



DRAFT MINUTES OF RVR MEETING

3rd September 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Margaret Brearley; Euan McMaster; Jacqueline St. Quinton; Rosamond Eele; Beatrice Osborn; Dave & Monica Wiltshire; Michael Tickner; Cllrs Gemma Turrell, Graeme Casey and Gita Bapat; Julie Foster; Nigel Foster; Clive Lees; Gillian Lees; Andrew Lancaster; Bill & Cathryn Mitchell; Nanthini Santhiapillai; David Page; Pete Saunders; Wendy Watmore; Keith Mills; Carole Mullord; Alan Mullord; Andrew Lancaster; Fabio Gervasoni; Denise Biffin; Linda Müller; Steve Hadley; Pat Jones; Jess Jenner

1	Welcome and opening remarks ... Margaret Brearley (Chair) presided over this Members' meeting. Her welcome address included a review of the recent RVR Summer Party – noting the attendance of some 85 people. She thanked the hosts for making their respective houses available to hold the party and also praised the committee and volunteers for their work for this event. Margaret highlighted the money raised through the raffle for the benefit of the Bromley Food Bank and the Bromley Homeless charity. This amounted to £400.00. Margaret also announced that an RVR member & graphic designer - Fabio Gervasoni has offered to design the 40th anniversary booklet being planned for RVR.
2	Apologies, acceptance of apologies, absence of Officers Jay Sharma; Joel Kibazo; Elaine Cousins; Martin Ruddick, Dolores & John Ealey, Julie Ireland, Sam Webber, Adam Grant, Serena Gupta
3	Approval of minutes of last meeting and matters arising The July 2026 minutes have been accepted with the proviso that the Treasurer's correction from 'Bank Transfer' to 'Standing Order' be made with respect to the payment of subscriptions. The amended version is now on the RVR website here.
a)	RVR Committee Elected and Appointed Officers: No changes to flag at present.
4	Planning Issues including discussion and approval of action where appropriate for the following areas – as applicable: Bromley & Lewisham. Planning Officer (Clive Lees): Items of note – as follows: • Bromley Library: The Library was sold for some £500,000. This site was a bequest in the 1900s for land –that was intended to be used for the benefit and education of the people. The Library has now been moved to another site but there is no information as to what the Council is doing to honour this bequest with the proceeds of the sale. • 79 Coniston Road: This building is meant to be a single family home but is being used as a hotel. There have been numerous enforcement notices issued. • The Millwall ground: this site has a complicated history and there are now structures that are unauthorised (earthworks, containers, large banners) and what was a woodland has had several trees felled. Appreciation of cultural heritage: In addition to reporting the above woes, Clive also talked about a lack of care in the building or renovating of structures that have spoilt the aesthetics of our conservation area. We learned about features such as Voussoirs and Oriel windows – see information about these, published here and here. These are charming features of older buildings in our area – many of which have been replaced with poor substitutes. RVR members are encouraged to look at houses and buildings in the area to see where these features have been replaced by less attractive ones.

5	Finances
	Treasurer (Nanthini Santhiapillai): Income & Expenditure Accounts - prepared on a receipts and payments method Monies recorded for the period 8th Jan 2026 – 31st Aug 2026 are shown below – based on a receipts and payments method – as follows: Receipts:£915.00 – as follows Income from subscriptions: £555.00 Donations received: £400.00 (these have been shared equally with the charities) Expenditure: £2528.00 - as follows Venue Hire £ 284.00; Newsletter printing £444.00; Donations made £452.00 (Ward panel meeting, Bromley Foodbank, Bromley Homeless); Events £1266.00 (RVR party Jan 26 £221.00, RVR AGM £369.00, RVR Garden Party Aug 26 £676.00); Litter picking expenses £42.00; Bank charges £40.00. Available Funds as @ 01.01.26: £5791.00 Available Funds as @ 31/08.26: £4178.00
6	Community Projects/Issues
a)	Street Friends Coordinator (Nigel Foster's report) Mixed progress on litter-picking due to weather – rain and excessive heat. The July work included tidying up the embankment at Ravensbourne and cutting back the trees while other members of the party tidied some of the nearby streets. The next litter picking session is scheduled for 7th October @ 10:00. This time it will be the pathway between Warren Ave playing fields and the Millwall training ground up at the top of Warren Ave where daffodil bulbs donated by the Council were planted last year.
7	RVR Membership & Communication
	Membership Secretary (Euan McMaster) Euan continues to manage and refine the membership list and produce mailshots as required. He is currently addressing an email problem whereby some emails keep getting rejected and bounce back. He is preparing a list for the Road Reps to check the names and their emails. Hopefully, they will be able to get updated delivery information we can get updates on those while they deliver. Newsletter Editor (Gillian Lees) Gillian has produced an excellent issue which is now available online and soon will be in print. She noted that official park event listings are often outdated, with community Facebook groups proving more reliable.
8	Road Safety & Traffic
	Roads & Traffic Officer (Andrew Lancaster) Not much has really happened in the last couple of months. The Safer Neighbourhood Panel which encompasses the Shortlands Park Langley ward (and much of the RVR area) met on the 18th of August. We learned that recent Met Police guidance is that speeding issues should no longer be a priority. However, for residents, speeding is very much a priority in our area. The members at the meeting agreed that this indeed remains a major issue and we've retained it as a specific ward priority. A major problem though is the frequency of police speed checks. Police enforcement has been limited due to equipment shortages, training gaps, and officers being diverted to other duties. Residents are encouraged to report incidents via the RVR website, enabling us to build a stronger evidence base.

10	Update from the Councillors: Graeme Casey is one of the ward councillors for Bromley Town – a RVR few streets area fall within Graham's remit. Graeme followed up the RVR Traffic Officer's information and provided some input on the subject of speeding. Graham mentioned that there has been communication from his ward with the police about this topic and were told that the police that they do not have enough speed guns. Moreover, they were told that not all officers are trained to use the guns. Although residents can own and use a speed gun to record speeding, they must remember that they have no power to enforce speeding restrictions: all they can do is to inform the police of their findings. If residents wish to use a speed gun, they should be mindful of their own safety and ensure that they wear suitable high-visibility clothing. Gemma Turrell – is one of the ward councillors for Shortlands & Park Langley. Speeding is a hot topic in all areas. She reported that Bromley Council is exploring the possibility of erecting temporary speed cameras that can be moved around the borough. They plan to attend meetings with Transport for London to discuss getting temporary speed cameras. Gemma will let us know the outcome of these meetings. Gemma is also working on issues relating to drains. Drains can get clogged up easily by foliage (a problem that may be prevalent during autumn), leading to water remaining on the road surfaces. If anyone can pinpoint where this lack of drainage is a problem and provide Gemma with the names of streets where 'puddling' is an issue, Gemma would appreciate it. As the Environment portfolio holder for the ward, Gemma does walk around the streets and notes issues such as drainage and as well as flying tipping. Gita Bapat – is one of the ward councillors for Beckenham Town & Copers Cope. Gita highlighted major disruption from War Memorial sewage works, concerns about Beckenham Public Hall (investors offering in excess of £2m would be considered); she mentioned environmental issues at Beckenham Place Park and Fox Grove Club. Although new business and the renovation of the club are welcome, the dust generated by the use of unmade roads causes disquiet among nearby residents – e.g. those of Westgate Road. Gita invited us to come and meet a LibDem Councillor at a regular surgery held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month between 9.30 and 11am in the Waitrose Café. She confirmed that Beckenham Post Office is not scheduled to close in spite of closures affecting nearby shops. Vehicle thefts have escalated – targets are Toyota and Ford cars. There have also been incidents of anti-social behaviour in the high street – probably linked to mental issues.
11	Any Other Business Michael Tickner (formerly Cllr Tickner) was recently made a Life Member of RVR in recognition of his long and distinguished service to the community. When asked for input to this meeting, he reiterated his commitment to attending and supporting RVR's work on behalf of our members. Keith Mills – vice-Chair of Shortlands Residents Association (SRA) was invited to address the meeting, but as the SRA had just completed their summer recess, he had no updates to impart. The RVR Secretary (Jacqueline St. Quinton) pointed to some items that had been left behind after the party and asked those present to claim these items if they recognised them. Margaret also announced that we plan to have a modest winter party to thank the road reps, street friends and the committee for their efforts.

12	Guest Speakers at this meeting Pat Jones and Jess Jenner on The Bromley Little Theatre Pat and Jess delivered a detailed and engaging presentation, covering the existence of this cultural treasure in Bromley – as follows: History & Development • Theatre founded in 1937, converted from derelict stables. • Long tradition of volunteer-run productions. • Survived precarious leases, leaks, and temporary closures. • Now secured by a 30-year lease. Facilities & Improvements • Backstage upgrades • New rehearsal room • Additional toilets • Improved seating and accessibility • Technical innovations Programming & Community Work • Main-house productions – a play in the main theatre every month, running for just over a week – a monthly , intimate “bar” show in the area where people congregate for the main shows • Youth theatre with annual productions • Community arts festivals • Outreach to young people and special-needs groups • Dress-rehearsal tickets sold to local charities More detailed information about the Bromley Little Theatre can be found via the link here.
13	Next Meeting – Thursday, 5th November 2026 at 7.30 pm Our Chair has identified several possibilities for a guest speaker for the November, though no one has been booked yet. Details of the guest/s will be provided on the agenda when it is published.