

Minutes: CANBURY AND RIVERSIDE ASSOCIATION (CARA) AGM

9th October 2014, 8.00 pm at Canbury Gardens Pavilion

In the Chair: John Parrish, who welcomed the score of CARA members who had come despite the weather. Apologies were received from Penny de Souza, Anneke Ferrier, Stuart Devall, Jenny Langridge, Bazil Arden and David Cunningham.

1. Copies of the agenda, minutes of the 2013 AGM, resolutions, draft constitution and Accounts for 2013/14 were available for all present. The **minutes of the CARA AGM**, on 29th October 2013, were approved, proposed by Mike Siegel and seconded by Mario Cedro, with no Matters Arising.
2. **Review of the past year.** John Parrish highlighted CARA's involvement with parking changes north of Bank Lane, reducing building heights in North Kingston development plans, litter-picks, renovations at the Half Mile Tree, replacing street trees, the TLS Kingston Aviation History event in Canbury Gardens, the development of CARA "Street Contacts" and CARA's successful summer BBQ, and noted the significance of the council elections, achieving Green Flag status for Canbury Gardens and flooding in the CARA area. **For the coming year** he identified the interest in reviving Canbury Gardens Working Party, a possible Neighbourhood Forum, a group seeking action on illegal mooring and the possibility of the replica Royal Barge Gloriana being housed in Kingston.
3. **Finance and Membership Report.** Peter Wolf reported on CARA's healthy finances at the end of the last financial year, despite relatively low subscription income in that year. Information provided by Charles Roscorla indicated that membership had begun to improve, with 160 subscriptions for the new year already paid, covering about 20% of potential households in the CARA area.
4. **Election of Committee:** One Committee member, James Roy, was standing down, and co-opted member Charles Roscorla was standing for election. All the other Committee members were standing for re-election: John Parrish, Penny D'Souza, Peter Wolf, Marilyn Mason, Stuart Devall, Trevor Willis, Anneke Ferrier, Clare Francis and Richard Mobbs. All were elected unanimously, proposed by Hugh Scantlebury and seconded by Mike Siegel.
Thanks were given to Trevor Willis for his 25 years on the Neighbourhood Police Panel, on his retirement from that role. CARA would be seeking someone to take on this important task.
5. **Extension of CARA membership** for 'users' who are not resident in CARA area to be accepted as Associate Members was outlined, and the special resolution to effect this was passed unanimously, proposed by Martine Roscorla and seconded by Trevor Willis.
6. The **Up-dated CARA constitution** was discussed briefly, and the special resolution to implement this revised constitution was passed unanimously, proposed by Marilyn Mason and seconded by Mike Siegel. It was noted that the revised constitution should include Associate Membership established by the previous resolution, and that the earlier an AGM is held after the year end the less likely attendance would be reduced by bad weather.
7. **AOB**
Alan Pettitt outlined the continuing activities of the 'First Responder' service which covers the CARA area and beyond.
In response to a question about the privatisation of the public tennis courts in Canbury Gardens, Hugh Scantlebury said there were definitely no plans to change the status of the tennis courts.
8. As there was no further business John Parrish drew the formal proceedings to a close.

Viv Evans, RBK's Head of Planning & Transport, gave an excellent talk on "**Kingston Futures**" emphasising the inevitability of growth (under the 'London Plan' and as Kingston is so attractive for residents and retailers) and the need to plan to make the impact of change as positive as possible. A lively discussion followed, stimulated by Viv Evans' talk and his responses to questions.