

The London Borough of Bromley Neighbourhood Watch Association (BNWA)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 7.30pm 5th June 2014 Bromley Football Club, Hayes Lane, Bromley, Kent BR2 9EF

1. Welcome & Introductions etc:

The Chairman of the Association, Alf Kennedy, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. All present were asked to record names/ details on the attendance sheets and 33 people did so. Also, various Coordinators sent apologies.

The previous, 2013 AGM minutes were unanimously approved by a show of hands.

2. Chairman's Report

Alf Kennedy, BNWA Chairman, gave his report to the meeting, as follows:

"We have a packed programme tonight so I'll my opening brief.

This is a special AGM celebrating 50 years of Neighbourhood Watch. Founded in Chicago in March 1964, following a gruesome murder in New York, it crossed the Atlantic to Cheshire in 1982 where it was called Home Watch, a name by which we're still widely known in some parts.

We're now established across the World from the US to Australia. Here, in England, we evolved into a coordinated, national network. Schemes banded together to form local, County and Regional Associations such that, today, Neighbourhood and Home Watch is the UK's largest voluntary movement, covering 3.8 million homes and is one of the biggest, most successful crime prevention organisations. We're structured on a Regional basis. London Neighbourhood Watch Association represents the 32 Boroughs plus the City, at the Regional level and is your representative body at the national organisation, Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network.

In addition to my role with BNWA, I'm a director of London Neighbourhood Watch Association (if you recall the monthly, LNWA newsletter that's often circulated – that's me!) plus I'm the Regional Rep. for London at Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network.

LNWA has a great relationship with the Met and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) such that we hold our events at City Hall. I recently worked with the Met to build a Neighbourhood Watch page on all 32 Borough Police websites; and we're working closely with the Yard to introduce a two-way messaging system, aimed at directing local information to and from Coordinators and their members across London. Police, and Neighbourhood Watch Associations such as BNWA, will be able to target individual streets or Wards with up-to-date information. Of course, you'll be free to opt in or out as you wish.

Neighbourhood Watch was born in an analogue era but times have changed. The Local Policing Model provides us with more policemen but is focused on enforcement so the cry across London is that there's less connectivity. We're a link in the chain of intelligence gathering on which the Police depend. In Bromley, we currently link with our Coordinators by e-mail. Many more can keep up to date via our website. This level of communication isn't perfect but is better than the majority of Boroughs and will improve with the introduction of the new messaging system.

MOPAC recently introduced Safer Neighbourhood Boards to replace Community & Police Engagement Groups. Our CPEG, Bromley Community Engagement Forum now operates as a vehicle to manage Ward Panels and its chairman, Terry Belcher, is a member of the Safer Neighbourhood Board as well as being a Committee member at BNWA. MOPAC asked that Neighbourhood Watch Associations be represented on Safer Neighbourhood Boards and I can

confirm BNWA is a member in Bromley.

I didn't receive any questions so I'll now invite our Treasurer, Graham Pyefinch to present the accounts."

3. Treasurer's Report:

A financial summary was presented to the AGM by the Treasurer, Graham Pyefinch who advised the accounts were audited then submitted to and approved by the Charity Commission. Full details of the accounts had already been published on BNWA website and, going forward, there would be expenditure on training. A summary of the accounts is:

Income/Expenditure Account for Year Ended 31 December 2013

Income	2013	2012
Grants	<u>0</u>	<u>3000</u>
	0	3000
Expenditure		
Web-site Design & Hosting	100	120
Web-site Competition Prizes	0	250
Domain Hosting	60	0
Domain Registration	12	0
Expenses/Equipment/Stationery	0	15
Costs against Comms. Project	0	445
Cost of AGM	414	468
Purchase of Equipment	<u>105</u>	<u>323</u>
	691	1621
Net Income/(Expenditure) for year	(691)	1379
Balance B/F	<u>6009</u>	<u>4630</u>
Balance C/F	<u>5318</u>	<u>6009</u>
	=====	=====

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2013

Current Assets & Liabilities

Cash at bank	<u>5318</u>	<u>6009</u>
Net Current Assets	<u>5318</u>	<u>6009</u>
	=====	=====

Represented by:

General funds	<u>5318</u>	<u>6009</u>
	<u>5318</u>	<u>6009</u>
	=====	=====

4. Election of Officers:

There followed an election of Officers and Members of the Executive Committee, independently overseen by Terry Belcher, a previous Chairman of BNWA. All names and officers were proposed and seconded. All were voted unanimously with no votes against.

Those elected were:

Elected:	Alf Kennedy	Chairman
	Graham Pyefinch	Treasurer
	Aidan McCulloch	Secretary
	Clifford Longley	Member
	John Bruce	Member
	Terry Belcher	Member
	Gordon Snashall	Member
	Chris Taylor	Member

In addition, there are 3 non-elected non-voting Members, Councillor Tim Stevens, Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Safety, Chief Inspector Carron Schusler, Metropolitan Police (Safer Neighbourhoods and Youth) and Rob Vale, Head of Bromley Trading Standards.

5. Election of Auditors:

The current Auditors were also re-elected.

6. Resolution to amend the BNWA Constitution:

Alf Kennedy summarized the work that he and previous Chairman Clifford Longley had undertaken to shorten, simplify and clarify the existing BNWA Constitution that was over complicated and also had some ambiguities. The proposed changes had been circulated to all Coordinators together with the invitation to the AGM and were also published on the BNWA website. The main change was that all the Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee should all be openly elected at the AGM. The Resolution was unanimously approved by show of hands.

6. Close of AGM:

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and duly closed the AGM. Other presentations followed, which were not part of the AGM with copies published on the BNWA website.

A. McCulloch
BNWA Secretary
24 July 2014