

TH Federation of TRAs Minutes

Monday, 28th November 2011 at 7.00pm.

Collingwood Hall, London E1



PRESENT

Phil Sedler - Chair	Fabian Thomsett	Brian Stanley	Glyn Robbins
Terry McGreenera	Uche Onwubiko	Kate Scannell	Azezzun Zahraah
Jenny Fisher	Ezinne Uchechukion	Mark Taylor	Myra Garrett
Jean Taylor			

ITEM 1 Apologies: Eileen Short, Nick Gopaul, Lene Milaa, Ian Campbell, Richard Desmond, Larry Herman

Glyn Robbins

Glyn outlined some of his ideas on the kind of research he might do for us. A number of suggestions were made, including affordable housing units built, leaseholder charges, property speculation and the writing of leaflets. It was agreed that we would talk with Glyn further as to the best way forward.

Arising From Minutes of October Meeting

Corrections: it was felt that mention should have been made of the issues raised with Cllr. Khan in relation to accessible housing and also discrepancies between leaseholder and tenant service charges.

We have now received the grant from the Council and were therefore actively seeking a second part-time worker. A draft job description was circulated, and attendees were invited to put their own names forward or those of others they thought suitable. Mark would send out the revised job description to all on our mailing list, and we would hope to appoint by the end of the year.

Disappointment was expressed at our failure to get a response from the Council for a request for a speaker at this meeting on the effects of the pending HB changes.

Further concerns were raised regarding the decanting process at Robin Hood Gardens. Rabina's meeting with Swan Housing had been postponed, and we need to pursue this issue with her.

Petition and Residents' Charter

An updated version of the Residents' Charter was circulated, and met with general approval. This would be presented to Councillors at our next meeting (see below), and eventually to a Full Council meeting, probably in April. We will hold a Conference shortly before this to discuss how best to persuade landlords

<p>4</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p>	<p>to implement the Charter. The new worker will take the Charter around to TRAs to encourage them to sign.</p> <p>It is intended to present a Petition to Parliament, hopefully signed by the Mayor and leading Councillors. This would highlight the effect on the people of the Borough of the changes in HB and the link of rents to new tenants with the market rate. June was proposed for this.</p> <p>Future Meetings</p> <p>It was agreed that our next meeting would be brought forward to December 19th (subsequently changed to the 21st), and would be a social evening to launch the Charter. All Councillors would be invited, and encouraged to sign. Jenny agreed to organise this.</p> <p>There would also in December be the first of two meetings led by Richard Lees from Open Space as an introduction to local government planning and how to get involved. Date to be arranged. A further session is planned for January.</p> <p>A further attempt would be made to get the Council speaker on HB to attend our January meeting.</p> <p>Estate Issues</p> <p>Signposts put up on the THH part of the Lincoln Estate seemed to indicate it had been taken over by the HARCA. Uche had been unable to get any answer about this disturbing development. Phil agreed to contact Rabina for clarification.</p> <p>AOB</p> <p>Concern had been expressed at the number of consultants being used by Registered Providers. Mark would raise a FOI question with major RPs.</p> <p>There was a rumour that East End Homes was experiencing significant financial problems.</p> <p>Next month's meeting would be a social, so the next Business Meeting will be at 7.00pm at the Collingwood Hall on Monday January 23rd.</p>	
<p>THE MEETING ENDED AT 9.20PM</p>		

Signed

Phil Sedler

Chair THFedTRAs

Date