

MAPPERLEY PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Magdala Tennis Club on 18th May 2022 7pm

Apologies: Mike Reade, David Podesta, Bee Sanghera

1. Minutes of the last Meeting.

Agreed. No Matters Arising

Proposed by Glyn Archer

Seconded by Sheila Reece

2. Report by Chair

The Chair welcomed MPRA members and councillors.

She then went on to say , this is a reflection on what the committee did during 2021 and it's been a busy year. We welcome the opportunity tonight to update members.

Seven committee meetings all held on Zoom. Councillors have attended to follow up on trees, jubilee event planning and potholes.

Activities covered...

Newsletter production (big thanks to Howard) and charitable donations to Sherwood Methodist Foodbank, Hospice and Framework. Thanks also to FHP who continue to give much appreciated financial support to our community epistle! Also huge thanks to Richard Bonello who has now been auditing our accounts for over 15 years.

Investment in roundabout planting. June and the roundabout ladies continue to provide free labour, thanks to them all. They are much appreciated.

WE have run several successful community events via our Facebook community page which Kerry will talk about. Social media has now become a hugely significant part of our engagement with 637 members and I would encourage anyone who hasn't yet joined us online to do so. That forum, together with our newsletter are our main routes to connect with residents.

We've started a dialogue with residents of Alexandra Park to explore benefits of extending our membership to this part of the observation area.

We've worked on a number of planning applications including giving our voice to the redevelopment of the Elms primary school site off Corporation Oak. Thanks to Mike for all his time and the commitment he gives to ensure that buildings remain within the rubric of the Mapperley Park Development principles

We also spent considerable time in the Autumn on the proposed move to sell off the cricket ground, owned by the City Council and leased to the Cavaliers and Carrington Cricket club. Our clear view was that the cricket ground should remain

in council ownership and that the lease to the cricket club should be extended ie not sold off. We also lobbied for Mapperley Park residents to have occasional use of the ground for community events and this has been successful with access granted for our jubilee event.

We managed a free Christmas party for members in between covid spikes and a good time was had by all brave attendees and no it wasn't a super speeder event!

Comings and goings on the committee... we say a sad goodbye and thank you tonight to Cherry Burgess on membership Bee Sanghera on social and Kerry Wensley. I would like to thank them all for their contribution to the work of MPRA and particularly to acknowledge the enormous investment that Kerry has put into our social media engagement, being our eyes and ears to support Mike behind the scenes on upholding our conservation principles on the built environment and her general inspiration to all committee members. Kerry is also a mainstay of our working group on the Platinum Jubilee event and will stay with us until June . I should like to present her with these flowers as a token of our gratitude.

We're very pleased to welcome Leena Kore Schroder as our new membership secretary who has started at full pace and to welcome BACK David Podesta who has joined us to drive forward our Jubilee Green Canopy project for 2022 and beyond.

We are spending time and money on a community event next month to celebrate a once in a lifetime reign of 70 years from her majesty the Queen. This would not be possible without the amazing contribution of Siobhan Podesta who has come out of retirement to work on this event, and to Kerry who has joined her on the committee

Our next major project looks forward for the next 70 years to ensure that we continue to preserve our conservation plan with the biggest tree planting initiative that has ever been undertaken in Mapperley Park.

I'll finish by saying it's a privilege and a pleasure to work with such wonderful members of the committee. So thank you Elizabeth, Laura, Mike, Howard, Kerry Leena and also to the contributions from Bee and June.

Thank you.

3. Councillor Lesley Ayoobe

- ☐ Expressed his thanks for the invitation. He confirmed that the tree planting and replanting would be a major focus of this year's budget in line with the Queen's green canopy national scheme. He has been to meetings with David Podesta and Alex Begg and will continue to do so as the project continues.
- ☐ He also confirmed that there would be an extra garden bin collection in December to accommodate the extra leaf fall in Mapperley Park.
- ☐ A question was asked about pruning the trees on Tavistock Drive as so much daylight was blocked from homes and the lack of leaf clearance on

the ground was blocking drains which caused the roads to flood when it rained.

He said he would look into it.

- ☐ Potholes was an issue that was raised again. Lesley referred to the major road resurface on Magdala Road which had dealt with the potholes there. This had cost £140k
- ☐ It was agreed that this was a good start, but other roads are getting worse now. He noted the concerns
- ☐ He was also asked about the outcome of the cricket ground discussions. He had heard nothing but would investigate.

4. Planning

Although Mike was unable to be there he sent a report

Mike continues to support us with reviewing planning applications that come to his attention.

Over the years that he has been carrying out this role, MPRA has had a full and open relationship with the planning team for our area and our views are taken seriously and often upheld.

In the past he has searched the planning website for new applications that might concern MPRA or immediate neighbours to applications. He doesn't have the time to do this anymore, but he has the time to comment on those applications that do come to his attention.

If he continues with his role, you'll all need to inform him of applications as and when they arise. This should be a relatively easy task because all applications are notified to the community via emails from the planners to the immediate neighbours to application sites and via the notice that goes up on lamp posts.

When applications do come to his attention, his process is:

1. Review the application drawings and other documents.
2. Reach a conclusion about whether the application is of interest to MPRA and/or to immediate neighbours.
3. Circulate his conclusion to the MPRA committee to gain consensus.
4. Email the planning department of both MPRA committee stance and of particular concerns that neighbours might have, whether or not they have contacted Mike or MPRA or not.

A good solution to this on-going role would be for the committee members to forward application addresses or reference numbers to him; this is the manner in which he is supporting MPRA at the moment.

5. Treasurer

The MPRA income now comes just from subscriptions. We used to derive some income from the advertising in the magazine, Mapperley Park News. This has now been replaced the Mapperley Park Newsletter which is more manageable in

terms of people's time. This is sponsored by FHP and we are very grateful. If there is a small margin of profit left over we donate this to local good causes.

Other expenses include plants for the roundabout, insurance, the website, the Christmas social event, and small prizes for the virtual gardens competition, and the Easter egg hunt.

The MPRA will donate £5,000 to the forthcoming jubilee event, and some money, as yet undecided, to the tree planting scheme.

Accounts were presented They were examined and approved by Richard Bonello.

Their acceptance proposed by Phil

Seconded by Suma

6. Trees.

The main focus of this year is to be the tree planting and renewal scheme. We need to raise money for this. We need to have a snappy title for the project to attract interest and sponsorship

- ☐ From January 1st 2023 we are raising the membership to £10 of which £5 will go to the tree project. (audience agreed with this proposal)
- ☐ Nottingham Trent University runs a course on the Green Environment. We will contact them for advice and hopefully some volunteers from among the students.
- ☐ Have a project for children to choose a name and design a logo.
- ☐ Thanks to David for taking on responsibility for the tree project.

Ask Alex Begg for clarification about the state of tree maintenance in Mapperley Park. Can trees be pollarded and when can those in Tavistock Drive be done.

What is the plan to future-proof the trees with regard to climate change.

7. Membership

Leena is currently updating the list. This has been a lot of hard work and we thank her for all her efforts. She reports that she has currently has 266 households but the number is rising. It is helpful if people give their consent for us to hold their email addresses. If anyone knows friends and neighbours who don't yet belong, encourage them to join.

8. Social Media

Kerry has worked hard to keep the Facebook page appropriate. To prevent it from just becoming a market place she introduced Small Business Saturday, once a month and Likewise Super Sale Sunday where people can sell items. During and immediately after Lockdowns she introduced things for people to do online and competitions which encouraged families to walk round Mapperley Park. For example, Halloween, Best decorated house at Christmas, Easter Egg Hunt, and Virtual Garden Tour for which small prizes were awarded. This all helps to foster a community spirit. Membership of the Facebook page has grown to over 600. It is also an important vehicle for passing on information and is well

used. The Website is also well used and receives about 40 visits a day. About 1200 a year.

Kerry has put a tremendous effort into developing both of these and will be much missed. We hope to get someone to take over these roles in the near future. Once again a huge thank you to Kerry for all that she has done.

9. Jubilee Event

This will be held on Sunday 5th June on the Cricket field. Siobhan confirmed that plans were coming along well. So far over 200 families have applied for tickets and a number of local businesses will be taking part. Volunteers are welcome for help beforehand and on the day. No dogs are allowed on the field, so please leave them at home.

10. Election of Officers

Officers standing again:

Sue, Chair; Howard Treasurer; Elizabeth Secretary; Laura rep for Private Road, Leena membership secretary, David with responsibility for trees.

In an advisory capacity:

Mike, Planning; June, Roundabout Project;

Election en bloc proposer John

Seconder Doug

The Meeting closed at 8.20pm