



# Turnchapel Residents' Association

## Minutes of the First Annual General Meeting:

**7<sup>th</sup> November 2017, Boringdon Arms**

Meeting started at 19:32

### **1) Welcome**

Polly Stephenson (as temporary Chairperson) welcomed all to the meeting and provided a summary of the agenda.

She then welcomed councillor Michael Leaves to the meeting before summarising key points from the draft constitution, circulating further copies and noting its previous circulation via facebook page.

### **2) Association coverage**

First on the agenda was to vote for a geographical area that the association would cover.

Printed maps were provided (also previously circulated on facebook) giving 3 possible options. It was decided that Option A should be amended to include Turnchapel Wharf, St Lukes Cottages and Point Cottages, as well as noting that Fort Stamford leisure centre was an important local business, and be named Option A+

Those present discussed the wish, expressed in the Constitution, to be inclusive, while noting the desire to keep the group focussed and local. Simon Law suggested we started off with a smaller geographical area as it would be easier to add later than take away.

There was discussion regarding the inclusion of the Reflections estate. It was believed the estate had a residents association or group of their own, however it was noted that some residents of the Reflections estate may want to be part of the Turnchapel Residents Association (TRA).

Rob Dixon noted that the proposed constitution allowed for “associate members” from outside the geographical area.

**Vote** took place on welcoming associate members from other areas and the majority agreed.

**Vote** took place on the geographical area for the TRA.

Decision made that Geographical Area consists of A+, but will welcome associate members and invite members from other associations (e.g. Reflections). It was confirmed that associate members would have a vote.

A+ 32 votes - passed

B 4 votes

C 8 votes

### **3) Draft constitution**

The draft Constitution was put forward for adoption, noting that it represented a starting point for the TRA and could be amended, formally, at a later date.

**Vote** took place on adoption of the draft constitution and this was passed by the majority, noting amendments were expected.

Those present discussed the concept of a membership fee, noting that this was usual practice, but was often a small cost per household and no one should be excluded for non-payment. Vote on whether to have a membership fee, passed with majority.

**Vote** on how much the fee should be:

**Vote** on whether associate members needed to pay the membership fee. Majority voted in favour of associate members paying the membership fee.

£2 3 votes

£5 24 votes – Passed.

£10 2 votes

#### 4) Role of the TRA Committee

Polly summarised the role of the TRA Committee. It was noted positions would be held for one year.

Following nominations received in advance and at the meeting, the following were voted in by majority.

**Chairperson:** Peter Cox

**Secretary:** Linzie Wishart and Jessica James

**Treasurer:** Tim Birch

**Vice Treasurer:** Simon Law

**Committee members:** Polly Stephenson (noting willingness to act as liaison with Council), Sam Sposito, Michelle Oxley, Nichola Woodward, Cathy Harris.

Richie Gribble suggested the TRA could benefit from a youth representative. It was agreed this would be added to the agenda for next meeting.

There was discussion regarding the Festival Committee (FC), which had organised the village festival in July and was working on a Christmas event too. The majority agreed the FC could become a sub-committee of the TRA with Simon Law acting as a liaison between the FC and the TRA if/when required.

#### 5) Councillor Leaves

Councillor Michael Leaves congratulated the TRA for the successful adoption of the constitution and elected committee. He introduced himself and his role in the council as Cabinet member for strategic street scene and environment. Cllr Leaves expressed his gratitude at being invited to the meeting and his willingness to attend in future if invited. He remarked that the Council had funding available for environmental projects, and guaranteed the TRA a £100 grant from this. Tim Birch noted that as Treasurer he would be establishing a TRA bank account ASAP.

The TRA thanked the Cllr Leaves for his attendance and comments. Cllr Leaves exited the meeting.

#### 6) Chair Handover

Polly noted the receipt of a book of residents association minutes dating to 1975, gifted to the association by Tony Kennedy. She then officially handed the Chair to Peter Cox.

Rob Dixon, on behalf of those present, thanked Polly for her role in establishing and Chairing the initial AGM of the TRA.

Peter Cox asked that those elected to the TRA Committee (TRAC) meet briefly after the business of the AGM was completed to arrange an initial TRAC meeting, with a further TRA meeting to follow.

## **7) Update on the Christmas Market:**

Wendy Rees informed those present that the carol service would take place on Sunday 17 December in the Boringdon Arms , with the time to be agreed.

Richie Gribble, Laura Riccobono and Oli James provided an update on the plans for the Christmas Market which is to take place on Saturday 16 December on the cobbled area of Boringdon Terrace. Rich informed those present that the accounts from the summer festival had been previously presented to a meeting held in the Boringdon Arms as well as being published on facebook. The Christmas Market aims to raise funds towards the next summer festival to be held on 28 July to coincide with low tides during the day.

Plans include a small number ( circa 10) stalls on the cobbles including arts and crafts, local produce, face painting and food; a Christmas tree in the square and a Christmas sing song. There are also plans for Santa to visit the village, with help from the Round Table.

It was noted the Christmas event would not include a road closure and was intended to be a smaller, more local event than the summer festival, with flyers intended to just go out locally along with a notice in the Hooe primary school newsletter. Sam Sposito offered her help with any press releases or marketing required for this event or in future.

Help was requested from local residents as follows:

Plan to sell locally baked cakes etc if anyone would like to contribute.

Help decorating the area, donations of lights, help stringing them up on the day etc.

Elves needed to help Santa. It was noted these needed to be adult as part of the role would be to ensure Santa's grotto is accessed in a safe and orderly manner. However, Elves under the age of 18 would be able to help too, to add to the festivities (River volunteered).

Decorations for the tree. Toni Northmore offered to help if there was to be a session making decorations for the tree. There was discussion around asking those attending the event to bring a decoration for the tree if they wanted to. It was agreed that decisions would be left to the Festival Committee, who have organised and managed previously events very successfully.

It was noted there would be another public meeting held by the Festival Committee prior to the event taking place.

## **8) Any Other Business**

Cathy Harris reminded those present that there will be a Remembrance Service on Friday 10 November at 10.45am on Hooe Green 10:45am. Fred Clegg Davies would be laying a wreath on behalf of the village and all were welcome to attend.

Rich Gribble remarked on the importance of ensuring that those residents who had been part of the previously residents association felt they could be part of the TRA. It was agreed that the new Turnchapel Residents Association would like to thank the previous committee for their hard work and would welcome them joining the new association. There was discussion on whether a further expression of gratitude and recognition was required and it was agreed to add this to a future agenda.

Richard Parsons raised the matter of the refurbished telephone box and post box in the village and remarked on their positive contribution to brightening up the village. Paul Jago was thanked for his work.

Peter Cox closed the meeting, noting a future date would be publicised in due course.

==== Close