



Shakespeare Neighbourhood Residents Association (SNRA) and Butterfield Green Users Group (BUG) Minutes of Committee Meeting Wednesday 14 October 2009 at SWAPA

Present

Tom Barber	Bron Jones	Christophe Lutard
Flora Graham	Karen Alcock	Nick Holder
Pat O'Leary	Annie Wilson	Phil Jakeman
Diane Dyer (chair)	Maggie Chattaway	Nell Cameron (minutes)

Apologies

Agnes Benko	Mairin Power	Andy Clough
Keith Magnum	Ulla Winfler	

1. Minutes and matters arising

Correction to the minutes of the 9 September meeting: Aitken Court on Barbould Road to be demolished, Shakespeare Walk not Road.

2. Butterfield Green matters

- **Apple Day:** A Hackney Gazette reporter was there; they have left messages for Annie and Maggie. The afternoon went well; new people came and expressed an interest in BUG. It looks the day made about £100, Nick is sorting the takings
- **Hackney Parks Forum:** had the best meeting yet, Amy has been re-elected as chair. In the forum there has been questions about whether stopping the funding for the secretary and replacing the post with development officers has been positive. It has been positive for BUG, some users groups are not so sure as have, for example been missing her unlocking room for meetings
- **Orchard Trees:** would like some help and advice on pruning – Bron will follow up leads to try and find someone. Orchard days: November for composting, December for pruning. Eucalyptus also needs cutting back as it is blocking the light
- **Starbucks volunteers:** coming next Wednesday, will be removing ivy and digging up sycamore saplings (there is not enough litter for them to pick!). They haven't mentioned possible funding for bulbs – Maggie will follow up
- **Food growing:** Bron met a group travelling in a cart from Hackney City Farm to Kings Cross celebrating food growing, telling stories and collecting food on the way. Bron gave them some herbs and a card for the book they are collating.
- **The stream:** Fountaineers are back: they came last week and are returning soon. Karen has asked for an acknowledgement from the Learning Trust that

the stream is not working as it should be: she now has this in writing. This is great as the work is under guarantee and LT's responsibility. Thanks to Karen (and Eleanor, Parks development officer) for this

- **Dogs and trees:** Bron has met with Ian Graham about the damage dogs are doing to the trees. He has agreed to put guards around the trees, and this has started
- **Dogs and the gates:** the gates are not being routinely locked at night causing problems such as dog fights (especially in the Cowper Road area, where a local resident is padlocking the gates himself: he has contacted SNRA and Karen. Karen has written 3 letters to Hackney in the past year about this). Karen has also written to Parks about the locking of the gates. There seems to be some problems with communication between Michael Dixon and Eleanor around this issue.
Bron has been looking at the numbers and positions of gates and whether all 6 are necessary. We discussed this and agreed to take the discussion to the next BUG general meeting. **Karen will also take to the Police's 'Safe by Design' team when she meets them**
- **Card Sales:** have made £75 so far – well done Bron!

3. Dogs

- Another cat has been killed by a dog (this is the fourth). Could LBH pass a byelaw that dogs must be on a lead on a public highway? Karen agreed this is a real issue for local residents (both dangerous dogs and dog waste). Dogs especially affect particular communities in the borough who are wary of dogs. A byelaw could be possible, and Karen is happy to suggest this (and look at other solutions, possibly regarding tenancies and dog-owning) but would need to look into it, especially concerning reinforcement (safer neighbourhood police or parking wardens could have a role?). There would/could be many objections from dog-owners.

4. Secure bike storage

- LBH are starting to explore options (most crime has decreased in Hackney, except cycle theft) around this, including looking at garages and pram sheds in Hackney estates. Priority for cycle storage would be for Hackney estate residents but could be made available for others – officers are looking into the issues. SNRA support the suggestion from Esther in theory but recognise the practical difficulties – look forward to Hackney's findings.

5. Newsletter

- Distribution: Maggie has worked out the total number of newsletters needed to be printed = 14 000
- Discussion about the format of the newsletter and having a consistent look with the website and help for Ulla in getting it out on time, including collecting articles, reminders and proof-reading
 - **Flora to e-mail Ulla about whether she is still interested in producing the newsletter and which programme she uses to design newsletter to talk to Ulla**
 - **Pat to design a new template**
 - **Wendy to help with editing and proof-reading**
- Timing for this edition: articles for November meeting, ready to be printed and delivered at the beginning of December (needs to be at the printers the week before)

- Meeting felt we should support local printers. **Bron to ask Tas printers:** could offer to put printer's name on the newsletter
- Some discussion about printed versus electronic version. Need to keep considering the cost and whether 4 printed editions a year are affordable.
- Articles for the December edition:
 - **Apple Day – Maggie**
 - **Dogs and trees – Annie**
 - **Stream – Pat**
 - **Rainbow nursery – Nick**
 - **SWAPA – Christophe**
 - **Allen Road shops – Bron**
 - **General meeting and donations – Nick**
 - **Dates of community gardening and focus of them – Maggie**
 - **Also need to put in a notice of the general meeting - 2nd Wednesday of December**

6. **Palatine Road**

- **Beds:** Wendy has been in touch with Rupert Bentley-Ward about the Palatine Road beds. He has phoned and e-mailed back. The beds have already been planted but not maintained. They should be maintained as a spring wild-flower site – Hackney Parks should be doing this, is being taken up with the head of Parks.
- **Horizon school:** Wendy has met with Pat Quigley is very interested in being involved but have no tools or money (not sure about this as the school does have its own garden). Wendy has passed information about possible funding to the school. Will look to work with the school in the spring in Butterfield Green: could provide plants but school will need to find own tools.
- **School is also keen to be involved with SWAPA –** Wendy is happy to liaise, Christophe would like to come next time Annie and Wendy meet with Pat.

2. **Date of next meetings:**

- **General Meeting: 8pm Wed 9 December 2009**