

Minutes: CANBURY AND RIVERSIDE ASSOCIATION (CARA) AGM 2015

12th October 2015, 8.00 pm at Canbury Gardens Pavilion

In the Chair: John Parrish, who welcomed the 29 CARA members who had come to the AGM. Apologies were received from Jenny Langridge and Councillor Maria Netley.

1. Copies of the agenda, draft minutes of the 2014 AGM, Accounts for 2014/15 and an analysis of CARA membership were available for all present.

The **minutes of the previous CARA AGM**, on 9th October 2014, were approved, proposed by Jonathan Rollason and seconded by Marilyn Mason, with no Matters Arising.

2. **Highlights of 2014/15.** John Parrish outlined three of CARA's successes.
 - CARA's finances were very healthy, with reserves up 70% on the last year, so there might be opportunities to put some small amounts of money back into the community.
 - CARA membership was up by 65, largely accounting for the strong financial position, helped by the development of CARA Street Reps organised by Jenny Langridge.
 - CARA Late Summer Lunch, organised by Anneke Ferrier.
 - CARA newsletters are fantastic, and key to CARA's identity, edited by Marilyn Mason, supported by other Committee members and delivered by loyal volunteers.

John went on to outline some important areas of CARA involvement in the past year.

- Consultations on new developments, with the hotel, the Eden Quarter and, particularly, the North Kingston (Gasometer) site.
- The new Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) in the Albany Park Road/Lower Ham Road area.
- Attendance at Police Panel meetings, and working to revitalise local Neighbourhood Watch.
- North Kingston Forum, developing the constitution for a new local planning body.
- Reclaim our Riverbank, which had been quite successful reducing illegal mooring in Kingston.
- Canbury Gardens: planting 7,000 bulbs (organised by Trevor Willis), registering as a Green Spaces Friends Group and in the reconstituted Canbury Gardens Working Party.

John commented that CARA would focus more on Canbury Gardens during the coming year.

3. **Finance and Membership Report.** Peter Wolf presented the CARA Accounts and confirmed that the finances were healthy. The Accounts were approved unanimously, proposed by Charles Roscorla and Seconded by Stuart Devall. Charles Roscorla's membership analysis showed that 25% of potential households in the CARA area were paid up in 2014. Efforts would be made to increase membership, particularly in streets where membership was low.
4. **Election of Committee:** One Committee member, Peter Wolf, was standing down. He was thanked for his work as CARA Treasurer. Co-opted members Des Noble and John Ward and a new member, Jonathan Rollason (lead member of the Think group) were standing for election to the Committee. Proposed by Trevor Willis and seconded by Anneke Ferrier, they were elected unanimously. All the other Committee members were standing for re-election: John Parrish, Penny D'Souza, Charles Roscorla, Marilyn Mason, Stuart Devall, Trevor Willis, Anneke Ferrier, Clare Francis and Richard Mobbs. All were re-elected unanimously, proposed by Hugh Scantlebury and seconded by David Baker.

5. **AOB** In response to questions John Parrish confirmed that the new CPZ should be implemented in November¹, and Hugh Scantlebury said resurfacing Skerne Road should start in October². Alan Pettitt outlined the activities of the local 'First Responder' service.

As there was no further business John Parrish drew the AGM proceedings to a close.

Councillor Hugh Scantlebury, a former Chair of CARA and now one of our Councillors, gave an interesting introduction to the topic 'Kingston 2015 and beyond'. He invited the audience to raise questions. He answered questions and commented on an enormous range of topics of interest, from affordable housing to air pollution, illegal mooring to housing 'Gloriana', and from population growth to cycle routes, generally across Kingston and through Canbury Gardens.

His informed answers were of great interest to CARA members, who thanked him for his informative presentation.

1. Subsequently informed implementation would be in December.

2. Subsequently informed work should start in November.