

Introduction

Mark is Chairman this evening, standing in for Gerry.

Chairmans report is not Gerry's report per-se but Marks report

MINUTES OF THE AGM 8TH MAY 2024 OF THE EASTCOTE PARK ESTATE ASSOCIATION

ITEM	NOTES
1 Welcome and apologies	Apologies Gerry Edwards, Sheila Welch and Janet from Pamela Gdns.
2 Minutes of the 84 th AGM (10 th May 2023)	Previously circulated and on the website. Proposed by RM seconded by Marg Bacon. Richard sent a set to Gerry for signature as a true and accurate record.
3 Matters arising from the minutes	Steve raised the issue about alarms ringing with no one bothering to check. This seemed to be primarily vacant houses at the top of St Lawrence Drive where no one had contact numbers. If anyone has vacant properties next door try and obtain a contact telephone number.
4 Chairmans Report Provided by Mr Mark lemon	<p>In the absence of Gerry, Mark Lemon gave a report covering the year's activities.</p> <p>Membership There are 254 homes on the estate, of which just over 80% were paid up members last year. We hope to increase the membership closer to 90% this year. Just a reminder subscriptions cover the calendar year, and are now due.</p> <p>Nominated charity Currently support the Acorn Youth Group for those with learning disabilities. Donations collected at same time as subs. The group also benefitted from the £270 profit made on the Coronation Party event. As part of our due diligence, two committee members visited in November, and the committee recommend continuation. Vote will be held as part of Treasurers section.</p> <p>Roads After an approach by ourselves, the council put white lane markers near the island at the bottom of St Lawrence Drive, near the entrance to the park. Unfortunately, they did not do this for the other islands, and this is being followed up. We have no additional news re pavements in Burwood over and above that previously advised – that the work MAY take place by 2027.</p> <p>Planting A local group of Brownies and some residents planted bulbs on the various islands and verges on the estate, helping to bring spring cheer.</p>

	<p>A few new street trees have been planted by the council, for which we are grateful. Whilst mentioning trees, residents are reminded that as a Conservation Area all trees are covered by TPOs (Tree Preservation Orders), and larger ones require permission even for pruning. See the Council website, and if in doubt, contact the Council Tree team. Falling foul of the rules can result in fines of £10,000 per tree – and yes, they are applied.</p> <p>Committee and Road Stewards</p> <p>I am sure Gerry would wish me to pass his thanks to the committee and road stewards who all volunteer of their time to keep the EPEA the vibrant community which it is.</p>
<p>5 Social Events including 65 Club</p>	<p>Past Social Events</p> <p>King’s Coronation Event</p> <p>The main event last year was the Coronation Party, attended by over 220 residents at its peak, and would have been more throughout the day. A variety of hot food, drinks and games ensured it was a great success in bringing everyone together. The day helped newer residents meet their neighbours and enjoy the ethos of the Estate. It was noticeable how many more children attended than at previous events, which made the day even better. Many thanks to the sub-committee who organised it, and all those who mucked in on the day with set up and clearing.</p> <p>Quiz Night</p> <p>Held in October, with Martin as Quizmaster. 33 attendees enjoyed this light hearted competitive event.</p> <p>Christmas Lights</p> <p>This traditional EPEA competition declared the winner as 39 Rodney Gardens, with their multi-faceted display.</p> <p>Future Social Events</p> <p>Summer Event 7th July.</p> <p>Picnic in the Park. Bring your own food and drinks. Long Meadow, just over the bridge. Games – need any parents to help with ideas re kids activities, eg duck race along the Pinn. Easier to run and arrange than a full “special event” street party. The Picnic in the Park committee would welcome any new people joining particularly who may have families.</p> <p>Quiz night Saturday 16th November.</p> <p>Slightly changed format re updating on scores, following feedback from last year’s event.</p> <p>May need to change from fish and chips if price becomes prohibitive. An Alternative for discussion would be Pizza.</p>

	<p>65+group</p> <p>The group is a social group for any EPEA members who have reached 65 years of age as long as we have capacity. It is not open to the general public as it is a meeting of neighbours.</p> <p>We reached our 6th anniversary in October 2023 with monthly meetings in the Stables building in Eastcote House Gardens.</p> <p>In 2023 we dropped just a few decimal points below the 2022 average attendance of 18. [2023 was 17.83. (2022 18.0)].</p> <p>Our longer-term target level of average attendance is in the low to mid- twenties and we are closer to that so far in 2024 with some new members joining.</p> <p>During 2023 we had 6 days with a guest presenter with one of those days including live music. We had 2 days with a team quiz and two days with in house presentations - one on Andrew Lloyd Webber and one on Glastonbury Legends. We also had a day with a music video and a Christmas is coming day. We have a similar plan going forward.</p> <p>We currently have 42 members. You will have seen in recent newsletters that we are trying to get a few more members. Should you like to know more speak to either Martin Hand, Marg Bacon or Margaret Ross or any committee member.</p> <p>We had a surplus of £373.54 in 2022, as we used bookings paid for before March 2020 that the council allowed us to carry forward. We used up £126.52 of that surplus in 2023. A few more members would enable us to get closer to break even each year and be more appropriate for the space.</p>
<p>6 Treasurers Report /Adoption of 2023 Accounts and nominations for the 2024 Charity</p>	<p>Treasurer's notes for EPEA AGM 8.5.2024- Adoption of the accounts and charity nomination.</p> <p>Starting with welfare; £794.50 donations were collected giving another record year. In addition, £270.92 was raised at the Coronation event mainly from stalls and barbeque. The sum of these (£1,065.42) was donated to the Acorn Youth Club.</p> <p>Subscription remained at £3.00. They were raised from £2.50 in 2005. There is no proposal to increase further. Total membership was 207 homes (2022: 205) which is 81% of the 254 homes on the estate taking us back to close to the levels in the years before the pandemic. This gave a subscription income of £621.00. 57 people paid by direct bank transfer (2022:58) 109 paid to Road Stewards (2022:100) and 41 paid direct to treasurer (2022:47) mostly by cheque.</p>

As already mentioned, the 65+ group used up £126.52 of the £373.54 surplus from 2022.

The major items of expenditure were:

- Public liability insurance of £222.08 (previously £173.99 for 2020, 2021 and 2022). The committee could not arrange events without this insurance.
- Web hosting and backups (in stationery and admin) £185.86 (2022: £153.58).
- Road Stewards and Committee supper £205.50 (2022: £161.96). It is worth noting that the road steward's evening supper is a gathering of road stewards and committee members as thanks for the time and the effort they give during the year. We currently have 10 committee members, 16 road stewards (including 2 committee members), and one auditor who are invited to the event. If anyone is interested in being a road steward do let a Martin Hand, or any committee member know and if you would like to join the committee do also contact any committee member.
- The sundry item was token gifts to the retiring auditors to say thank you for over 20 years of auditing the accounts

The deposits line is zero for 2023. At the end of 2023 St Lawrence Church was holding 2 deposits of £200.00 each from us. One in relation to the committee supper 22.3.24 and one in relation to the AGM 8.5.24. The same amount was held at the end of 2022 so there is no net movement.

The Fish and Chip Quiz night was a social success but made a loss of £86.66 (2022: loss £43.90) including the raffle profit of £54.98 (2022 £69.00). 33 people attended and we hope we can encourage a few more to come this Autumn even if the cost goes up a bit.

The overall deficit for the year was £354.24 (2022 deficit £4.04) with the closing fund being £3,080.90. This continues to provide us with a fund to be able to consider suggested projects for the benefit of the estate and its residents.

It is of note that before 65+ and any result on events there was a deficit of £141.06. With increasing costs of insurance, web hosting etc. this is an underlying situation which is likely to increase. However, with over £3,000.00 in the bank there is no immediate need to increase subs.

Thanks go to Bhavini Matthews (St Lawrence Drive resident) who audited the 2023 accounts.

The year end accounts were proposed and agreed with no dissensions or objection.

	<p>Thanks also go to Coopers Residential, for sponsoring the newsletter which saves us a considerable amount of money and enables circulation of colour newsletters. Newsletters go to all 254 homes on the estate unless not possible due to construction work.</p> <p>Nominated charity for 2025 we propose Acorn Youth club. All agreed, no dissensions.</p>
7 Election of Auditor	We would like to reappoint Bhavini Matthews. All agreed no dissents.
8 Neighbourhood Watch	<p>Chris is currently away but it has been generally very quiet on the estate. A few car doors tried but nothing major. Mark also attends the safer neighbourhood's team for Eastcote. Main crime is around the Highgrove Estate but even that is only antisocial behaviour rather than anything more significant.</p> <p>Shoplifting is on the rise along with abuse of shop staff which the SNT have asked to be moved up the scale of Police response and action.</p> <p>The best way of keeping up to date is by OWL</p>
9 Election of committee	It was agreed that the existing committee could remain by all present.
10 AOB	<p>Following the sad passing of Lesley Crowcroft, Jackie Redrup (EPEA member) noted that she would be dealing with Planning issues as a primary point of contact to give resident feedback to the Planning Committee. Note the EPEA do NOT involve themselves directly in any planning matters.</p> <p>George of Bridle road raised the issue of a huge structure in the neighbours garden built under permitted development which was almost the same size as the footprint of his house. JR had advised she had already responded to this and discussed the issues with permitted development.</p> <p>Finished 8.45pm</p>