

Notes of ARA Committee Meeting held on Tuesday January 20th 2015  
at the Alexandra Nurseries

Present

Lucy Smith- Chairperson  
Helen Millar- Treasurer  
Jane Ching- Secretary  
Tricia Monk - Road Rep.  
Jess Farrand- Road Rep.

Apologies

Tim Walby  
Verena Hewat  
[Andy Peake](#)

Minutes of last Meeting and Matters Arising

- No further news at this stage regarding progress of John Ruler's planned written article on the cottages.
- Planning application of Alex pub has progressed since last meeting and is on today's agenda.
- Flowers were bought and given to previous treasurer for her valued service to the committee and ARA.
- Jane C. did provide potential name to Helen M. re. independent assessors for annual accounts.
- Helen had offered to produce first newsletter of year, but personal circumstances have prevented her doing this. Tricia kindly agreed to take this task on. Jane confirmed that Shirley had used her own printer for this task, and ARA did not buy one as had been discussed in 2014.
- Shirley has confirmed she does not want to lead on 'Open Gardens' this year but willing to share past processes etc. with whoever does. Lucy has e-mailed potential interested resident but [received not responded response](#) yet.
- Vulnerable residents issue to be further discussed today.
- Andy not present today to comment on any actions re. request for local speed restrictions. [Lucy to follow up.](#)
- No notifications received of any further meetings of Town Team.

Review /update of ARA Constitution

Committee looked at present constitution that was amended in June 2009 and suggested further amendments. Draft copies of this will be

taken to AGM for discussion and request for formal approval by members.

### Vulnerable Residents

The idea of a list of vulnerable residents had been suggested with good intentions at a previous meeting, but not fully discussed/considered.

Jess raised some valuable questions regarding our reasons for doing this and also what we would do with the information.

After discussion among members present the following was agreed;- Instead of collating any specific and personal information regarding vulnerable residents we would include in the upcoming newsletter a reminder to all residents on the estate to be mindful of their immediate neighbours including those that may need particular support. Fostering this neighbourliness in our community seems an appropriate way forward without collating information where privacy and confidentiality may become compromised.

### **Action**

**Tricia will draft a short article to this effect for next newsletter.**

### Snow Friends

Discussed whether present list of Snow Friends is up to date or whether some named people may have moved. Snow friends are those people in each street willing to help clear the roads and communal areas on the estate, (and any paths of those too incapacitated to do their own) in the event of heavy snow falls.

There are some snow shovels and salt supplies in the ARA shed available on request.

### **Action**

**Lucy will e-mail residents on her present list of named Snow Friends and request new or more volunteers via ARA web site if a shortage.**

### 150th Anniversary of the Estate in 2016

All agreed that a planning group would need to get together if a substantial event/celebration to be organised for next year. At present there is no Event Organiser on the committee, and this needs to be drawn to the attention of residents. Would be very easy for any willing resident to be 'co-opted on' just for this role.

Issue of cottage heritage/renovation document, and the plan to scan and go on web site was raised again. Jane confirmed that she had loaned her own hard copy to Tim who was passing it to Steve (154) to scan for web site.

### **Action**

**Tricia will include request for volunteers in next newsletter and**

**Lucy also to put out request on web site.**

**Jane will e-mail Tim and Steve re. Cottage Heritage Document to see what happening or whether now on web site.**

#### Update on Plans for Alex Pub

Since the last meeting, Lucy sent all residents on the e-mail list the link to the re-submitted plans. [s](#)She also sent comments made by resident Joel Taylor who helped to look at and summarise the issues. [T](#)here has been no feedback from the recent planning application at this stage. Concerns do still exist as to whether the residential accommodation within the plans will lead to any difficulties for local parking etc., but equally concerns would increase if the building remains empty and falling into an even greater state of disrepair.

#### **Action**

**Any further news/outcomes will be posted on the ARA Facebook and e-mail systems.**

#### Community Gardening

Following Anna's resignation as Co-ordinator there is a need to advertise for someone to take this over.

#### **Action**

**Lucy to put out a request for any interested volunteers.**

**Tricia to also include on newsletter.**

**Jane to also approach resident who may be interested in helping(or not!)**

#### Treasurers Report

Helen presented her first report as treasurer and confirmed that she and Linda have been added as new signatories. Healthy balance of £1941.44 One unrepresented cheque of £12 still outstanding that Helen will investigate. [Need for over 60s group to spend out their funds.](#)

#### Street Lighting

Lucy has been forwarding relevant e-mails regarding the attempts that committee members have been making to try to get both LBB and potential donors to fund heritage lighting on the estate. Most recently Tim has sent e-mail to local MP Jim Dowd [and Lucy has asked the project board to extend their deadline past the financial year to raise funds.](#)

No success with this campaign so far. If LBB move forward with their original plan for replacement lamps, ARA will still maintain their position of disquiet that completely inappropriate designs for the conservation area are planned, even if nothing further can be done to prevent it.

## AOB

- List of Committee Members updated and vacant positions added. This will be added to web site in hope that other residents may come forward to fill the vacancies including the need for a Road Rep. for Hardings Lane.
- Recent e-mail received reminding us of closing date for 'London In Bloom' Application forms to be in. (Alexandra Estate has entered this on occasions in the past.)

### **Action**

**Jane agreed to look at application form and discuss further with chairperson whether to complete and submit.**

- Committee agreed that as John has been so accommodating in letting us hold our meetings at the Alexandra Nurseries that we would support the advertising of any AN events or issues in our ARA newsletters.

**Next Meeting will be held at Alexandra Nurseries on Tuesday March 24th 2015 at 8pm.**

**Jane Ching**