



Enfield Island Village Trust

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details

Date: 7th December 2017

Time: 8pm

Location: Community Centre, 40-42 Island Centre Way, Enfield EN3 6GS

Present: Vince Green (Chairman); Jay Paramanathan (Vice-Chairman); Andrew Colledge (Treasurer); Mark Turner (Trustee); Jaqui Lydon (Property Manager, Warwick Estates); Nicky Cullen (Office Admin); Members (Various)

Apologies: Paul King; Jacqui Bainbridge

1. Welcome, introduction and apologies for absence
2. EIVT Mission

Overview given of struggles faced in the last year, since the handover from the interim managers. Lack of documentation and lack of transparency about accounts mean that the Trust had to be rebuilt and is still a work in progress.

Update on goals as outlined here: <http://eiv.org.uk/our-plans>

Long term plan – items are in progress, expected delivery April 2018

Safety – health and safety survey of island complete and most serious issues are being tackled; tree survey complete, awaiting approval from council to begin works; remedial works completed in playgrounds, next inspection due Jan 2018; bridge inspection identified works required, to be scheduled within the next budget; Warwick in talks with council regarding clay cap inspection.

Environment – pleased with the work of the gardeners and litter picker. More work to be done on encouraging residents not to drop litter and to pick up after their dogs. Fly tipping by both residents and external people noted as problem. Apologies made for the length of time it took for the canal basin to be cleared, ongoing maintenance contract currently out for tender.

Community – to be discussed later.

Communication - acknowledged that it is something that needs more work. Pledge to publish minutes on a more timely basis.

Governance – more secure process implemented around the Trust's bank accounts. New contractors undertaking work will need the agreement of the quorate. Governing documentation in place to aid the trustees.

3. Membership

No membership forms were received during the transition therefore those missing will need to re-apply. New membership forms available for collection this evening, or will be posted accordingly (those in rentcharge arrears or members of the previous board will be omitted). Completed forms to be returned to the office or emailed to chairman@eiv.org.uk

4. Update from Warwick Estates

Introduction from the new property manager, Jaqui Lydon, with an invitation to contact her with any issues. Overview of what is maintained by Warwick (parkland, playgrounds, pathways, roadways, section of river Lea).

Question raised about parking and abandoned cars – to be addressed later.

5. Community Centre

Nicky Cullen gave an overview of what is happening at the community including planned refurbishment and coffee mornings. Request for ideas and support. Applications for grants will be done when needs have been established. Reminder that hire of community centre is offered at a discount for residents.

6. Treasurers report 2016-2017*

Andrew Colledge gave an overview of financial performance for the year and recognition of 9 month publishing deadline, due end of this year.

Overview of income - 80% of income is from rentcharge.

Overview of budget - Interim managers took a large portion of budget. Issues around historical mis-management of accounts are apparent. Approx £18,000 of Trust money is being held by the charity commission for determination of source. - £57,000 can be attributed to bad debts. - £33,700 not accounted for and is being investigated.

Properties owned by the Trust have increased in value.

Overall the accounts are £23,000 better off than the previous year.

7. Key activities to July 2018

Jay Paramanathan outlined plans for the next 7 months including infrastructure maintenance, admin services, community support and finance and governance.

8. Trustee application

Jay Paramanathan gave an overview of the structure of the Trust and the types of positions available on the board. Emphasised the need for a more representative and diverse range of trustees and encouraged application from those present.

9. Q&A

A number of questions (Q) and suggestions (S) by members present, and the responses (A):

Q: Coffee mornings to be held at times convenient for those who work during the week

A: Nicky confirmed that it is something that is being looked into

S: Parking bays could be implemented to encourage more considerate parking of vehicles

A: Suggestion taken on board.

Q: Concerns raised about the reconciliation of the historic debt and the transparency of the deficit.

A: Currently stands at around 80% recovered. Process is in place and is being worked on.

Q: Is cost of recovering bad debt solely accountable to the unit concerned

A: Yes

Q: What is the situation with the frozen money?

A: Charity commission are holding onto it until they have determined exactly where it has come from.

S: Give the opportunity for questions to be submitted in advance

A: Due to the number of members this is not practical

Q: Is the Enfield Island Village Residents Association the same as EIVT?

A: Yes, EIVT is the new name since the organisation obtained its charitable status.

S: Noted that lack of members present was disappointing. Suggestion for more communication to happen around meetings, minutes and that the board meetings should be open to observers.

A: Noted

Q: Complaint around the length of time it took to clear the basin

A: Apologies issued and assurance that long term maintenance contract would prevent this happening again.

Q: Questions around the movement of the barrier on Government Row.

A: We are awaiting planning permission from the council

Q: Concerns raised about the positioning of the barrier and whether the residents should be consulted, and whether there is any alternative.

A: Difference of opinions, to be taken offline.

Q: Is anything being done by the Trust about the drug dealers in the village?

A: It is the responsibility of the residents to call the police when they see suspicious activity.**

Q: Complaint about people from the houses parking in spaces and using the rubbish bins meant for the blocks.

A: Trust will consider writing letters to the residents of the houses.

Q: Questions around transparency of who is responsible for what areas

A: Jaqui is working on a comprehensive map which will be published on the website.

Q: Questions arose around the process for the tender for the canal maintenance.

A: Process explained.

Q: Complaints about nuisance neighbours

A: Advised to call the police.

Q: Complaint about people taking up a lot of parking spaces.

A: There are no restrictions on car ownership.

10. Meeting closed at 9.45pm.

* Full accounts to be published to the accounts section of the Trust's website in due course.

** Please see following addendum for official response from the Board.

Addendum

Post-AGM note: As stated at the AGM, individual members and residents affected by anti-social or criminal incidents must first report these directly to the authorities. However, the Trust is looking at how these reports might then be brought together for joined-up action with the authorities to get the best results possible. The Trust will share more about this in due course