

BARBICAN RESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE

27 September 2010

Minutes of the meeting of the BARBICAN RESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE held at Guildhall, EC2 on MONDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 2010 at 11.45am.

Present

Non-Resident

Ian Burleigh (Chairman)
 Martin Farr (Deputy Chairman)
 Michael Hudson
 Wendy Mead
 Gareth Moore
 John Spanner

Resident

Deputy John Barker
 David Bradshaw
 Peter Leck
 Deputy Joyce Nash
 Barbara Newman
 Stephen Quilter
 Chris Punter
 Angela Starling
 John Tomlinson

In attendance:

Randall Anderson (Chairman,
 RCC)

Officers:

Natasha Cendrowicz
 Jenny Sansom
 Pam Raphael
 Andrew Wild
 Tim Rhodes
 Kieron Meehan
 Joy Hollister

Anne Mason

Sharon McLaughlin

Eddie Stevens

- Town Clerk's Department
- Town Clerk's Department
- Chamberlain's Department
- City Surveyor's Department
- Comptroller & City Solicitor's Department
- Comptroller & City Solicitor's Department
- Director of Community & Children's Services
- Department of Community & Children's Services
- Department of Community & Children's Services
- Department of Community & Children's Services

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Michael Farrow, Deputy Stanley Ginsburg, Alderman Michael Bear, Henrika Priest and Dennis Cotgrove.

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THIS MEETING

All Resident Members declared their general interest as residents of the Barbican Estate (this was a standing item). Deputy John Barker declared a personal interest in item 14 as a member of the YMCA Board.

3a. MINUTES

The public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 21 June 2010 were approved, subject to the following correction:

Update Report – Residents’ meetings (item 7) At the end of the first sentence, replace “...had been circulated *to* Aldersgate and Cripplegate Ward Members.” With “...had been circulated *for* Aldersgate and Cripplegate.”

MATTERS ARISING

Update Report – Residents’ meetings (item 7) A Member complimented the Chairman on his skilful chairing of these meetings, which had been sparsely attended. A discussion followed as to the format and notice given for these meetings.

Update Report – Car Parking Bays (item 7) A Member conveyed concerns relayed to him by a Brandon Mews resident in respect of Heron staff leaving doors unlocked. He undertook to report back further with a log of incidents.

3b. RESIDENTS’ CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – MINUTES

The minutes of the Residents’ Consultation Committee meeting held on 13 September 2010 were considered.

RECEIVED.

4. ANNUAL REVIEW OF RECOGNISED TENANTS’ ASSOCIATION

A report of the Town Clerk setting out the findings of the annual review of the Recognised Tenants’ Association was considered.

In response to a question, the Town Clerk explained that some House Groups chose not to apply for RTA status as they were not confident that they could meet the 50% membership threshold. House Groups did not need to be RTAs to have a representative on the RCC. The Chairman added that the Estate Office did provide some administrative assistance to House Groups when they were compiling their RTA returns. In response to a question regarding why there was not a standard RTA model, the Town Clerk explained that it was up to each House Group to determine their membership model and there was no attempt to impose a “one size fits all approach.”

RESOLVED: That:-

- i) the formal recognition of those House Groups and the Barbican Association, identified in paragraph 8 of the report, as Recognised Tenants’ Associations, until the outcome of the next annual review be agreed; and
- b) that those House Groups who failed to achieve RTA status for 2010 be noted, with any updates in achieving the minimum criteria be brought back to Committee for formal recognition.

5. REVENUE OUTTURN 2009/10

A joint report of the Chamberlain and the Director of Community & Children's Services setting out the revenue outturn position for 2009/10 was considered.

The Chairman of the Cromwell Tower House Group responded to a question regarding the £20,000 expenditure on the refurbishment Cromwell Tower lobby (referred to in paragraph 13 of the report). The Revenues and Service Charge Manager added that this project had been largely paid for by Cromwell Tower residents, but as fourteen properties are still let on a short term basis the City of London were required to fund this share of this project. In response to a question regarding the underspend, the Chamberlain explained that £88,000 of the Barbican landlord expenditure's underspend had been carried forward, with the details explained in paragraph 13 of the report. In response to a question regarding the underspend, the Chamberlain explained that the Director of Community & Children's Services was seeking to carry forward £500,000 of her Department's total underspend (explained in paragraph 12 of the report) of which £88,000 was allocated to services overseen by this Committee with the details explained in paragraph 13 of the report.

RECEIVED.

6. UPDATE REPORT

A report of the Director of Community & Children's Services outlining progress on various issues impacting upon the Barbican Estate was considered.

Car Parks In response to a question regarding parking provision for bicycles and new car park equipment, The Housing Services Director undertook to get back to that Member, once he had fully investigated the issue.

BECS10 – Lease Extension Applications In response to a question, the Support Services Manager explained the targets for dealing with lease extension applications.

Water pressures In response to comments regarding progress being made to resolve outstanding water pressure problems, the Housing Services Director outlined work that had been done since the last meeting on this matter, which included investigating technical solutions. He undertook to keep Members updated on developments.

Crossrail The Chairman referred to advice that had been made available on the Estate Office's website, informing residents how to respond to the Crossrail settlement questionnaire. He stated that it was important for residents to respond individually to the questionnaire.

Frobisher Crescent A Member, who was also an RCC representative referred to representations made by the new Frobisher Crescent representative on the RCC for the Chairman to take forward residents' concerns with the Chairman of the Barbican Centre Board. Residents felt that no adequate provision had been made for them to move bulky furniture into their flats. A discussion followed as to whether the Barbican Centre could be prevailed upon to permit managed access to their goods lift on the rare occasion when Frobisher

Crescent residents needed help moving bulky items. The City Surveyor explained that the Frobisher Crescent lifts were managed by the Barbican Centre. He added that the developer was aware of the problem and was providing a Dutch hoist to partially overcome the small size of the lifts.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman take forward Frobisher Crescent residents concerns regarding access for moving bulky items into their flats and in particular whether the Barbican Centre would be agreeable to allowing managed access to their goods lift on occasions when residents needed to move bulky items.

Milton Court / The Heron In response to a question regarding Heron staff, the Housing Services Director undertook to take forward residents' concerns about security lapses at the next Heron Group meeting and with the City Surveyor.

Public Lifts serving the Barbican Estate In response to a question regarding the management of escalators serving the Barbican Estate, the Housing Services Director explained that his officers did not have the expertise to take over management of these escalators. Any escalator problems needed to be referred to the City Surveyor instead.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and the comments therein be taken forward by officers.

7. PROGRESS OF SALES AND LETTINGS

A report of the Director of Community & Children's Services advising Members of the sales and lettings that have been approved by officers since the last meeting was considered.

RECEIVED.

8. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

Thomas More House – Car Park Entrance A Member requested that the problem of unsightly rubbish blocking the entrance to the Thomas More House car park be addressed.

Wood Street Wine Bar Another Member requested that the unsightly rubbish cluttering the back door of the Wood Street Wine Bar should also be addressed.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

10. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED:- That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

<u>Item Nos.</u>	<u>Exempt Paragraphs</u>
11	1, 3 & 4
12	3
13	3
14	3

SUMMARY OF MATTERS CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED

11. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2010 were approved.

12. HOUSING SERVICES MANAGEMENT RESTRUCTURE

A report of the Director of Community & Children's Services setting out proposals for a new management structure for Housing Services was considered.

13. BUDGET REDUCTIONS - THE FIRST 2.5%

A joint report of the Chamberlain and the Director of Community & Children's Services setting out budget reductions was considered.

14. BARBICAN YMCA – LEASE RENEWAL

A report of the City Surveyor concerning lease renewal options for the Barbican YMCA was considered.

15. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

Crossrail The Support Services Manager responded to a question regarding Corporate Property Crossrail Group.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There were no urgent items.

The meeting closed at 1:12pm.

CHAIRMAN

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