

TH Federation of TRAs Minutes

Monday, 27th June 2011 at 7.00pm.

Collingwood Hall, London E1



PRESENT				
Phil Sedler - Chair	PS	Collingwood (THH)	Brian Stanley	BS
Clive Palmer	CP	Brownfield (Harca)	Cyril Farby	CF
Terry McGrenera	TM		Brittany Hall	BH
Elizabeth Adebisi	EA	Collingwood (THH)	Phaedra Toms	PT
Mark Taylor	MT	Eric & Treby (EEH)	Jan Ansty-Hayes (EEH)	JAH
Claire Winter	CW	St Stephens (THH)	Myra Garrett	MG
Jean Taylor	JT		Nick Gopaul	NG
Geof Juden	CJ			

ITEM		ACTION
	Meeting commenced at 7.00pm.	
1.	<p>Organisation of Meetings</p> <p>It was agreed that members would be more self-disciplined at meetings, making all contributions through the Chair and being as brief and as relevant in their comments as possible.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes and Matters Arising</p> <p>The minutes of the April meeting were agreed as to accuracy, and further discussion was delayed until the appropriate item on this meeting's agenda.</p>	
3.	<p>July 9th Conference</p> <p>Speakers, workshops and the plans for the afternoon Q and A session were agreed, and various details relating to the day were discussed. It was hoped that the local media would publish the information we were sending, and that Eileen would do a press release after the Conference. It was proposed that we attempt to get information on young people getting Council housing.</p>	
4.	<p>Funding</p> <p>Myra distributed a paper that she had prepared giving options as to the funding that Cllr Khan had indicated she was keen to find for the Federation. It was broadly agreed that we would seek to have two part-time workers being employed for 15 hours per week each. One would be Mark Taylor, who would continue his excellent work on the administrative side. The other would be responsible for developing</p>	

	<p>outreach work and campaigning. If we are to develop our work with tenants, leaseholders, ALMO residents and RSL residents, the second post would be vital. We would need to resolve the issue of how to manage the expansion of our work as well as issues relating to PAYE etc. Additional to the above, there would need to be some provision for the more general expenses of running our organisation. Funding would need to be guaranteed for three years to ensure that we could plan ahead and that no unnecessary time was taken up with fundraising. It was reiterated that, despite the above, we would remain independent of the Council, and would be free to criticise it.</p>	
5.	<p>The Future of the ALMO</p> <p>We have been invited to take part in determining the consultation process that the Mayor is undertaking regarding the future of Tower Hamlets Homes. It was agreed that any such consultation must include tenants, leaseholders and freeholders. No general view was expressed as to whether the ALMO should be retained or taken back in-house.</p>	
6.	<p>Leaseholders Sub-Group</p> <p>It had been suggested at our AGM that we should consider setting up a leaseholders sub-group. After some discussion, it was agreed that this would be potentially divisive. Although it was recognised that there are issues that relate only to leaseholders, it was felt that these could be addressed within our general meetings.</p>	
7.	<p>Decent Homes Pilot Schemes</p> <p>THH had called a number of meetings of residents who had experienced the Decent Homes work on their estates. The general consensus seems to have been that there was great variety as to the level of satisfaction. Some doubts were expressed about inadequate liability for damage done by contractors, but overall people were happy with what was being done.</p> <p>The meeting ended at 8.45pm. Next meeting is at 7.00pm on Monday July 25th at the Collingwood Hall.</p>	

Signed

Phil Sedler

Chair THFedTRAs

Date