



Addiscombe & Shirley Park Residents Association

www.theaspra.org.uk

Minutes of Road Representatives Meeting

Thursday 8 February 2018 8-10pm, in the Small Hall St Mildred's

1. Apologies

Adrienne Solomon, Mary Alexander, Tom Wells, Andrew Rendle, Jenny Tighe, Kiff Paddon, Myra Rand, Sarah Hills, Colin Gamm, Maddie Henson, Bob Sleeman

2. Introductions

3. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising.

Agreed

4. Chairperson update

Festive lights looked lovely and he has received donations of £500 from Harris & Bailey and £20 from Finches
Bingham Road has illegal parking cones outside St Mildreds for the church contractors

5. ASPRA Vacancies:

Road Rep Lower Addiscombe Road (194-362)

Road Rep Cheyne Walk - Jeet Bains has volunteered to be Road Rep for his Road

6. Magazine update

The next magazine has a theme, new and old, developed with items on Ashburton Hall, old maps, and the project leader for the work being carried out at St Mildreds has been interviewed.

The magazine will go to print early next week

Dave has provided Phil with an up to date Road Reps list.

7. Adverts Update

Colin Gamm has stepped into the role from January and his report was circulated with the agenda.

Colin is not working on any historical data: he is visiting all local businesses to sell them advertising space in the magazine.

Steve has been working on adverts prior to 2018 and is concerned that he is unable to match data. He is going to arrange access to the bank account for himself and Mary rather than rely on the bank statements sent out by the treasurer.

Phil advised that that the adverts will have a new look this time as they have some new ones and others that have not paid are no longer in it. Streets Ahead are supplying a new advert for the back page. There is an advertorial for Harris and Bailey and one planned for Claret and Ale.

8. Website and Social Media update

George advised he is in discussion about the website with Bob "so watch this space".

Nicola advised that Facebook has a 158 followers who are interested but not necessarily ASPRA members.

Each post gets about 100 likes with 599 viewing the post so it is spreading wide. The admin is working well as was proved when an issue arose with a local matter.

Any business advertising requests are forwarded to Bob and now Colin for the magazine to take up.

Examples were given of the types of things being posted.

Phil asked about the Addiscombe Festival and Nicola said she would have a look on Facebook to see if she could find anything.

9. Finance update

The report and narrative from the treasurer were sent with the agenda.

Steve is concerned that funding for the lighting was £700 adrift.

Steve wants to make sure there was a "fighting fund" for any development/planning that may arise and how the deposit account is used. It was agreed that this was a matter for the AGM.

In the advertising manager's report new rates were suggested for advertising and this was unanimously agreed at the meeting.

Jane mentioned that if Streets Ahead thought our advertising rate was so good could they not contribute to our lighting fund. Hilary explained they had been approached and a general discussion followed on the different ways we had approached the businesses along the Addiscombe shops. It is hoped that the relationship Colin builds up through adverts may help with light donations in the future. Steve suggested large posters in each shop window similar to those done for the Winter Wonderland.

10. Projects update

Hilary read the report which has been circulated.

A motion was carried to approve poppies for the same lampposts that have the lights on. This is on the proviso that it is for one year only. Hilary will ask Councillor Steven Mann for funding from the community budget.

Steve suggested that a permanently growing Christmas / fir tree could replace the tree at the Blackhorse and it could be lit /decorated each Christmas. Terry commented that as the ground was sinking around the current tree located there and the paving uneven this could help improve the area. We should all make the council aware of any issues like this in the area.

Hilary is going to ask Councillor Steven Mann for funding from the community budget for festive lighting.

11. Membership and Postmaster update

Report and commentary was circulated with the agenda.

Just under 50% of households are members.

A concerted recruitment drive for one road as a trial ended with 14 new members but interestingly only one renewed the next year.

Lyn mentioned a comment that she had received from a member who was not happy as previous minutes had shown a photo of Gavin Barwell. Phil said the photo had included both conservative MP and labour councillors. The magazine and the committees signature advise we are a non-political organisation. Dave informed us that he had recently been sent an email for circulation but because it was full of political comments he had not circulated it.

With Barclays closure it is hoped more members will use standing orders or electronic banking. George mentioned another option was to use the Post Office and Jenny mentioned moving to the account to Nat West which she had been assured was not likely to close.

Email circulation to BT accounts had been an issue, however with the help of a resident who worked for BT and Bob the issue has been resolved.

12. Councillor's update

Blackhorse Bridge tenders are imminent. Andrew and Maddie had put pressure on TFL and are working with cabinet members to support the businesses in Addiscombe that have been affected by the bridge closure.

The lights looked great and they are very pleased to support these.

Ashburton Hall is rolled into the GLL new contract and they are sponsoring a concert taking place at the weekend. There will be a green gym and sporty campus. The new set of gates on the Lower Addiscombe Road have opened up the space to suitable events such as the Christmas Winter wonderland which went relatively well. Although the grass was left a quagmire it will be made good as part of the contract and not at council expense.

It is hoped that Ashburton playing fields will receive football funding and community funding for other sports and there are plans to get the Chaffinch Brook opened up.

Councillor Tim Godfrey was prepared for Carillion's collapse and librarians are back under the council and are all now on a living wage. There is no fulltime child librarian in central Croydon but changes are coming.

Dave asked if lessons had been learnt and they won't be outsourcing the libraries again. Council are currently very keen to keep inhouse and make changes and transform them to make more use of them.

Phil asked if January 2019 was the completion date of the work on Blackhorse Bridge and Andrew confirmed this but hoped it may move forward to November. As the bridges were not transferred to Tramlink no one was looking after them and they were in a state of imminent collapse.

Terry asked about the huge supermarket that now includes what was the children's play shop on the corner of Fernhurst Road. Steven advised that the council had refused planning but this was overturned on appeal so there are no restrictions or conditions and we can only hope they are responsible neighbours. Concerns were expressed about opening hours and parking. Steve asked Stephen to provide the council's environment number so that the breaking of any working conditions e.g. hours of work could be reported.

Lyn asked who was interested in the old Sainsburys as an under-offer note had been up for a long time. Stephen had approached bigger stores about this shop. Lyn also asked about the overgrown planting at the tram stop as she had not received a reply from TFL. Stephen will take this forward.

Jane asked when the Ashburton Hall café would open and Stephen advised it will in March when the contractor takes over but it may be earlier.

Is CALAT affected by Carillion situation but Stephen was not aware of anything.

Steve was asked about meeting rooms at Ashburton Hall, hoping to find a cheaper venue for ASPRA meetings. At the moment the nature of PFI makes it expensive to run and Oasis charge a lot for school meeting rooms.

Shirley asked who was monitoring 20mph. It can be enforced by Safer Neighbourhood Team. She also raised a parking issue which Stephen will take forward.

Stephen advised that as part of the boundary changes he will be standing for election in the Crystal Palace area. He thanked ASPRA for the great work the committee are doing and congratulated us on ASPRA's growth.

13. Jumbletrail update

Lyn, Jenny and Anne are planning to organise the next one for a Saturday in September. They have been approached by HOME, a neighbouring residents association, to share this event which would mean more help with the setting up and administration of the event. A resident in Northampton Road has also offered to join the team.

14. Addiscombe Recreation Ground update

On Saturday 16 December some of the gardening group met to plant over 600 bulbs that had been donated. This will make a lovely display in the spring. Some general weeding and pruning was also carried out.

After Christmas Mike planted climbers to grow up the trellis which had been fitted by Steve in the autumn.

At the gardening community event on 3 June 2017 Steve installed some sample fencing at both flowerbeds which was approved by the council on 19 June 2017. No reason has been given but the fence is still not installed. This is disappointing for the gardeners who have worked so hard on planting and maintaining the flowerbeds. Steve advised at the meeting that he would be unable to complete the fencing until May time. In the meantime, Tesco's wish to come and view our completed project which included the fence, so this has now become an urgent requirement. Dave has offered to take this forward and also received offers of help after the meeting. Anyone else who would like to get involved please contact the secretary.

Dangerous dogs in the park came up for discussion and it is recommended that park users should look at the government website and be aware of the laws which are stricter than you would expect.

15. AOB

Claire shared the positive feedback she had received that the ASPRA magazine was a good read and well presented and the noticeboard continued to look nice.

Jeet Baines advised the meeting that he is currently a conservative councillor for Coulsdon West and will be standing along with Joseph Lee for Addiscombe East in the May elections. A brief discussion followed how we are a non-political organisation who work well with both councillors and MPs regardless of their political party.

Gill asked if anyone knew about an offer to ASPRA members from Trinity School for discounted fees to use the sports facilities as a resident has asked: Trinity had not replied and there was nothing on the website. Steve remembered this and thought it was because the first ASPRA meeting was held there but this was a very long time ago. Jeet suggested Gavin Barwell may be able to help as he may still be chair of the governors.

Since the meeting I have received this:

Found in the email archive, from mid 2016

I have recently confirmed with Trinity Sports Club that ASPRA members qualify for reduce membership fee.

*Please use their discounted rate form and state against "Other (Please Specify)" "**ASPRA member**"*

This is the link to the form

http://www.trinity-school.org/ParentCast/modules/common/php/load_file.php?id=2571

OR <http://www.trinity-school.org/members> then select Sports Club (bottom left) and membership

16. Dates of next meetings all at St Mildreds:

- Wednesday 25 April 2018 AGM in the Pavilion
- Thursday 14 June 2018 Road Reps meeting in the Small Hall
- Wednesday 5 September 2018 Road Reps meeting in the Small Hall