

AMERSHAM
and district
RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION



Amersham and District Residents Association **2015**





Letter from the Chairman 2015

Welcome to the 2015 ADRA Newsletter. Following our usual format, you'll find your Committee members' portfolio reports, as well as the minutes from our AGM, held Tuesday April 21, 2015 at the Amersham Free Church. Once again we had a very good turnout. The Members' Open Forum was particularly lively.

As you know, one of our objectives at ADRA is to provide an effective interface between you the membership, and the various layers of Town, District and County Councils upon whom we rely for effective administration and the provision of services. Making your views known to us will help us to do this better. We are a volunteer organisation, which means we rely on volunteers. We had yet another discussion on this topic at the AGM, but if you could devote even a little time, it would be most helpful. Please contact a committee member, or come to a meeting. They're held on the third Wednesday of each month, except August and December, at 8pm in the Small Barn Hall at the Amersham Community Centre.

Finally, please note that our next AGM will be held Tuesday April 26, 2016, at The Amersham Free Church Hall, at 7 for 7:30

Yours sincerely
Bron Curley
Chairman



Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 21st April 2015

Agenda

- 1 Chairman's Welcome
- 2 Apologies for Absence
- 3 Minutes of AGM – April 2014
- 4 Treasurer's Report – Geoff Platts
- 5 Planning Officer's Report – Les Jayatilaka
- 6 Highways Report – Geoff Platts
- 7 Environment Officer's Report – Linda Flett
- 8 Membership Records Officer's Report – Carolyn Spencer
- 9 Chairman's Report
- 10 Election of Committee (those up for re-election)
- 11 Election of Honorary Auditor
- 12 HS2 Update
- 13 Open Forum



ADRA - Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held on 21st April 2015 at Amersham Free Church Hall

1 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed approximately 65 members to the 54th Meeting of the Association.

2 Apologies for Absence

Marcia Goffin, Sylvia & Lionel Avery, Mr & Mrs Collins, Tony Glyn-Jones, Janet & David Kircheimer, Chris Mellor, Margaret Kenzie, Chris & Lynn Wilson, Cllr Mimi Harker.

3 Minutes of AGM held on 22nd April 2014

Adoption of the Minutes was proposed by Joan Shepherd and seconded by Guru Guruswamy.

4 Re-election of Committee

Bron Curley was the only Committee member up for re-election. This was proposed by Guru Guruswamy and seconded by Brian Woods.

5 Election of Honorary Auditor

Ernest Newhouse has agreed to continue as Auditor. His re-election was proposed by Celia Palmer and seconded by Stewart Foster.

6 Treasurer's Report (Geoff Platts)

As attached.

7 Planning Officer's Report (Mr L Jayatilaka)

As attached.

8 Highways Report (Geoff Platts)

As attached.

9 Environment Officer's Report (Linda Flett)

As attached.



Liz Jones of 'The Wasters' updated the meeting on the proposed Waste Transfer Station, London Road, East, Amersham. The most significant development occurred only last week when Bucks County Council issued a Notice in the Bucks Examiner stating this proposed major development is indeed a departure from the Local Development Plan and not allocated therein, when previously it had been stated otherwise. Any such proposal has by law to be notified to residents giving them 21 days to object. The proposal is for a 75,000 ton capacity which would consist of a small amount of household waste and a large amount of commercial waste which is a big money maker. The Wasters believe that what BCC is trying to do is use their contract with FCC Environment to utilise a Council site for super-imposing their business venture. A facility of this size would involve large commercial vehicles with no control over when they arrive.

This would create traffic congestion and possible damage to the aquifer (which sits within 2m under the surface) when drilling into the site which could result in contamination. Carriers would be capable of 20 ton loads which, if exceeded, could become unstable and cause accidents. The Wasters believe there are alternative sites which are not as sensitive.

The date for the Hearing is 27th May and members have until 7th May to further object based on the new documents tabled.

10 Membership Records Officer's Report (Carolyn Spencer)

As attached.

11 Chairman's Report (Bron Curley)

As attached.

HS2 Update

Cllr Nigel Shepherd reported the following:

Amersham Action Group continues to strongly object to a proposal which still requires royal assent. The hybrid bill has had its 2nd reading



in The House of Commons and is now working its way through parliament. Almost anyone has the right to petition and around 2000 people and local organisations have done so. There are many local petitioners and Amersham Town Council one of them. It should be noted that approximately half of the petitions come from the Chilterns area - for which thanks go to Cllr Martin Tett, the Leader of Buckinghamshire County Council and the 52 M group (which represents Local Authorities along the route.

In the Chilterns area, the key issue is tunnelling. CDC has produced Chiltern Long Tunnel proposals which are actively being promoted to Parliament. Even if this is accepted the area will still be impacted by construction traffic for an extended period of time.

The main factors are:

- 1 Asking for Tunnelling (Chiltern Long Tunnel - CLT)
- 2 It is possible it will be rejected (as according to their method of calculating costs it will be £400-500m more expensive, than the current proposals. If this happens, the fall-back position would be to create a shorter tunnel – less benefits, but a stronger financial case (on Government's basis of costing).
- 3 Petitioning is likely to be happening in the Autumn.

The probability is this proposal will go ahead but may start in the North.

14 Open Forum

Mrs Lynda Wright informed members she had recently joined Street Life. There are councillors on this website and local issues are raised. She has also passed on ADRA membership forms. There are some useful contributors. Their web address is www.streetlife.com.

A member asked what was planned for the corner of Plantation Road with Roundwood Road.



Brian Woods of Amersham Action Group said a proposal has been discussed with Paradigm to start clearing an area of ground between Roundwood Road and Garden End which is heavily overgrown with laurel and reseed with grass. Amersham Action Group is trying to obtain extra finance to fund further improvement by way of some forest basic seating. ADRA have promised to contribute and Chiltern District Council and Amersham Action Group have funds available. Thames Valley police would be very pleased to see the area cleared.

Mrs Roz Makins understood that Bucks County Council have plans to develop an area of land exiting Old Amersham on the right hand side (a piece of land between the football ground and the river) and enquired whether this was a matter for ADRA or the Amersham Society. Mrs Makins had heard it was to be a home.

Paradigm Housing and Bucks County Council are to submit an application for 32 housing units for people with learning disabilities. This breaks down to 8 units for people requiring full time care and who will not leave premises, 11 for people needing some care and the rest for people who are under supervision but can function on their own. A general presentation to the residents of Old Amersham has already taken place. Mrs Makins asked whether ADRA was going to oppose the application. Les Jayalatlaka said ADRA had consulted with the Amersham Society on the way forward.

George Addison from the Amersham Society said they had considered what, if anything, they should do. They attended the presentation in the Council Offices and it was decided to wait until the planning application was submitted before taking any action and ADRA agreed to follow their lead. There is quite a bit of local objection but the application will be submitted shortly and should then be considered on its merits.



George Addison raised concern regarding the urgent need for new ADRA Committee members and said they had similar situation in Amersham Society 16 months ago when they too were reduced to six members. They have now achieved a committee of 12 by identifying members' strengths and approaching them head-on with an offer of a specific job to do.

Mr Vic Faulkner, an Ex U3A Chairman, said they regularly get requests to serve on committees. The U3A produce a fortnightly newsletter for members, and he felt sure they could run some kind of advertisement for new ADRA members. The Chairman said he would produce a piece to put in a newsletter.

Mr James Worthington from the Amersham Society said ADRA needed younger members. He felt that whilst Amersham Society primarily restricted themselves to Old Town interests, Cllr Martin Pounce was very keen to interact with other community groups.

It was noted that Hill Avenue was to be resurfaced in May. There was general agreement that the resurfacing of Woodside Road was handled most efficiently and the contractors did a marvellous job.

Mr James Worthington mentioned that the Chestnut Lane footpaths were still in a very poor condition and queried whether ADRA had raised the issue.

Lynda Wright proposed a vote of thanks to the hardworking ADRA committee.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

AMERSHAM
and district
RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION



AMERSHAM AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2014

(including for comparison a summary for 2013)

<u>2013</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2014</u>
£		£	£		£
3315	Subscriptions	3290-00	81	Printing, stationary & postage	158-45
			282	Hire of Halls	287-30
3	Donation	3-00	45	Affiliation Fee	45-00
			227	Insurance	227-15
			120	Social Evening	163-35
47	Bank Interest	25-88	120	Millennium Garden	156-00
			500	Opposition to HS2	20-00
			500	Amersham Action Group	1500-00
			663	Newsletter	-
			150	Misc items/Speaker	45-00
			60	AGM refreshments	102-46
<u>3365</u>		<u>3318-88</u>	17	Presentation	-
			20	Town Show (Display etc)	-
			-	Bank Charges	30-15
			10	Refund of Subscription	-
			2795		2734-86
			<u>570</u>	Surplus/ (Deficit)	<u>584-02</u>
			<u>3365</u>		<u>3318-88</u>

Note:- The Residents' Association agreed to act as Banker for Silver Sunday, a Charity Event organised at short notice by Mimi Harker, former Mayor of Amersham. (Income £1750, Exp. £701-55, Surplus £1048-45)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2014

<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	
£	£	£	£	
4467	Opening Surplus	319	Current Account	325-60
571	Surplus/Deficit	4768	Deposit Account	6343 - 69
	over year	1	Cash in Hand	77
5038	Closing Surplus	-	Creditor(Silver Sunday)	(1048-45)
<u>50</u>	Subs in Advance	-		
<u>5088</u>	<u>5621-61</u>	<u>5088</u>	<u>5621-61</u>	

Auditor's Report

I have audited the above accounts having regard to the matters referred to below. This Association, in common with many others of similar size and organisation, derives a substantial portion of its income from subscription, advertisements, etc., which cannot be fully controlled until it is entered in the accounting records and is therefore not susceptible to independent audit verification.

In my opinion, subject to the foregoing, the accounts give a true and fair view of the Association's affairs as at 31st December 2014, and the Income and Expenditure for the period then ended,


Hon. Auditor


Hon. Treasurer



Highways

During the past year I have continued to report the location of pot holes, damaged or defective road furniture, including road advisory and mandatory signs rendered ineffective by growing vegetation at road junctions. I do this by phoning Highways on Call, tel 0845 230 2882. How much I achieve by doing this I do not know, though I encourage everyone to do the same, as things do eventually happen. If the person taking your call does not offer you a reference number, ask for one as I feel this ensures that your notification will be recorded and you can make further enquires if nothing has happened after a reasonable time.

Mains water leaks should be reported to Affinity Water, Tel 0345 357 2404 or 0800 376 5325. Affinity Water then contacts the Local Authority to Schedule repair work.

Environment 2015

Following a survey of Highland Road neighbours, it was evident that action was needed to make Hyrons Bridge safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

After a recent meeting with the Chairman of Bucks County Council, Martin Tett, it was decided that the bridge would be re-lined, as the existing lines are nearly invisible. This will be done in the autumn. The King George side of the bridge will be resurfaced as well.

Woodside Road

The shrubs opposite the fire station do obscure the use of mobility scooters on the pavement. Amersham Town Council has agreed to prune them.



Membership Records Officer's Report

As usual, I would like to start by thanking all those who have acted as Road Stewards for us in the last year. Without your assistance it would be much harder for the Association to keep in touch with its members.

We are particularly grateful to those of you who assisted in our mini-membership campaign in mid-2014, by delivering membership forms to non-member households. Although we did not significantly increase member numbers, we did acquire enough new members to replace those who departed during the year and to swell our numbers a little. We currently have 1153 members in 702 households.

We plan to have another membership drive this year, targeting some of the roads which were not covered last year and some in which we currently have no members.

We are still trying to add members' e-mail addresses to our records. If you received an e-mail from Les reminding you of the date of this meeting, it means that we have your current e-mail address. If you did not, then we do not. If that is the case, please would you add your email address to the list which is circulating, or send me an email. My address is in the recent newsletter and will be in the next one. Also, please try to remember to let us know if you change your email address. If your internet service provider is one of those which requires you to opt in to receive emails from designated senders, please would you add Les (address also in the latest newsletter) to your approved list. We promise not to bombard you with messages and we do not allow other people or organisations to have access to our database, but there are occasions when it is helpful to the committee to be able to canvass members' opinions quickly, or when we feel it appropriate to make members aware of local matters requiring a swift response.



During the year some more Road Stewards have retired and we are currently in need of help in:

Beech Grove, Black Acre Close, Bois Lane, Cedar Grove*, Chequers Hill, Clare Park, Darlington Close, Devonshire Avenue, Devonshire Close, Grimsdells Lane, Hardwicke Gardens, Hazell Park*, High Bois Lane, King George V Road, Lollards Close, Milton Lawns, Orchard Lane*, Quarrendon Road, Saxon Close*, Sheepfold Lane, Short Way*, Stanley Hill Avenue, Sycamore Close, Tall Oaks*, The Copse, The Drive, The Rise, Westanley Avenue*, and Woodside Avenue.

Apart from the new membership campaign, being a Road Steward mainly involves delivering the newsletter each year, although we do sometimes ask for other assistance, such as collecting subscriptions from the very few members who still prefer to pay in cash. It is also a great help to us if you let us know if you become aware of any members moving away.

Please let me know if you no longer feel able to act as a Road Steward and/or would prefer not to be involved in delivering the next newsletter. You will have noticed that the recent newsletter was delivered by post. There were exceptional circumstances, which made the committee feel that, in view of the timing, this was the most expeditious delivery method and indeed it seems to have worked very efficiently, but we may revert to hand delivery for at least some of the next issue.

I would also like to thank Guru and Les for undertaking to be the senders of emails to members, this being beyond my technological skills!

*At the end of the meeting members came forward to offer to be road stewards in these roads.



ADRA Planning Report 2015

As you may or may not know I have taken over from Guru as the Planning Officer for the Association and since September last year assumed the duties associated with the position. The shoes I have to fill are big ones and with your support I hope to continue the good work that Guru has done over the many years he has held this position.

The major issue this year has been the withdrawal of the draft Delivery Development Plan Document by the Council after the Department of Environment through the Planning Inspectorate were not satisfied that the amount of housing identified in the report was adequate or, more importantly, could be delivered.

Amersham and Chesham Bois have a specific character in terms of the Architecture, Site Planning and Plot to House ratios. This really needs to be preserved however the wide areas of Green Belt & Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty surrounding us does not allow us to expand in a manner that suits this and the reduction of these areas would also be detrimental.

These issues however did not absolve CDC of its duty to reduce or meet the requirements on housing. So the Council decided to rework the DDPD to develop a document that will resolve the issues and cover the period up to 2036.

An initial local plan public consultation was called along with a public call for identification of sites has been initiated as the first process of this work.



ADRA has contributed to the submission that has been put in by the Amersham Action Group. In addition we have participated in the various open information & workshop days held by other parties.

We have also assisted the AAG in holding an information day to assist the general public and our members to make their own submissions. Submissions are now closed.

There is an 'Issues and Options Consultation' programed for October and November this year. ADRA is hoping to be part of this consultation. A Public Participation Consultation will then be held in the last two months of 2016.

The official processes will then be on going with a view have the plan adopted by July 2018.

I will not go through all the issues and applications we have commented on, however a summary follows along with the decisions. Not all comments have been in opposition to the applied developments.

Here though are the major developments from the past year.

All submissions and appeals to do with the Pheasant Pub Site have been refused and dismissed. Inland Homes are now appearing to do things appropriately for a development of this size and there is now a Public Open Day Invitation in this hall on the 28th and 29th of April to view their latest proposal prior planning application.

The proposed development on 57 Green Lane where a single story house was to be replaced by an over bearing two storey structure, has now had



3 submissions with various reiterations, all have been refused. To date number 4 has been submitted.

As reported last year the proposal for three dwellings at 1 & 2 Green Lane Close was in progress this has now been given conditional consent where the traffic access issues and the privacy overlooking issues have to be addressed prior to completion of the building works.

The development off Lincoln Park to provide 32 units, which we objected to, has been given conditional permission.

The initial change of use for The Entertainer site to just a café and bar was withdrawn. The subsequent change of use application included residential components and this was given conditional permission. The site is currently being fitted out for a Lounge/Café Bar. The front will have sliding windows, which will open out the lounge to the footpath and passing traffic.

The Old Alfa garage site will be redeveloped into retail, food and residential units. The site has two frontages, one on Hill Avenue and one on Chesham Road. The proposal has been received favourably and the presence of new development should help revitalise that part of our town.

This brings me to the end of my report. On the whole we have been successful in influencing 54% of the applications we have commented on.

We shall keep up our vigilance and action when necessary. The help of the members in alerting us to various issues is key to us being a successful Association and I look forward to representing you in the following year.

AMERSHAM
and district
RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION



CH/2014/0020/FA	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling with associated hardstanding <u>Enslin, 57 Green Lane, Chesham Bois, Buckinghamshire HP6 5LQ</u>	Withdrawn
CH/2014/0087/NMA & CH2013/0432/FA	Issue concerning Design Principles and Non-material Amendments Jesmond Dene, Woodside Road, Amersham, Buckinghamshire	No response
CH/2014/0262/FA	Detached house served by new vehicular access and hardstanding and new access and hardstanding for existing dwelling 16 Piggotts Orchard Amersham <u>Buckinghamshire HP7 0JG</u>	Refused Permission
CH/2014/0441/FA	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling with associated hardstanding and solar panels. <u>Enslin 57 Green Lane Chesham Bois Buckinghamshire HP6 5LQ</u>	Refused Permission
CH/2014/0454/FA	Redevelopment of site to provide three detached dwellings and three detached double garages, with associated hardstanding and landscaping <u>1 & 2 Green Lane Close Chesham Bois Buckinghamshire HP6 5LH</u>	Refused Permission, 2 nd application conditional permission.
CH/2014/0496/TP	Felling of a cypress tree protected by a Tree Preservation Order <u>2 Saxon Close Amersham Buckinghamshire HP6 5QA</u>	Refused Permission
CH/2014/0631/FA	Detached dwelling served by existing access, laying of <u>hardstanding Land Adjoining Chimney Cottage, The Platt, Amersham Buckinghamshire</u>	Refused Permission
CH/2014/0703/FA	Two storey side/rear extension, single storey rear extension, roof alterations and insertion of two rear dormer windows to facilitate additional accommodation within the roof space, single storey front garage extension, single storey front porch extension, alterations to fenestration and extension of raised patio area <u>Corner Garth 50 Clifton Road Chesham Bois Buckinghamshire HP6 5PP</u>	Withdrawn
CH/2014/0942/FA	Development of site to provide 32 units comprising 22 dwellings, 2 maisonettes, 8 flats within 1 building, all served by access road serving Amersham & Wycombe College, with associated roads, car parking, garaging, bin and cycle stores and landscaping Land Adjacent To Lincoln Park and Adjacent To Amersham & Wycombe College Amersham <u>Buckinghamshire</u>	Conditional Permission



CH/2014/1310/FA	Erection of new dwelling and new vehicular access onto Chiltern Road Sunnybrae Chiltern Road Chesham Bois Amersham <u>Buckinghamshire HP6 5PH</u>	Conditional Permission
CH/2014/1601/FA	Demolition of existing dwelling and garage and erection of replacement dwelling with associated hardstanding and landscaping Enslin 57 Green Lane <u>Chesham Bois Buckinghamshire HP6 5LQ</u>	Refused Permission
CH/2014/1953/PNO	PRIOR NOTIFICATION UNDER CLASS J OF PART 3, SCHEDULE 2 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) ORDER 1995, AS AMENDED - CHANGE OF USE FROM OFFICE (USE CLASS B1(a)) TO FOUR RESIDENTIAL UNITS (USE CLASS C3) <u>Kerridge House 42 Woodside Close Amersham Buckinghamshire HP6 5DR</u>	Prior Approval not Required
CH/2014/1996/FA	Change of use from retail (Use Class A1) to financial and professional services (Use Class A2) (retrospective) <u>8 Market Square Amersham Buckinghamshire HP7 0DQ</u>	Conditional Permission
CH/2014/2274/FA	Development of an all weather pitch, erection of a clubhouse, floodlights and fencing - <u>Amersham and Wycombe College Amersham Campus Stanley Hill Amersham Buckinghamshire HP7 9HN</u>	Awaiting Decision
CH/2015/0395/FA	Redevelopment of site to provide two residential dwellings and associated vehicular access – <u>11 St Leonards Road Chesham Bois Buckinghamshire HP6 6DT</u>	Refused Permission
CH/2014/2287/FA	Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement of five detached dwellings, garages and associated driveways – <u>High Beech 54 Clifton Road Chesham Bois Buckinghamshire HP6 5PP</u>	Awaiting Decision
CH/2015/0528/FA	Single storey rear extension, fenestration alterations – <u>10 High Bois Lane Chesham Bois Buckinghamshire HP6 6DG</u>	Awaiting Decision



ADRA Christmas Planning Report 2015

Here are the major developments from the past half-year. Descriptions of which are in the following Table.

The proposal for the development of an all weather pitch and flood lighting at the Amersham and Wycombe College for the Hockey Club was refused permission and is now in appeal.

The proposal for further development of a residence in 11 St Leonards Road from one to two dwellings was rejected and the subsequent appeal has been dismissed.

The 5 dwelling development on 54 Clifton Road, Chesham Bois is still under review.

The rear extension to 10 Bois Lane has been granted permission and it is interesting to see that the council consider approving a design that could lead to civil action between neighbours does not affect planning permission.

A development on 16 Piggotts Orchard, which is the addition of a further dwelling on a subdivided plot, has been refused planning permission. There is currently an appeal in progress on the decision.

The proposed supported living development at the North end of the high street in old Amersham has had its planning application refused. As this is a Bucks County Council development we await the response.

The Old Alfa garage development has been given planning permission however commencement of building works is not known.



The Pheasant Pub site has had a new upgraded scheme and this has been submitted. The scheme is as per their public consultation presentation and we do not see any issues with what has been proposed.

There is a development application currently submitted for 67 – 75 Sycamore Road. The proposal proposes the revamping of ground floor retail with residential above. There is an anomaly with the application as there is no change of use nominated for the ground floor space although change of use is applied for. The Architecture for the development needs to be further addressed, as we do not believe it is in keeping with the rest of the street. We shall be opposing the development.



CH/2014/2274/FA	Development of an all weather pitch, erection of a clubhouse, floodlights and fencing - <u>Amersham and Wycombe College Amersham Campus Stanley Hill Amersham Buckinghamshire HP7 9HN</u>	Refused Permission, Appeal now in Progress.
CH/2015/0395/FA	Redevelopment of site to provide two residential dwellings and associated vehicular access – <u>11 St Leonards Road Chesham Bois Buckinghamshire HP6 6DT</u>	Refused Permission. Appeal Dismissed.
CH/2014/2287/FA	Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement of five detached dwellings, garages and associated driveways – <u>High Beech 54 Clifton Road Chesham Bois Buckinghamshire HP6 5PP</u>	Awaiting Decision
CH/2015/0528/FA	Single storey rear extension, fenestration alterations – <u>10 High Bois Lane Chesham Bois Buckinghamshire HP6 6DG</u>	Conditional Permission Granted
CH/2015/075/FA	Detached house served by new vehicular access and hardstanding and new access and hardstanding for existing dwelling. - 16 Piggotts Orchard Amersham Buckinghamshire HP7 0JG	Refused Permission, Appeal now in Progress.
CH/2015/1063/FA	Demolition of existing derelict buildings and construction of a specialist housing facility comprising 33 supported living units (C2 Class Use) with associated vehicular and pedestrian access, parking facilities, landscaping, community orchard and allotments. - Land North Of High Street Old Amersham.	Refused Permission
CH/2015/1742/FA	Erection of five residential units, renovation and conversion of grade II listed former public house to provide a sixth residential unit and day nursery facility, associated landscaping access and parking - The Pheasant Public House 35 Plantation Road Amersham Buckinghamshire HP6 6HL	Awaiting Decision
CH/2015/2243/FA	Redevelopment of site to facilitate erection of mixed use building comprising ground floor retail restaurant use (Class A1/A3) with associated access parking, servicing, residential accommodation (Class C3) on first, second and third floor roofspace comprising 35 studio 1 and 2 bed flats, associated access basement parking, private communal amenity space. - 67 to 75 Sycamore Road Amersham Buckinghamshire HP6 5EQ	Awaiting Decision



Chairman's Report April 21, 2015

Good evening. Welcome to the 54th AGM of the Amersham and District Residents Association.

It's encouraging to see tonight's turnout and some new faces too. If this is your first meeting WELCOME. Mayor Walsh, it's very good of you to be with us this evening. Thank you for coming.

As I normally do, I'll start with the Committee changes.

This year we have lost two Committee members. Ann Terry who had been Environment Officer since 2005 has moved to the south coast to be closer to her family, and therefore resigned.

Guru Guruswamy who has been our Planning Officer since 2010 also resigned this year, having decided, quite understandably, to take retirement a little more seriously.

People's situations are fluid and change is inevitable, if occasionally inconvenient.

We thank Guru and Ann very much for their hard work and dedication to the organisation.

We will miss them very much.

Fortunately, Linda Flett who rejoined the Committee in 2013 has agreed to cover the Environment Portfolio, and Les Jayatilaka who joined us last year has stepped up to do the Planning job that Guru did so admirably. Thank you both!



I guess this is an appropriate point to make my annual appeal for help.

ADRA is in my view at a cross-roads. After 55 years we must decide what the future should hold for us as a community organisation. If indeed there is a future. We keep busy, we respond to your concerns as you raise them, review and comment on planning applications, give input to Local and Regional/District initiatives, try to influence as best we are able things which will affect us all like HS2, but we don't seem to be able to attract much in the way of tangible support. Good wishes and thank you's are definitely appreciated, but in my view we are at the box in the flow chart where something needs to happen. We have been at this too long. I've been Chairman for 12 years, which is too long for anyone to be Chairman of anything. Lyn has been Secretary for 15 years. Geoff has been Treasurer for 20+. Carolyn, happily, stepped in to fill the gap left when Michael Teychenne died in 2012. It's simply not fair to expect these people to go on forever.

We need four new Committee members as a matter of urgency. Particularity since at this point I must tell you that this will be my last AGM as your Chairman. I have decided (again) that the time has come for me to stand aside. And Lyn has reached the same conclusion herself.

We are a volunteer community organisation which appears to have run out of volunteers.

Maybe it is time to rethink our future. If no one wants to serve, it's not reasonable to expect the incumbents to go on forever.

Guru has been following HS2 and I have told him that I will take over and do what I can to continue what he's accomplished so far. That will



include representing ADRA before the Parliamentary Select Committee when our petition is presented later in the year.

Other initiatives we are pushing and/or supporting include accessibility at Amersham Station (lift through TfL)

Closer ties with the Amersham Society to support activities of mutual benefit. We do live in the same town.

The Chiltern District Plan

Support of the Amersham Action Group, on which we are represented by Les Jayatilaka. (Chairman Chris Wilson is an ADRA member).

Our Town Clerk, Janet Wheeler, who you may remember spoke to us 3 years ago, has asked me to make the following points;

The Hervines Park Consultation, which I drew to your attention at our last AGM, has now closed. It attracted over 400 responses, 28 of which were from sporting and community organisations. A consultant's report is now awaited, which will be followed by a brief to Architects and a further consultation in the autumn on the final proposals.

Town Carnival (themed Amersham on Sea) plans are underway. It will be June 27. Expect to see a beach, a sandpit, donkey rides and a Punch and Judy show. Amersham Town Council, The Amersham Action Group and The RoundTable will all be supporting, and ADRA will be present with a stall, where we hope to tell a lot of people who aren't yet familiar with us just what it is that we do.

The Band Concert programme will run again this year, starting with the RAF Halton Band giving a concert on VE day.



Amersham in Bloom goes from strength to strength. There will be new beds outside Tom Yum at the Sycamore Rd. Rickmansworth Rd. roundabout, and also outside the public loos behind Boots. (ADRA contributed half the cost of the latter).

Amersham Town Council will have a new website in June, so your comments on that will be welcome.

And finally, a new infant play group, to meet in the KGV playing fields, will get underway in August.

So, there we have it,

Some of us are stepping down. We need help.

Your Committee will spend the next few months exploring all our options for the future, because you can't run a volunteer based community organisation without people. We are solvent, and have a stable membership. This should be easy! We just need some help.

Thanks for coming out tonight.



ADRA Calendar of Events from June 2014 to November 2015

Date	Event	Attended by:
20/06/14	Waste Transfer Exhibit in Little Chalfont	Guru
14/07/14	Chesham Bois Fete	Guru/Ann
07/09/14	Heritage Day, Old Amersham	Guru
11/09/14	Amersham Action Group meeting	Guru
12/09/14	HS2 Petition Presentation Meeting	Guru
17/09/14	Silver Sunday Planning Meeting	Guru & Geoff
05/10/14	Silver Sunday	Guru & Geoff
08/10/14	HS2 Summit	Guru
23/10/14	Amersham Action Group meeting	Les
09/12/14	BCC Amersham Local Area Forum Workshop	Bron
22/01/15	Amersham Action Group Meeting	Les
05/02/15	Clifton Road Residents Meeting	Les
28/02/15	Local Plan Meeting	Les & Linda
05/03/15	Amersham Action Group Meeting	Les
25/03/15	Diary Coordination Meeting	Les
14/05/15	Amersham Action Group	Les
11/06/15	Market Town Health Check Committee	Les
27/06/15	Amersham Carnival	Bron/Linda/Les/Geoff
13/09/15	Amersham Heritage Day	Bron/Les/Penny
04/10/15	Silver Sunday event	Geoff
12/10/15	Amersham Action Group meeting	Les
05/11/15	Amersham & District Community Association Mtg	Bron



ADRA Officers

Chairman

Bron Curley
Hyrons Lodge
129 Woodside Rd.
Amersham HP6 6AW
724988
broncurley@aol.com

Treasurer

Geoff Platts
12 Runrig Hill
Chesham Bois HP6 6DL
725063
gcplatts@talktalk.net

Secretary

Penny King
11 Piggotts End
Amersham HP7 0JF
722613
penny@tympani.co.uk

Planning Officer

Les Jayatilaka
189 Woodside Rd.
Amersham HP6 6NU
les@lesjayatilaka.com

Highways Officer

Geoff Platts
12 Runrig Hill
Chesham Bois HP6 6DL
725063
gcplatts@talktalk.net

Membership Records Officer

Carolyn Spencer
37A Highfield Close
Amersham HP6 6HQ
725094
carolynmspencer@virginmedia.com

Environmental Officer

Linda Flett
14 Highland Rd.
Amersham HP7 9AU
lindacollings@talktalk.net



Chesham Bois - Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

Held on Tuesday 28th April 2015 at 8.00pm at St Leonards Church Hall

Present: Cllr Curtis (Chair), Cllrs Harris, Smith, Bailey, Buckingham, Eldridge, Thorndike, Hartley, Jeffrey.

The Clerk.

Approximately 30 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence: Councillors Harrison & Thomas

2. To Approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting Held on 19th May 2014:

Approval was proposed by Cllr Hartley and seconded by Ann Begley

3. Matters of Report arising from the Minutes: None

4. The Chairman's Report: the Chairman advised that:

The meeting date had been brought forward to not conflict with the election, therefore accounts were draft.

Beating the Bounds would take place on 10th May 2015 and councillors were looking forward to seeing many parishioners.

There have been many changes within the council recently, and more to come in May, as some longstanding councillors were due to stand down. A sincere thanks was given to Councillors Hamer, Begley and Harris for outstanding long service.

5. Report on the Annual Accounts for 2014 - 2015

Cllr Smith reported that the accounts had been transformed over recent years, due in part to the increased promotion of the burial grounds.

Still more work to be done there, and more opportunity still to increase revenue.

The Parish Council plans to increase maintenance and management of the woodlands.



Reserves are healthy, so no increase in precept therefore no increase in council tax.

6. Questions & Comments from the Public:

Q: What is the situation regarding the clearing of gullies and drains.

Cllr Thorndike reported that nearly all drains have been cleared recently

Q: Are there any plans for traffic calming equipment. Cllr Thorndike reported that a grant has been applied for to purchase vehicle activated speed signage.

Q: Would it be possible to have a 'stop' sign at the junction of North Road/Bois Lane. Cllr Thorndike reported that this has in the past been requested and Transport for Bucks will not agree.

Q: What is the situation regarding the community noticeboards opposite the shops. Cllr Curtis responded that the PC was not responsible for this one but the new council would perhaps look into it.

Q: A member of the St Leonards Church Committee advised attendees of the 800 year celebrations taking place this summer.

7. A Report on Local Planning - Councillor Graham Harris, Cabinet Member for Sustainable Development

Cllr Harris gave a detailed account of the new Local Plan, what it is to take into account and the subsequent approval processes.

8. A Presentation by Emily Toettcher, Amersham Museum & Alison Bailey, Local Historian 'Homefires and Havens: Amersham in the 1940s'

Emily Toettcher and Alison Bailey gave a thoroughly interesting report on wartime history.

The meeting formally closed at 9.35pm and was followed by drinks and nibbles and the opportunity to chat further.

Lesley Curtis,
Chairman



Chesham Bois Parish Council 2016 Meeting & Event Dates

Date	Meeting	Time	Venue
Mon 11 Jan	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
	Council Meeting	8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 1st Feb	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 8 Feb	Council Meeting	8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 22 Feb	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Sat 5 March	“Clean for the Queen”	10.00am	War Memorial
Mon 14 Mar	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
	Council Meeting	8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 11 Apr	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
	Council Meeting	8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 25 Apr	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 9 May	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
	Council Meeting	8.00pm	Council Office
Sun 8 May	Beating the Bounds	2.00pm	Parish Centre
Mon 16 May	Annual Parish Meeting	8.00pm	Parish Centre
Mon 23 May	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Sat 11 June	Village Fete	11.30am	Common
Mon 13 June	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
	Council Meeting	8.00pm	Council Office



Date	Meeting	Time	Venue
Mon 27 June	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 11 July	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
	Council Meeting	8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 25 July	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 8 Aug	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 22 Aug	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 12 Sept	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
	Council Meeting	8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 26 Sept	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Mon 10 Oct	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
	Council Meeting	8.00pm	Council Office
Sat 15 Oct	Autumn Clear Up	10.00am	War Memorial
Mon 24 Oct	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Sun 13 Nov	Remembrance Service	11.45am	War Memorial
Mon 14 Nov	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
	Council Meeting	8.00pm	Council Office
Mon 28 Nov	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
Fri 9th Dec	Christmas Lights & Carols	4pm	War Memorial
Mon 12 Dec	Planning Committee	7.30pm	Council Office
	Council Meeting	8.00pm	Council Office

AMERSHAM
and district
RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION



The Amersham Society is proud to present

the life and times of
THE MARTYRS OF AMERSHAM
and the community in which they lived

A cast approaching 100 actors present this spectacular piece of theatre (as a promenade performance) telling the tale of the ordinary folk living in 16th century Amersham.

The seven Martyrs who were burnt at the stake, were part of that community.

Producer: Annie Hamilton-Pike

Directors: Stan Pretty MBE and Sally Alford

DATES: March 10th, 11th, 12th, 17th, 18th & 19th

TIME: 8pm (doors open at 7.45pm)

PLACE: St Mary's Church, Old Amersham

TICKETS: £14 (includes booking fee)

can be booked online

www.themartyrsfamersham.co.uk

CONTACT: Jill Mace 01494 721103



HS2

Got that sinking feeling?

With many in the north of the country having spent much of the Christmas period under water, you'd be forgiven for thinking that one of the main infrastructure priorities for balancing the much hyped 'North/South divide', would be to massively improve their flood defences.

Indeed, it is money well spent, with a recognised benefit cost ratio of 8:1 or better. Compare that to the high speed rail project HS2 (which is supposed to serve the north) with a BCR of only 1.5:1 and a total cost of over £60 billion and rising – much like the water levels and the bill to repair the damage.

When you take into account that

several locations on Phase 2 of the route for HS2 were also flooded you begin to wonder at the wisdom of the planners and those in charge of making "the tough decisions" on behalf of the hard working people of this country.

There are some decisions which look an awful lot easier to make after events like the recent flooding, the state of the NHS and the reductions in social care across the board.

The arguments for prolonging this ill-conceived vanity project no longer hold water – rather like the inadequate flood defence measures. We think the time has come to sink it once and for all.

HS2
ACTION
ALLIANCE

www.hs2actionalliance.org