

Draft Minutes of Meeting of the Crofton Residents' Association Committee.

24th February 2026 at the VC Room, St Paul's Church BR6 8JE

Attendance:

Chris Ford (Chair)
Mike Lawson (Secretary)
Don Benjamin (Treasurer)
John Greeves (Newsletter Editor)
John Perkins (Roads & Infrastructure)
Peter Bridges (Planning)
Steve Skinner (Trees)
Ted Fenwick (Social)
Alexandra Lewis (OPRA)

1 Apologies for absence – none received

2. Minutes of last meeting 11th November 2025

Agreed, signed and retained by Chair

3. Other Agenda items

None raised

4. Finance Report.

A financial report had been presented in advance of the meeting and was available to Members. Don drew attention to a possible £400.00 discrepancy arising from a delay in presenting a cheque to our newsletter printers. The accounts include in 2025 the booking fee for the St Paul's Church Hall 2026 AGM. It was noted that the item accounted for (Note Y) was for both the bench repair and a food-bank donation and not just for the bench repair.

It was noted that we had not yet received the Baby Cow donation that we had been promised and Chris Ford agreed to follow this up. Hopefully this will be received before the AGM and will be included in the 2025 accounts as this was when the funds were due. The timing will be referred to our independent financial examiner to see if this accounting method is correct.

The Oregon Park Residents' Association has submitted a cheque for £133.00 which will be accounted for in the 2026 accounts.

5. Crofton Residents Association Topics.

a. Filming – review of code of conduct.

A proposed code of conduct has been drawn up and forwarded to Bromley Film Fixer. So far there has been no filming in Poplar Avenue this year and residents consulted seem to be

happy with our proposed arrangements. Our code of conduct appears to address the problems that we have encountered previously, for example a crew turning up at 04.30 to set up for a film shoot that they had scheduled for 08.30 and vehicles parked in such a way as to block lines of sight for drivers emerging from their house drives. Members emphasised the importance of having our concerns on record and of ensuring that our correct 'e-mail' address being put on record.

b. Infrastructure

i. *Nature Friendly Verges* on Crofton Road. A draft 'e-mail' to our Farnborough & Crofton Ward Councillors concerning nature friendly verges on Crofton Road was approved and will be sent to them.

ii. *The proposed Pedestrian Crossing* on Crofton Road adjacent to the junction with Starts Hill Road is being delayed as TfL need to relocate bus stops to facilitate its installation. There are funding implications and this is unlikely to proceed until the next financial year.

iii. *Parking in Poplar Avenue*. Bromley Borough Council has agreed to 'double yellow lines' being installed in the next 12 – 18 months. The delay is due to the need to give adequate notice in the press. Parking on Lovibonds Avenue is also causing concern. A major concern is the fact that the London Borough of Bromley only has 20 parking enforcement officers to cover the entire Borough.

iv. *Potholes and Road Re-surfacing*. It was agreed that the present situation is dire. The Bromley Council Joint Environment Committee has announced a new plan for Riney, which involves a new 'cold repair' substance to deal with potholes. It's a quicker process but doubts were expressed over how long these repairs would last under present weather conditions. It was noted that there is still a backlog of historic road defects to be dealt with and John Perkins informed us that he is monitoring conditions and following up his reports with the relevant personnel. It was also noted that Riney are short of personnel and that their current contract with the Borough of Bromley runs out in June and is up for renewal.

Our Committee is notified of major issues concerning roads and infrastructure, such as the collapse of a retaining wall on Tubbenden Lane that resulted in a road closure.

It was noted that Bromley Council has allocated more funds for road res-surfacing in the next financial year including work on Beechcroft Road, Shepperton Road and Towncourt Lane. There may be more projects to be added to this list

c. Biggin Hill.

We were informed of work being undertaken by the Biggin Hill Residents' Noise Action Forum and the London Borough of Bromley Residents' Federation. We were informed that the RO3 Instrument Landing scheme is about to enter a trial phase, in which aircraft with the correct instruments can take a less noise-intrusive approach path to the airport. This should reduce the number of aircraft over-flying our area by approximately 30%.

Approach corridors to the airport have been stipulated and aircraft straying outside them can be reported to the airport CEO. Detailed explanations can be required from the culprits

and in extreme circumstances aircraft concerned can have landing permission at the airport suspended or withdrawn.

d. Safe Neighbourhood Forum

At the January Meeting the key issues raised were of car thefts and shoplifting. We were informed that a recent police raid on the Cash Converters outlet on Orpington High Street approximately 90% of the items being offered for sale turned out to be stolen property. The franchise for this outlet was suspended and has now been re-allocated.

Our local Community Officer – PC Julia Smith retires this week and we have no details of a replacement Officer. This could take until Summer – Autumn 2026.

CRA were notified of the new protocol “Met Engage”, which is a platform for information exchange between the public and the local police. More details can be found at <https://www.metengage.co.uk>. Peter Bridges informed us that he has signed up and has regular communications.

e. Planning.

Peter Bridges attended a meeting at the Civic with Bromley Borough Councillors and held a constructive meeting with Cllr Angela Page, who said that she is anxious to follow up our concerns. A matter of concern to us is that once planning permission is granted for a mobile telephone mast – of perhaps 20’ – then it can be replaced with a mast of any height – 60’ for example – without the need to any further planning consultation.

6. Newsletter Production & Delivery Schedule

It was agreed that this issue will advertise our forthcoming AGM, and will include envelopes for residents to send in their subscriptions. It was agreed that labels on the envelopes will be bigger than those used last year. An article from the former Oregon Park Residents’ Association would be especially welcome. Any articles for publication to be sent to John Greeves by 13/3/26. We aim to have the finished copy delivered from our printers by the week commencing 23/4/26 and to be delivered to road stewards by 28th or 29th March 2026.

Item 7 was deferred until the end of the meeting

8. Arrangements for the forthcoming Annual General Meeting of 16/4/26

We were presented with

A proposed agenda

A catering list

A speakers; invitation list

The Rt Hon Gareth Bacon MP , Bromley Councillor Bob Evans, and GLA Member Thomas Turrell will be attending. Each will be given a time limit for speaking and for taking formal questions, with any further discussion being invited informally over refreshments afterwards.

Friends of Darrick & Newstead Woods and Friends of Crofton and Sparrow Woods will be allowed a presence with display boards but not an opportunity to speak at the meeting.

It was agreed that the issues of incorporating the Oregon Park Residents Association into CRA should be placed first after the Chairman's introduction, prior to the election of the committee. The endorsement of the £1 subscription should be included in the Treasurer's Report and that the issues of roads and traffic, Biggin Hill and of filming should be incorporated in the Chair's Report.

It was agreed to cut back on catering owing to the amount of wastage last year.

It was agreed that only CRA Members should vote on the issue of the merger with Oregon Park Residents Association by that there would be no formal enforcement of the ruling but to rely on Members' goodwill.

It was noted that elections to Bromley Borough Council are scheduled for 7th May 2026 and the announcement of Candidates and Agents will take place on 9th April 2026. It was decided that there are adequate arrangements for 'hustings' in place and sufficient opportunities for residents to meet the candidates without any formal meeting being organised by our Association.

7. We returned to the issue of a Web Site

A presentation on the new site was provided by Chris Ford and John Greeves. In addition to informing folk of our role and work this can be used to publish minutes of our Committee Meetings, latest news and photographs of items of local concern. It was noted that any messages left on this site will be automatically forwarded to the 'info@' e-mail address. It was agreed that we need to have a screen available to demonstrate this site at our AGM.

9. Any other business.

This had been covered under arrangements for the AGM

10. Next Meeting

We will meet to run through arrangements for the AGM on 7th April 2026.

Michael Lawson,
CRA Secretary.