

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
FEDERATION OF PRIVATE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS LTD
Held on Wednesday 16 February 2011 at the Grill Room, Victory Services
Club, 63-79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF**

Present: FPRA Committee Members: Robert Smytherman (Chairman), Richard Williams (Deputy Chairman), Michael Derome (Hon Treasurer), Muriel Guest-Smith, Stephen Guy, Philippa Turner, Malcolm Wolpert.

In Attendance: Amanda Gotham (Editor Newsletter)

1 Apologies for Absence: Robert Levene, Nick Roberts, Nic Shulman, Yashmin Mistry, Leigh Shapiro.

2. To approve Minutes of the Meeting held 15 December 2010. These were approved.

3. Chairman's Report. No report was provided.

4. Honorary Treasurer's Report. A current statement was circulated. It was suggested that an analysis of administration costs be provided for the EC eg, no of hours worked by staff, no queries, 'phone calls ,questions asked so that they were in a position to justify such costs to FPRA members if required.

5. Memorandum & Articles of Association – Revision. Nick Roberts was exceptionally busy at present and it was agreed that this matter be deferred until 2012.

6. Policy in accepting studies from Advertisers. ALEP (Association of Leasehold and Enfranchisement Practitioners) wants to advertise in the Newsletter but are currently unable to afford the £500 charge. ALEP has proposed that we advertise in their publication as a quid pro quo. But the EC was unhappy at the thought of effectively paying them £500 to advertise. DW suggested that they produce an article giving details of their organisation, membership instead and FPRA can then decide whether it should accept advertisements etc. Anglia also wants to do a case study but FPRA will need to vet the case study first. Concern was expressed that FPRA might be too ready to accept any and every advertiser but AG said some would-be advertisers had been rejected.

Flat-Living logo --- FPRA will make it clear that our logo is merely a link and not an endorsement and will remove it if unhappy with Flat-Livings aims and performance.

7. Attendance at Events

a. CARLEX BS had attended one meeting and had also paid £30 to attend an LPK meeting LPK is the commercial side of CARLEX. He had been impressed by the positive way CARLEX had promoted FPRA and was convinced that it had resulted in additional members. He would be attending another meeting in Chichester.

b. Flat-Living. BS will be attending the exhibition and it was agreed that Jacqui also attend, taking the banner, publications etc and be paid £250 + £80 for travel costs. Committee felt that the cost of sending Jacqui would pay for itself by attracting new members - an investment to generate new funds.

8. Campaign Issues.

a) S20. FPRA has written to the Minister, there is a letter on the website for members to use in the campaign but the Government is just not interested.

b. Energy efficiency and green agenda. BS has attended meetings and pushed for long lessees to be included/considered. If assurances on this are provided FPRA will sign up to the campaign.

c. Disability issues. The Code of Practice dealing with common parts is being drawn up and BS has asked that FPRA be involved.

d. Disclosure of insurance commission. A copy of a response from The FSA has been received but there is no political appetite for transparency on this issue.

e. Safety of lessees' money. A member has found that a bank has refused to setup a lessee's service charge account on the basis that they do not provide 'trust' accounts. PT will look into what seems like confusion on the bank/lessees part over what the account entails.

f. Making Commonhold work No further action expected.

g. Improving legislation. Ditto.

h. Improving operation of LVTs. Nothing further has been heard.

i. Car clamping. Details of FPRA's campaign are on the website. BS had a letter published in the Sunday Telegraph on this issue which produced a sizeable response. The BILL has not yet been heard.

j End exit fees. FPRA is working with CARLEX on this.

9. Update from Admin Office – noted.

10. Dates for future meetings at Victory Services Club:

Wednesday 11 May 2011

Wednesday 21 September 2011

AGM 9 November 2011 – Grill Room or possible use of Carisbrooke Hall to be confirmed.

Wednesday 7 December 2011 – **Please note the change of this date.**

If you are not attending please let the office know.

11. Newsletter dates. All were noted.

Issue 97 May 2011 – articles by 1 April 2011 (includes subscription reminders)

Issue 98 September 2011 – articles by 1 August 2011 (include AGM notices and accounts)

Issue 99 December 2011 – articles by 14 November 2011

Issue 100 February 2012 – Centenary Issue

12. Any Other Business.

40th Year. It was agreed in principle that the suggested arrangements for a self-financing celebration go ahead. BS will meet with RL, SG and MW on this.

Date for next meeting Wednesday 11 May 2011 at 5.30pm Victory Services Club