

**Grange Farm Steering Group (SG) Committee**

**One Enterprise Ltd (Independent Tenant Advisor)**

**19.00 Thursday 30 July 2020**

**By Zoom Conference Call**

**Present**: Bill Beardon (chair), Shaz Mohammed, Ranjan Narayanasamy (tec issues), Varsha Patel, Rekha Mehta, Fiona Allen (tec issues) and Duad Amin.

Cllr Dan Anderson, Cllr Sarah Butterworth, Mary Hannington and Salome Irungu (LB Harrow)

Joan Borzak (Higgins)

Raj Kumar, John Harvey (One Enterprise) and Paddy Lynne (HFTRA)

**Apologies**: Ken Woods, Amita Jagai-Kempster, Alison Coudray, Shivakuru Selvathurai, Kandiah Thayaparan, Shamim Manji, Alison Pegg, Anthea Watkins, Rachel Dimond and Magali Peyrefitte.

1. **Declarations**: No declarations made.
2. Notes of previous meetings held on 25th June and 23 July 2018 were agreed**.**
3. **Good News Stories**
   * Raj reported that the TAG rugby sessions with the police are going well. Young people were enjoying the sessions and the sessions were good for physical fitness and community relations.
   * Other summer activities on the estate would be conducted through Teams video telephony.
   * Arrangements had been made to continue the distribution of food parcels throughout the summer, but on a more limited and targeted distribution.
   * Raj had visited Higgins site office for the first time and was really pleased with the support provided by John and Ed, who kindly printed copies of posters and then put them up on the hoarding to advertise the TAG rugby sessions.
   * Paddy reported that she was being released from shielding/isolation as from 31 July.
   * There were no bad news items.
4. **Higgins Development Update**
   * Mary reported progress and state of play on various elements of the redevelopment programme.
   * Work on site had now resumed as normal subject to current ongoing Covid 19 social distancing rules.
   * The asbestos removal was now completed.
   * The delay caused by the Covid 19 lockdown meant that the completion of the whole programme was now put back from March 2022 to end June 2022.
   * In response to the SG’s previous requests for more information about kitchen and bathroom finishes the council were discussing with Higgins how to show residents the available choices and complying with the social distancing guidelines.
   * Mary said it was intended to make brick samples available on site so that they could be viewed without people having to assemble in a crowded room or hall.
   * Joan said that she will have her own office on site where she will keep samples of finishes on boards for residents to view if they make an appointment with her. She is also prepared to carry the boards around to individual tenants for those who are unable to leave their home.
   * Higgins’ resident engagement activities had been delayed due to the Covid 19 lockdown and restrictions.
   * The council were conducting a review of post Covid 19 market conditions which would inform their search for partners for phases 2 and 3.
   * A time lapse camera is being installed on site in order to capture images of progress on site over the duration of the project.
   * Already on 13 July they had recorded images of the initial demolition works which would be posted on the Harrow website.
   * One of the CCTV cameras had been removed on the grounds that it was no longer required.
5. **Higgins Social Charter Update** 
   * Amy had previously circulated the Social Value Action Plan on which Joan commented at the meeting.
   * Joan said it was too early for Higgins to employ local recruits as the initial works of demolition and asbestos removal all involved specialist sub-contractors.
   * The fencing company has employed up to 19 local people on site.
   * The first apprentice is due to start work on 3 August and he is a local person (from HA2 postcode).
   * The boards for Rachel’s next project involving artwork ideas generated by residents will be made available by 7 August.
   * Joan mentioned that the Shaftesbury school is now being engaged and discussions held about getting their pupils to apply for suitable trade and other construction related roles. Raj commented he was really pleased to hear about this as the school primarily caters for children with special educational needs.
   * Joan informed the SG that Polly had now left the team.
6. **Vision Statement & Action Plan** 
   * John introduced the subject by saying that the Steering Group’s updated vision statement for Grange Farm had been through a number of redrafts and after each iteration it had got shorter and sharper. It now contained a number of action points which involved translating the aims and objectives in the vison into specific practical actions. The key areas were:
     + maintaining the social networks and community initiatives which the SG had initiated and which had been given a boost by the community volunteers coming forward during the recent Covid 19 crisis; and
     + taking forward with key stakeholders to ensure a shared understanding of the aims and priorities.
   * The next step would be to have a meeting with relevant council officers to get the vision into their priorities and ways of working. Joan said that Higgins would be pleased to join in any such meeting.
7. **Community Development Update** 
   * Raj read out the report that Anthea had produced, which had been circulated before the meeting.
   * It was noted that the summer Fun Day on 22 August 2020 will now consist of virtual activities.
   * A poster advertising the event and how to connect online has been drafted and will be sent out to all residents by the council.
   * Prizes will consist of vouchers which can be redeemed at Argos, Amazon and Love to Shop.
8. **History Project Update**
   * Anthea was collating a whole range of materials covering the history of the area before the Grange Farm estate was erected and the successive generations that have lived there since it was built in the 1970s. The ITA have provided Anthea with photographs of early SG meetings and previous Fun Day events.
   * A good cross section of the SG members attended the meeting with Anthea on 14th July to provide ideas and suggestions for the hoardings, including using images and stories of real people who have lived in the neighbourhood.
9. **Allotments**
   * There is a vacant unused site on the allotments near Osmond Close. Rachel is trying to get the council to allow residents of Grange Farm to use it for their “grow your own” vegetables etc. However, she is aware that there is normally a waiting list and application procedures to be followed. The local councillors are supportive of the proposal and Cllr Sue Butterworth mentioned that the Leader of the Council (Graham Henson) is also looking into the case and hopefully a positive result will be achieved.
10. **Dates of Next Zoom Meeting**

* The next SG meeting is scheduled for Thursday 27 August by ZOOM at 7pm. If there is a need to have a pre-meeting or alter this date Raj will send out notifications.