

**Annual General Meeting
7pm Tuesday 30th September 2014
at St Michael's Church**

Minutes

Present: Eric Cohen: Chairman, Kevin Crone: Hon Treasurer, Reg Cox: Hon Sec., Wendy Cohen, Geoff Swinnerton, Paul Williams, Anna Key, Debbie Baxter, Dave Jones.

Also in attendance: Councillor Sarah Jennings & Matt Garlick.

I. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Sandra MacMillan, Frances Thomson, Emile & Nicola Di Marco, Keith Caulkin, Charles Lasham.

II. To read and confirm the Minutes of the 2013 AGM.

Eric Cohen read the 2013 AGM minutes. They were accepted as a true record; proposed by Paul Williams and seconded by Kevin Crone.

Councillor Jennings asked for two changes to the Minutes. In the Chairman's Report the item referred to as "Trees in Floral Wood" it was the Ward Councillors Neighbourhood Fund that provided the funding, and in the Treasurer's Report it was the Community First Fund with which Kevin had been involved.

III. Chairman's welcome and Report

Eric Cohen reported that it had been a busy year for the Officers of the Association. The tree problems between Floral Wood and Cottonwood had been pushed forward and plans were in place for an Arborist to start work as soon as the trees can be felled. Most of the residents concerned have agreed to pay £250 each towards the cost of the work and this cash will be collected soon.

The Meet the Neighbours event had taken place on 6th July and was a great success, managing to dodge the rain showers. This will be covered in Item VI.

IV. Hon Treasurer's Report.

Kevin Crone reported that the Association's finances were in a reasonable good state and presented a printed Balance Sheet, which showed that the RRA funds were in credit. He also announced that he is standing down and that Andrew Hunter, a CIMA qualified accountant working full time in the public sector, would be taking over ASAP, though Kevin will still deal with the Tree contractor work.

Chairman Eric Cohen thanked Kevin for all the hard work he had done for the Association and a round of applause was given.

V. Election of Officers.

As there were no volunteers to replace the current Officers, with the exception of Andrew Hunter, the current Officers were re-elected. Chairman Eric Cohen stated that he intended to retire as Chairman at the 2015 AGM.

VI. Report on the Meet the Neighbours Event.

A group of volunteers had gathered early on Sunday to erect the tent on the grassland between Riverside Drive and Bempton Road. There was a small shower at about mid-day but the afternoon was quite sunny and there was a good number of people turned up, despite there being several other attractions on that afternoon, such as the Tour de France in Yorkshire.

VII. Talk Re: Victim Support by Matthew Garlick.

Matthew gave a detailed talk on the work of Victim Support in the Merseyside area, explaining that although they are not connected to Merseyside Police, they work closely with them. Geoff Swinnerton, an ex Police Officer questioned the effectiveness of Victim Support and complained about the shutting of Police Stations and their inaccessibility to the public. Matthew Garlick explained that Jane Kennedy the Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner, has announced a ten year plan to restructure Merseyside's Police Stations, bringing them closer to the public.

VIII. Report on the Festival Garden Site.

Eric Cohen stated that there were problem with gas seepage in the lake near to the Pagodas that was lifting the plastic liner and the clay fill. The Japanese Garden Lake has a crack in the concrete liner, which drained the lake. Funds are short, but efforts are being made to correct both these problems. The Gardens have been very popular during the prolonged spell of good weather.

IX. Community Police Presentation.

The Police had been invited to attend but no Police Officer attended.

X. Dates for future meetings.

Suggested dates for Council Meetings, to which all Representatives are invited: 20th January 2015, 14th April 2015 and 14th July 2015. It is proposed to hold the 2015 AGM on 19th September 2015. Please make a note of these dates in your diary.

XI. Any Other Business.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 20:15 hrs.

Hon Sec: Reg Cox, 14 Penhale Close, Liverpool L17 5BT
Tel: 0151 727 2177 | email regcox@mac.com