

OLD COULSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2017

In the Heath Room, Old Coulsdon Congregational Church

Present:

Janet Stollery (Chairman)
Mike Blake
Alan Clifford
Marion Clifford
Adrian Fosberry

Brian Hudson
Caroline Jewell
Nigel Rea
Michael Seabrook
Vic Young

By Invitation:
Cllr Chris Wright

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Sally Cook and Lee Honey.

2.0 MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING ON 0th October 2017

These were agreed.

(Later in the meeting, CW drew attention to an error in Item 5 – The Pond: the Skanska employees were due to participate in the next clearance exercise - not the one in September.)

3.0 MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED BY THE AGENDA

The Chairman proposed that the 2018 AGM be held on 18th April, in the OCCC as Cameron Hall was not available. This was agreed.

4.0 REPORTS

4.1 Finance – report attached.

CJ drew attention to the outgoings for the liability insurance and for the printing of the newsletters and reported that OCRA was acting as bankers for the local WW1 Commemoration. The latter should be noted when the accounts are viewed.

4.2 Membership and Recruitment

MC drew attention to the number of road stewards with outstanding subscription returns, expected to come down to four shortly. MC would phone these to finalise the collection exercise.

ACTION: MC

There was also a serious shortage of road stewards and Tudor Close may be the next to lose its road steward – this would be an on-going problem as many of the current cohort were elderly. NR would address the issue on Facebook by stressing the need for more volunteers to come forward or risk coverage by OCRA.

ACTION: NR

There was a brief discussion on the use of the OCRA paper envelopes for collecting the subscriptions – it was agreed that more use could be made of these if the collection address was in the relevant road. The Chairman suggested putting a note about subscription collection in the Spring newsletter.

CJ asked if the subscriptions collected by road stewards could be given to her by cheque or bank transfer as the practice of dropping cash through her door could give rise to disputes. This was supported, and MC agreed to add the bank account details on the road stewards' collection forms.

However, it was accepted that there had to be acceptance of some ongoing cash transfers. BACS account details were provided by CJ (OCRA Nat West 600614 A/c 29604346).

ACTION: MC

4.3 Planning – Report attached.

MS briefly outlined his report and moved on to initiate a brief discussion on Roberts Farm, Kenley, which is above Caterham Drive. Local residents had expressed some concern about the removal of trees in the fields. However, in the discussion it emerged that this had been done to create a paddock for horses and a new stable block. There was an issue about the identity of the owners of the various parcels of land in that area.

The Chairman drew attention to the parking problems caused by two events held on the same day at the Oasis Academy and suggested that this could be a foretaste of the problems arising when the Homefield Housesite was developed.

4.4 Publicity – report attached

NR added that he had laid the OCRA wreath at the Memorial Service the day before at which there had been a big turnout.

4.5 Website – report attached.

NR updated the Facebook membership figure to 1729. The Chairman asked who was authorising new members – NR replied that the system required a Coulsdon connection to stop advertisers taking advantage of membership.

At 20:45 CW, having previously apologised for probable lateness, entered.

4.6 Newsletter – no report

4.7 Security – report attached

In LH's absence, there were only some connects on his report. NR suggested that the focus of the police needed to be on the higher volume serious crimes. As an aid to reducing crime, there was support for the proposed 'Nosy November' campaign.

5. COUNCIL ISSUES

CW reported on the following:

- **Meeting of the Friends of Green Spaces in Croydon.** There were a number of unhappy residents present complaining that the Council were neglectful in not safeguarding the 31 green spaces that they valued as this had resulted in the Planning Inspector removing their protected status when he considered the Draft Local Plan. The decision had prompted 1500 letters of protest. However, the Coulsdon green spaces are protected against development. CW added that the issue is being handled by the Council's Spatial Planning section rather than the small Parks function.

There was a brief discussion on the ability of severely depleted services to adequately manage services to or for the public as much of the knowledge required has been lost with the departure of staff.

- **Grange Park.** The play area has been nominated and is on a shortlist of three for the Best in Country award. The decision will be made at Lords cricket ground on 29th November.
- **The Pond.** The next clearing exercise will be on Wednesday, 22nd November, with input from Skanska staff.

6.0 CROYDON AND COULSDON DEVELOPMENTS

CW reported on the following:

- **BrickbyBrick.** There had been no further developments in progressing the various plans.

- Westfield. The planning application for this major development would be decided that week at the Planning Committee. Even if agreed, there would be a number of concerns about the venture.

There would be a big increase in central Croydon housing and this appeared to be generating interest amongst a younger generation. A concern about some housing applications e.g. Addiscombe Grove, is the small sizes of the dwellings in relation to the Mayor of London's regulations.

- 'Surrey Beds' site (the large car park opposite the old Purley and Coulsdon town hall and the adjacent land but not the Surrey Beds line of buildings). The houses on this site were being demolished. However, proposals for development have not been published.
- Coulsdon developments. There was no new information about any of the Council's proposals. However, the Coulsdon Nursery has moved to Chipstead Valley school. CW declared an interest as trustee before referring to the intention to make use of the site.
- Woodcote School parking. The three-month trial of vehicle restrictions would be followed by an analysis of its impact. If considered successful, the controls could be rolled out across the borough.
- Lion Green Road development. This was being progressed at the design stage. AF reported on the meeting the local RAs had with the architects and there was a brief discussion, with the focus on the limited public parking provision in the plans.

7.0 CHRISTMAS PARTY – Report attached

This would be held on Friday, 8th December in the OCCR as usual. MC added that 21 tickets had been sold to date – CJ had received the money from 19. The Chairman asked for four tickets. MB agreed to run the raffle and CJ to organise the food. Additional help on the night would be needed from other Committee members. A question had been raised about Committee members paying for their tickets as they worked at the event. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that payment would be made optional for the Committee members.

CJ intended to visit Costco with AF to investigate the suitability of its food for the event.

ACTION: CJ/AF

The Chairman asked if the event should be promoted on Facebook. MC reported that there was capacity for about 50 people and numbers were half-way there – the suggestion could be reconsidered in a week. It was reported that two children would be attending with their parents and this raised the question of an OCRA Christmas event in the future aimed at children.

8.0 CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Chairman reported that OCRA had a table of ten and there were five more OCRA members attending. Also, the Rotary Club also have tables. Total ticket sales were better than breakeven, and the organisers were asking for the donations of raffle prizes.

When NR asked if OCRA had invited the Chairman of the CLOC campaign, the Chairman said that he should be and she would so.

ACTION: Chairman

9.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (including other reports & correspondence)

- **OCRA awards.** The Chairman raised the possibility of a presentation to recognise the contribution of a member of the neighbourhood team. Agreed that the Chairman would progress.

ACTION: Chairman

- **SNARL.** The Chairman asked for a contribution to SNARL (£262) to pay for another set of leaflets following recent attacks – this was agreed.

ACTION: Chairman/CJ

- **Invitation to an OCRA committee meeting.** MS suggested inviting appropriate individuals who may be willing to serve on the committee to attend one. A route could then be: Invite - Co-opt – Elect at AGM. The proposal was supported after a brief discussion and an individual was identified.
- **Road works.** BH reported a Council notice of planned water works at Stites Hill Road/Rydon Lane. NR added that this had been posted on Facebook.
- **'Abandoned' Van.** MC reported a Yodel van which appeared to have been abandoned in Keston Avenue. In discussion it emerged that the police would not be interested if it was taxed – this could be checked on the web. There was a suggestion that Yodel could be informed.
- **Council road cleaner.** AF reported a noisy road cleaner, with flashing lights, slowly moving around the Keston Avenue area at 06:10 one morning the previous week. Given the number of parked cars in the area, it appeared to be a waste of public resources.
- **Coulsdon South station – proposed new footbridge and lifts.** AF reported that plans had finally been submitted for a development which has been long sought by those supporting disabled access to Platform 2.
- **Renewed Memorial garden beds.** CW reported that the work had been completed in time for the Memorial service. There were several favourable comments on the work.
- **OCRA sound system.** NR raised the issue of purchasing a sound system with hands-free mikes for the main OCRA members meetings. The Chairman noted that the purchase of a projector was being progressed and that advice could be sought from LH. It was proposed that the storage of the system at the OCCC be considered.

ACTION: Chairman

10.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11th December in the Chairman's house in Canon's Hill.

The meeting closed at 10:10pm.

FINANCE REPORT-October 2017

Period January - October 2017

Period - October 2017

	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Membership Subscriptions	2,857.00		36.00	
Newsletter Adverts	1,761.75		0.00	
Amazon-website cont.	2.90		0.00	
Easyfundraising	0.00		0.00	
Donations	9.00		0.00	
Theatre Club	58.00		0.00	
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
Total Receipts		4,688.65		36.00
PAYMENTS				
Telephone	10.00		0.00	
Ink cartridges & IT	241.30		21.66	
General printing	50.00		0.00	
Postage	5.50		0.00	
Stationery	65.52		0.00	
Fuel	0.00		0.00	
Newsletters	2,522.00		820.00	
Subscriptions	90.00		0.00	
Donations	1,100.00		50.00	
AGM	46.65		0.00	
Road stewards party	215.69		0.00	
Village fair	94.00		0.00	
OCRA meetings hall hire	188.00		68.00	
OCRA summer party	67.50		0.00	
Xmas party	45.00		0.00	
Website	74.25		0.00	
Gifts	2.99		0.00	
Insurance	237.00		237.00	
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Total Payments		5,055.40		1,196.66
Excess of receipts (Jan-Oct)		<u><u>-366.75</u></u>		
Excess of payments (October)				<u><u>1,160.66</u></u>
Nat West Current A/C at October 31st 2017		8,126.82		

C Jewell 06/11/2017

Membership Report

- I have received returns from 49 road stewards so far. There are 8 yet to return and 8 rounds are currently not covered. These show 1530 out of 2132 households are members (71%).
- Thank to both Adrian for delivering Bradmore Way newsletters and Caroline for delivering Taunton Lane newsletters. I delivered Curling Close. Sadly Roy Billings who covered Curling Close passed away.
- In February we will have 8 road uncovered to deliver newsletters to. I don't mind doing Curling Close but I am not prepared to do the other 7 rounds. We currently do not have anybody on the reserve list who I can call on. We obviously have a problem.
- One of our Super Stewards can no longer carrying out her delivery to the road stewards. So we are also looking for a new Super Steward.
- When I agreed to continue as Membership Secretary, I did say I was not prepared to look for new road stewards as this had been one of the reason Alan and I wished to give up in the first place.
- Are there any suggestions as to how we can resolve these problems?

Marion Clifford
9.11.2017

Christmas Party Report for November 9th 2017

- Take up has been slow. So far only 14 tickets sold.
- I will bring the tickets with me if you wish to purchase any.
- I have purchased 22 Father Christmas presents so far.
- I am pleased to say Pat Ward-Lee is happy to play Santa again for us this year.
- We will need raffle prizes, so if you have any to donate could you please bring them to the meeting.
Thank you.

Marion Clifford
9.11.2017

Planning Report

Very little going on this month I have checked the website as well this morning. I will report back if I find anything else!

I will discuss the situation regarding Roberts Farm during the meeting as at that point I will have my own opinion on things.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

These are the Planning Applications submitted in the OCRA area in the last two months copied from the Croydon Council Public Access [Planning Register](#). Click on the link for the individual application to see more details.

[Erection of a single storey rear extension.](#)

233 Coulsdon Road Coulsdon CR5 1EN

Ref. No: 17/05127/LP | Received: Thu 12 Oct 2017

I don't have issues with this and it has been approved anyway.

[Ash \(T1\) to reduce the crown 3m off the top an 2.5m from the sides. to lift the crown to 5.5m. this is causing excessive shading to the neighbours at number 110 Bradmore Way. \(TPO no. 44, 1989\)](#)

108 Bradmore Way Coulsdon CR5 1PB

I actually know this tree as my dad was at no 110.... and this has needed work to be done for some years.

Publicity Report

- Diary Dates posters have been updated for Lacey Green and Tudor Parade noticeboards
- Christmas Lights Switch On poster displayed on both
- Lacey Green noticeboard has been given annual clean and spray with WD40

Nigel Rea
7.11.2017

Website Report

The website is at <https://www.theocra.org.uk/>.

The Blog is used to publish current issues. The items in October/November are:

- OCRA Road Stewards
- Garden Waste
- SNT Newsletter
- Coulsdon Commons Newsletter
- School Holiday Dates

Events - latest dates for 2017-18 added.

Planning - latest applications are under Planning - also added to Facebook - last one was 12th October.

Facebook - there are now 1,707 (1,620) members of the OCRA Group. 28 new members this week!

Nigel Rea
7.11.2017

Security report

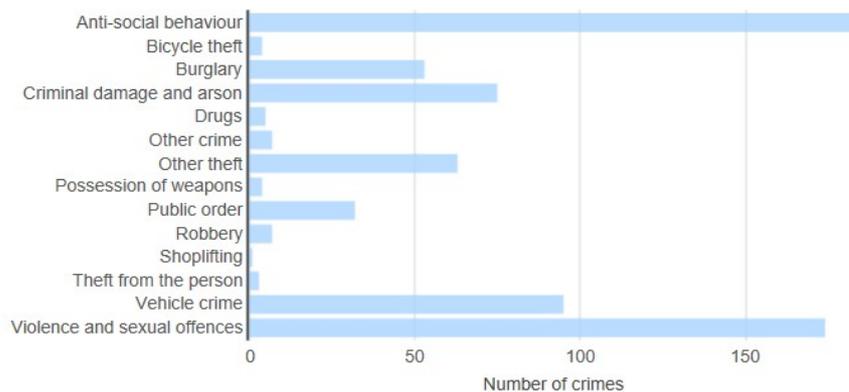
Since there has been very little take up on people interested in Alarms or CCTV as a bulk discount, I think 6 actually replied sensibly. I have been looking at other things.

We have had a few burglaries over the last few weeks and the only way that we can combat this is through people taking a bit of responsibility for their own property and also looking out for each other and what is going on around them.

I am posting on the page tonight with something I thought of on the train today "Nosey November" it will be a few ideas about what is suspicious and to encourage people to ask questions and be generally nosey/curtain twitch.

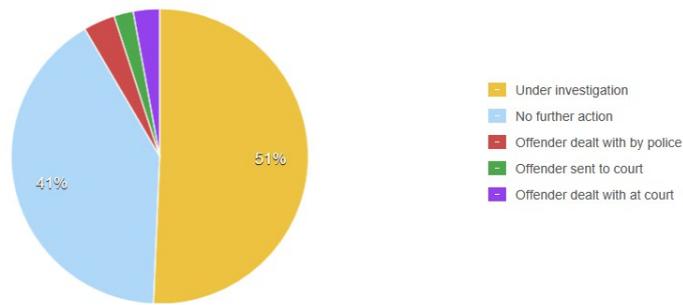
Ok so some analysis on our area throws up the usual suspects for crime but lower down the tables it shows as predicted by me some time ago crime is on the increase. The only way to decrease crime is to get on top of it as a community to help local Police.

Comparison of crime types in this area between September 2016 and August 2017



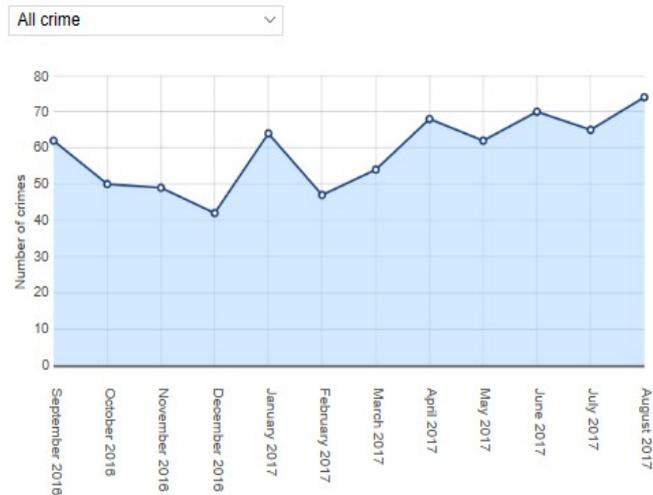
Crime type	Total	Percentage
Anti-social behaviour	184	26.03%
Bicycle theft	4	0.57%
Burglary	53	7.50%
Criminal damage and arson	75	10.61%
Drugs	5	0.71%
Other crime	7	0.99%
Other theft	63	8.91%
Possession of weapons	4	0.57%
Public order	32	4.53%
Robbery	7	0.99%
Shoplifting	1	0.14%
Theft from the person	3	0.42%
Vehicle crime	95	13.44%
Violence and sexual offences	174	24.61%

Comparison of outcomes in this area between September 2016 and August 2017



Outcome type	Total	Percentage
Under investigation	265	50.67%
Under investigation	110	21.03%
Status update unavailable	155	29.64%
No further action	214	40.92%
Formal action is not in the public interest	0	0.00%
Further investigation is not in the public interest	0	0.00%
Investigation complete; no suspect identified	213	40.73%
Unable to prosecute suspect	1	0.19%
Offender dealt with by police	18	3.44%
Action to be taken by another organisation	1	0.19%
Offender given a drugs possession warning	3	0.57%
Offender given penalty notice	1	0.19%
Offender given a caution	11	2.10%
Local resolution	2	0.38%
Offender sent to court	11	2.10%
Suspect charged	11	2.10%
Suspect charged as part of another case	0	0.00%
Offender dealt with at court	15	2.87%
Court case unable to proceed	0	0.00%
Defendant sent to Crown Court	0	0.00%
Defendant found not guilty	3	0.57%
Offender given absolute discharge	0	0.00%
Offender given conditional discharge	0	0.00%
Offender ordered to pay compensation	1	0.19%
Offender fined	1	0.19%
Offender deprived of property	0	0.00%
Offender given community sentence	3	0.57%
Offender given suspended prison sentence	1	0.19%
Offender sent to prison	2	0.38%
Offender otherwise dealt with	0	0.00%
Court result unavailable	4	0.76%

Crime levels in this area between September 2016 and August 2017



Month	Total
August 2017	74
July 2017	65
June 2017	70
May 2017	62
April 2017	68
March 2017	54
February 2017	47
January 2017	64
December 2016	42
November 2016	49
October 2016	50
September 2016	62

I have just finished the second week of my Designing Out Crime Course for my new job which I start on Monday and part of that course was to carry out an Environmental Visual Audit (EVA) on an estate. Although I will not be signed off to carry out EVA reports on my own for some time I can go through some of the basics and propose a walk around of some of our “Hot Spots” and look to see whether there is anything we can change or ask the Council to change to mitigate the problem.

There are some crimes that cannot be mitigated against for an area but the likes of Criminal Damage around the play park area could be lessened in a number of ways.

We would need to run a survey also to see if there is a fear of crime in any particular place e.g. dark spots, alleyways etc.

For part of my assessment I will need to be completing EVA’s and so I could pick one of the local areas for part of my coursework, I would suggest Grange Park as our biggest local Anti Social Behaviour Hot Spot. Others are Tollers Estate and the Colleges which are beyond local control.

It is however now clear that we cannot ask people to approach certain companies for CCTV or alarm installations and can only direct them toward those that oversee the industry however if a local company were to approach us there is no problem with offering a bulk area discount.

Lee Honey

9.11.2017