

Draft Minutes of the 7th Disability Redbridge/Ilford Shopmobility AGM

5 30 pm 20th July 2018 Bramston Close Hainault

Present: Lisa Cain, Ann Garrard, Kay Glover, Clive Durdle, Stewart Garrard, Pranjali Kakshepati, Michael Ratcliffe, (trustees), Andrew Garrard, Cyril Stitches (volunteers), Carla and Linda (Bramston Close tenants)

Apologies: Jagdish Aiden, Nicky Gee, Fiaz Muhammed (volunteers)

Item 1 Remembering Verdi

The meeting began with a 1 minute silence to remember our Chair, Virendra Patel, who sadly had died in May. Verdi had been an inspiration to many people since the 1990's, working tirelessly to support disabled people. He was always a voice for people with physical disabilities working with Adult Social Services to influence service provision. Verdi was involved with Ilford Shopmobility for many years serving on the ReDA sub-committee. When ReDA became Disability Redbridge in 2011 Verdi willingly agreed to be our Chair.

Item 2 Welcome and Introductions

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and the trustees and volunteers introduced themselves to the Bramston Close tenants who were present.

Item 3 Apologies

The apologies are listed above.

Item 4 Minutes of the 2017 AGM

MR proposed and AG seconded that the draft minutes be agreed as a true record. The meeting agreed the proposal.

Item 5 Matters Arising

The One Stop Shop is now open in Lynton House. It is accessible and appointments can be made to discuss housing and blue badges as well as education and other council matters.

There was a lot of discussion about recent and proposed changes in Ilford and the Exchange. For the town centre this includes the closure of Bodgers and part of Marks and Spencers, the mixed commercial and residential development on Ilford Hill, the Crossrail work, the impact on traffic. The

Exchange is now lighter and brighter with more seating, family facilities and events. Some food outlets have closed and W. H. Smith are now only on Level 2 but new retailers do appear to be keeping open. The reliability of the lifts, the lack of toilets on Level 1 and the re-location of the disabled parking bays have been matters of concern. A new Guest Lounge is to be opened as an information point and it was agreed we need to make links to improve our marketing e.g. use of the new big screens on Levels 2 and 3, promoting the availability of wheelchairs.

Advice from RCVS was followed to make sure Disability Redbridge is General Data Protection Regulations compliant.

Item 6 The Annual Report

Many discussion points within the Annual Report had been covered in Matters Arising. The work of the volunteers and the support of the Exchange was acknowledged.

Item 7 The Financial Report

The treasurer, SG, explained his report and invited questions about income and expenditure. Overall income remains steady but the day hire/ long term hire balance is altering. He also reported that comparative data is now available for the past 3 years and copies were available. There were no questions and CD proposed and LC seconded that the report be accepted. The meeting approved the proposal.

Item 8 Election of Trustees

From the nominations received: Michael Ratcliffe Chair proposed Kay Glover, seconded Cyril Sticher

Stewart Garrard Treasurer proposed Michael Ratcliffe seconded Lisa Cain

Trustees Lisa Cain, Ann Garrard, Kay Glover, Clive Durdle, Pranjal Kakshepati

Proposed en block Stewart Garrard seconded Cyril Sticher

The meeting agreed the nominations as proposed.

Item 9 Marketing and Promotion Discussion

Discussion centred around the impact of the closure of Bodgers, the replacement of the disabled parking on Level 1 by family parking, the state of the High Road pedestrian area, the increase in homelessness and begging,

gangs and knife crime all of which have a negative impact on Ilford as a destination.

It was agreed that as Shopmobility we need to work with the Exchange to market and promote our services and to ask the National Federation of Shopmobility for Advice.

Item 10 AOB

The Redbridge Disability Charter, an outcome of the Redbridge Fairness Commission, is finally about to be published. Details will be circulated when received.

The formal meeting closed at approximately 6 45 pm and was followed by light refreshments and the opportunity to socialise until 7 30 pm when the AGM ended.