

## Kensal Triangle Residents Association

Minutes: 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010.

Present: see list

**Chair:** Hannah Anderson

**Minutes:** Rob Grover

**Apologies:** Cllr Michael Adeyeye

### **Minutes & Matters Arising: Pending**

**Policing** – Safer Neighbourhoods Report: PC Helen Amber

**Crime Figures:** overall the figures were not too bad. Burglary incidents across the ward had continued to reduce. The two robbery incidents were not violent - teenagers on bicycles snatching mobile phones. The suspects are known to the police. Residents should take care when using mobile phones in the street.

**Dangerous Water/Ice situation:** police agreed to follow up on the long-standing leak in the pavement by the Total Garage. Residents concerned that the build up of ice was dangerous to pedestrians and road users. Meeting also agreed to follow up with Thames Water.

**Other:** Residents reminded to take care when driving in this bad weather and to refrain from drinking and driving.

### **Proposed Closure of Kensal Rise Library**

Brent Council has launched a consultation on proposals to close 6 of the 12 libraries in Brent, including Kensal Rise. The Council say they are doing this because the Libraries concerned are not heavily used and to cut costs. There is further information about this on the Park Life blog. Margaret Bailey is forming a Friends of Kensal Rise Library and can be contacted via Avril.

The issue will be on the agenda at the Kilburn and Kensal Area Forum at 7pm on 12<sup>th</sup> Jan and Queens Park Community School. It was noted that the consultation extended to 4<sup>th</sup> March, past the date for setting Council budgets for the coming year and concern was expressed that key decisions would be taken before the consultation is complete.

Suggested that KTRA members should join and start using the library to demonstrate its value to the community.

### **Consultation in Brent**

Great concern expressed that the consultations on the Waste and Recycling Strategy and on the changes to the CPZ had been poorly publicised and badly worded. The W&R consultation questionnaire in the Brent Magazine did not even mention that the collections for dry recycling and general waste would be fortnightly. It was also odd that the Council had not written to KTRA about the consultations. The council said they had about 1,000 responses to the W&R consultation from the 80,000 or so households in the borough.

### **Waste and Recycling Strategy**

Cllr Simon Green told the meeting that the Strategy had been approved by the Council Executive, but had been called in for review by the cross-party Scrutiny Committee that had raised concerns.

Brent Friends of the Earth were very concerned that the co-mingling of dry waste would make further sorting and processing very difficult. They were also concerned as to where this waste was going to be processed.

KTRA members felt the community had been bullied and hoodwinked. There was some discussion as to whether the decision could be challenged by a Judicial Review, but this was recognised as being very expensive.

Agreed for Jude to lead on drafting a letter to the Audit Commission protesting at the flawed consultation.

### **Street Cleansing**

Members agreed there had been a terrible deterioration in standards recently. All members asked to email Richard Rope [Richard.Rope@brent.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.Rope@brent.gov.uk) and cc KTRA whenever they had any concerns to maintain pressure. Cllr Green also asked to be copied in.

### **Highways and Byways**

**Pot-holes:** two large potholes have appeared in Berens Rd. They have been highlighted with white paint but no further action. Cllr Green promised to follow up with the Council.

**Parking Permits:** Cllr Simon Green said he was completely opposed as the increase was unfair in that many residents in other parts of the borough could avoid the charges by parking in their front gardens. He was also concerned that the original purpose was to control parking, not reduce emissions. However several residents said they had no objections to the charges that reduced commuter parking, protected residents from emission and encouraged smaller vehicles. One resident thought that charges for a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> vehicle should be much higher. Concerns re the lack of meaningful consultation were repeated. Cllr Green thought that residents should be allowed the choice to opt-out.

**Pember Rd Cycle Crossing:** the Council had reluctantly agreed that KTRA could respond. The original plan was to just consult the properties very close to the site. A previous KTRA meeting had reckoned the proposal was unnecessary and a poor use of resources. However the other responses were positive and the changes will go ahead.

The meeting was told that the RNIB are vigorously campaigning against kerb-drops and shared pavements (cycles & pedestrians) and the meeting agreed Jay would write to the relevant Council Officer & cc Cllrs.

**High Speed 2 – no news**

**Ladbroke Grove- Harrow Rd Crossing –** Glenda Jackson (MP) continues to try and set up a meeting with all interested parties.

### **Planning and Development**

**Cemetery Wall:** A statement from the General Cemetery Company was circulated stating that RBKC required the leaning sections of the wall to be lowered to 1m as they were becoming dangerous. The previous scheme to erect buttresses to the leaning sections and rebuild the collapsed section is no longer viable. The statement went on to say that a new project would be put out to tender in the New Year for the

complete rebuild of the wall on new foundations using the grant money from English Heritage. The final length will be subject to costs.

**Post Office Collection Office:** No response to previous letters. Cllr Green to follow-up.

### **KTRA Membership and Organisation**

Avril said that while she was happy to maintain the email list, she would prefer to handover most of her current activities. She had enjoyed supporting KTRA for 4 years but was very busy with work and did not have the time to do as much.

Jude proposed a vote of thanks to Avril which was heartily endorsed by the members. Avril went on to pay tribute to the many others who had been so active.

Andy also said that he was happy to continue to do the admin for the website, but he felt it needed to be refreshed and other people needed to be writing articles for it.

Agreed that the next meeting (7<sup>th</sup> Feb) should not follow the normal agenda but should be an open brainstorm to agree new priorities and develop a new agenda.

**Utilities** – no update

### **Notice Board & website**

**Additional Notice Board:** Site visit with Councillors to Wakeman Rd-Chamberlayne Rd junction to view possible sites for a further noticeboard. The council will have to look into who is the owner of the walls, pavement etc and seek permissions as necessary + planning permission which would take several weeks.

### **Next Meeting:**

**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> February 2011, **Chair:** Dave Wakeman, **Minutes:** Ruth Ward