ninth Annual General Meeting of the Highams Park Planning Group (HPPG) and, the meeting being quorate, acted as Chair for the meeting.

GT invited attendees to ask questions of the Committee after each agenda item.

(2) Agree minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as presented.

(3) Matters arising from minutes of last meeting

There were no matters arising.

(4) Revisions to HPPG Constitution

The proposed revisions to HPPG's constitution circulated with the AGM papers were approved by a unanimous show of hands. A copy of HPPG's current constitution is appended with these minutes.

(5) Update HPPG Redesignation

Under the terms of the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2011/2012 HPPG is obliged to reapply to the Council every five years to be redesignated as the Neighbourhood Development Forum for the Highams Park Area.

GT requested agreement of those members present for HPPG to reapply for re-designation in July 2024 when are current designation expires. This proposal was agreed by a unanimous show of hands.

(6) HPPG Activities & Projects

During the year under HPPG was involved in the following activities and projects:

Projects:

- Responding to planning applications and consultations on the Council's new Local Plan.
- Refurbishment and launch of the new community rooms at Highams Park Station.
- Fundraising Concerts which raised £775 for Highams Park Food Aid
- Working with the Council on Levelling Up Consultations for Highams Park District Centre

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- Mallinson Scout Centre (*unfortunately shortly after the meeting revised costings were received for the project of £1.8 million plus VAT. It was decided that we did not have the resources for a project of this magnitude and HPPG/HP CIC withdraw from further discussions on taking over the site from the District Scouts*).
- Replacing the 'signature tree' & noticeboard at the top of Signal Walk following their accidental demolition by a car crash.
- Installation of a new information board at Highams Park Lake.
- Replanting the wildflower beds in The Highams Park
- Ongoing conservation works by the Highams Park Snedders
- Ongoing litter picking sessions

Events:

- Spring Festival (with the Friends of Highams Park)
- Arts & Culture Trail
- Love Hale & Library Day & Vintage Market
- Picnic in The Park
- French Market
- Celebrating 150 Years of the railway in Highams Park
- Christmas Tree & Carols at the Library
- Highams Park Christmas Fayre in the Station Car Park and in front of Tesco

(7) Financial position

GT presented HPPG's financial position. In summary, as at 31st December, 2022 HPPG's cash and bank account stood at £ 16,741.

Funds generated from grants, ticket sales, stallholder fees and donations during 2022 were £18,604.

(8) Election/Re-election of Coordinating Committee members

The existing committee were put forward for re-election and elected unanimously by attendees at the meeting. A list of committee members is provided below:

Gordon Turpin	Chair
Janet Charlesworth	Deputy Chair
Mike Payne	Secretary
Geoffrey Carter	Treasurer
Camille Hastings-Prosser	General Member
Tony Bell	General Member
Jade Holt	General Member

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John Moss	General Member and Compliance & Legal
Rob Varney	General Member
Dan Rouse	General Member
Liz Jones	General Member

(9) Any other business

None

(10) Closure of meeting

The business of the meeting was concluded at 8:25 pm and attendees were invited to stay for the guest speakers.

(11) Guest Speakers – Silvia Amoros and Nicola Murphy from the Council’s Regeneration Team

Silvia and Nicola provided an update on the projects being considered for implementation using the levelling up monies provided by the Government.

(12) Refreshments and informal discussions.

Attendees were invited to stay for refreshments and informal discussions.