

Projects Report – ASPRA Road Reps. Meeting 14.09.15

1) Festive Lights for Addiscombe

By now I hope that you will all have heard that we have succeeded in our quest to re-establish the installation of Festive Lighting in Addiscombe “Village” over the Xmas period.

ASPRA has now signed the Contract for a 5-year term, and this year’s Lighting has already been paid for.

Especial thanks are due to Bob, Gill & Fred, who actually signed the Contract on behalf of ASPRA, & again to Fred for all his financial calculating that allowed us to be able to proceed on this venture with confidence.

Dave has prepared a letter to go out to all the shopkeepers & businesses who will benefit from the Lights, asking for their support & a contribution towards the cost, & he & Bob will be approaching our Advertisers & the smaller businesses.

I will also be visiting the branches of the larger banks & “chains”, such as Barclays, Sainsbury’s, Boots etc., with letters addressed to their managers, so that they can get the necessary permissions from their Head Offices to donate towards the Lights. Shashi has kindly offered to visit these premises with me.

We also still intend to apply to Small Grants Fund, either at the end of this year or possibly early 2016, by which time we should have the necessary evidence of the benefit that this project brings to the local community.

Help towards the costs will enable ASPRA to pursue other projects, & next year I shall hope to further those ideas already approved by Members, i.e. the Public Noticeboard at Blackhorse Corner and/or the decorative Planting Scheme for Addiscombe.

Dave has news of liaison with Blackhorse Residents’ Association over a Xmas Tree at Blackhorse Corner, & I hear that St Mildred’s are already keen to participate. It is to be hoped that other local churches, groups, charities or individuals will also be keen to take part in some way with the seasonal celebrations.

2) Local Heritage Area Submission

Although it was originally promised for July, I have so far heard nothing further about ASPRA’s LHA application.

However, I have just received a letter from Tim Naylor in the Planning Dept., with news that the Council have recently adopted Beulah Hill, Church Road & Harold Road as Conservation Areas of special character, so I will now chase up our own application.