

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the
Friern Barnet & Whetstone Residents Association
Thursday, 2 May 2019 at St John's Church Hall,
Friern Barnet Road, N11 at 7.30pm**



Present: Kate Salinger (Chairman), David Thompson (Treasurer and Membership Secretary), Maria Jordan (Secretary), Yvonne Ruge, Richard Testar, Tim Smedley, Harry Gluck

1. Apologies for Absence:

Stan and Carole Greenberg, Margaret Naughton, Michael Aslangul, Marion and John Kilkenny, Rita Brown, Stuart and Carolyn Killen, Debbie Lane, Margaret and Christopher Wood, Christine Richardson

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 10 May 2018 were approved and signed.

3. Treasurer's Report and Certified Statement of Accounts:

David Thompson presented the Accounts to 31 December 2018 shown at the end of the Minutes. Subscriptions and donations of £2852 were broadly unchanged over 2017 as was total membership. However, expenditure more than doubled to £4308 due to two special projects - a new website and the planting of a shrubbery in Friary Park. The printing of the Newsletter continues to be the main item of regular expenditure. Donations included a contribution to Love Whetstone for the printing of an anti-litter flyer. As a result the 2018 shortfall amounted to £1445 compared with a surplus of £1083 in 2017. The Association continues to hold over £11000 in reserves.

Bernard Mayes, the Independent Examiner was thanked for his input into the presentation of the accounts and his general advice. He has agreed to continue in this role for 2019.

A tribute was paid to Mel Hooper who sadly passed away in April for his contribution over the years to FBWRA and the local community.

The Accounts were proposed for adoption and seconded by Michael Jordan.

4. Chairman's Report:

Kate Salinger thanked Lizzie Grey for manning the kitchen again and Mick Crick for setting up the PA system. As the Mayoress for a good part of her last year as Chairman, she had had the opportunity and privilege to meet many unsung heroes and volunteers. She thanked the Committee for their contribution to the work of the Association over the year. Special thanks went to Ollie Natelson who had recently resigned for his contribution over the years on conservation, pollution and traffic matters.

During the year FBWRA had planted a shrub bed in Friary Park, held a second Summer Splash social for members, upgraded the website, reviewed and commented on many Planning Applications, held a Members evening on the London Traffic Plan, produced and delivered 4 Newsletters, supported the Pinkham Way Alliance in objecting to the proposed siting of the new waste digester facility, as well as supporting local members in the Horsham Avenue area with regard to poor consultation by the Council on Sustrans proposals for new traffic flows in that area. The result of the latter is further consultation with the Council in June.

5. Election of Officers:

With Kate Salinger standing down as Chairman, David Thompson was nominated and elected as Chairman and Tim Smedley was nominated and elected, Treasurer. Maria Jordan agreed to continue as Secretary.

6. Election of Executive Committee:

Yvonne Ruge, Harry Gluck, Richard Testar were elected for two years in 2018 and remain on the Executive Committee. Kate Salinger has agreed to remain on the Committee.

7. Election of Independent Examiner:

Bernard Mayes has agreed to take on this role for another year and was duly elected.

8. Questions and Answers:

In the interests of time, this was held over to the end of the meeting.

9. Guest Speaker:

Theresa Villiers, MP for Chipping Barnet spoke of her time in politics. She was elected as an MEP in 1999 and during her time at the European Parliament became intimately acquainted

with the Fruits, Jellies and Chestnut Puree Directive managing to get the Jammy Dodger included in the resulting legislation. She was elected as MP for Chipping Barnet in 2005 and became Secretary of State for Northern Ireland in 2012.

She shared a number of her most memorable moments as Secretary of State for Northern Ireland such as attending the G8 Summit when it was held in Enniskillen, the Queen's Jubilee visit to Northern Ireland, going to Washington for the St Patrick's Day celebration and the gruelling cross party discussions in Northern Ireland.

Since becoming a back bencher again, she is particularly concerned locally about burglaries and knife crime, the need for the NHS to provide more doctors and GP services and protecting the local environment. She is particularly interested in local transport issues and took up the issue of the disastrous Great Northern Railway timetable change which badly affected her constituency and getting potholes repaired, getting money for Barnet for this purpose.

There were many questions regarding the reduction in local libraries, getting the infrastructure in place to support the high level of housing development in the Borough and whether residents associations such as FBWRA have any impact.

10. Chairman's Closing Remarks:

David Thompson as the new Chairman thanked Kate Salinger for her stewardship of the Association over the past few years and thanked Theresa Villiers for her amusing insights into Flowers were presented to them both.

Meeting ended at 9.45pm.