



Addiscombe & Shirley Park Residents Association

www.theaspra.org.uk

Road Representatives Meeting Agenda, Wednesday 18 February 2015 8-10pm, Refreshments from 7:30 at the Pavilion St Mildred's

1. Apologies

Liz Brereton, Bob Sleeman, Fred Law, Sheila Newbold, Anne Nation, Terry Eames, Jan Rutter, Ann & Bill Jameson, Cllr Maddie Henson, Cllr Andrew Rendle

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising.

Agreed

3. Road Reps Job description

Job description and welcome letter were agreed

Action - Bob to put job description on website

As new road reps are identified the postmaster will create the welcome pack.

4. ASPRA Vacancies

Chairperson

Vice Chairperson

Road representatives for Greencourt Gardens, Elmgrove Road, Claremont Road, Lower Addiscombe Road (194 - 362), Parkview Road and Sherwood Road

Roads without Road Reps should have flyers through each door asking for volunteers and including job description.

Action - Postmaster to draft wording for Road Reps advert and send to Road Reps and committee for approval.

Chairperson and Vice Chairperson vacancies to be advertised as part of the AGM process unless volunteers materialise before then.

Cllr Steven Mann is looking into where Street Champions fit in with these roles

5. Refreshments for the AGM

It was agreed that refreshments are best served before the meeting begins as this gives a better opportunity to mingle as most people want to get away as soon as the meeting finishes. Catering is to be kept simple and minimal costs therefore tea, coffee, red and white wine and fruit juice as the beverages. Snacks to include items that do not need laying out such as the tubs of savoury sausage rolls and tubs of cakes etc.

Action – Secretary to send out a request for AGM catering volunteers.

6. ASPRA magazine update

Editor's update included with the agenda pack (e-mail sent Thursday 12 February)

The discussion led to advertising the AGM.

Action – Committee to approve wording

Action – Post master to e-mail invite to members with e-mail addresses

Action – Road Reps to post invite to members without e-mail addresses

7. ASPRA website update

Webmaster's update included with the agenda pack (e-mail sent Thursday 12 February)

Everyone agreed Bob is doing an excellent job. Anyone wishing to volunteer to assist or become webmaster should contact Bob.

8. Finance update

- Excellent work on the subscriptions thanks to the road reps for doing this.
- New system is working well; I will provide reconciliation to Dave's information and the bank in the next couple of weeks.
- Deposit account was used to fund the account for payment to printers in June 2014 and January 2015 due to the low balance in the current account
- Only point of note is the print costs have increased, this is due to the costs of envelopes etc. for new process. We purchased 2 years supply.
- Current bank balances as at COB 17th February are:
 - £866.32 current account and
 - £6132.62 for the deposit account
- I have cheques that have been posted through my letter box for circa £120 to bank and I will be doing that in the next few days.

For detail see spreadsheet attachment in email.

Action - Postmaster to send a reminder to those with an e-mail address who have not yet renewed

9. Projects update

Hilary advised she wrote to the Council Planning Department some time ago in order to find out what sort of permissions might be needed for, but received no replies. She has now written to Tim Godfrey (Croydon Council Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure & Sport) & his Deputy, Oliver Lewis directly about the possibility of organising a Public Notice board for Addiscombe, & also of arranging for a decorative planting scheme and/or Christmas lights for the Addiscombe Village shopping area. Cllr Steven Mann is looking into planning permission requirements.

10. Membership update

Membership details by road were included with the agenda pack (e-mail sent Thursday 12 February)

A suggestion that ASPRA bank account details are included on the collection envelopes to encourage bank transfers and also enter details in the magazine was well received and agreed.

Action – To include banking details in the annual subscription magazine

Action – Next print of envelopes to include details

Action – Consider possible ways to include banking details on current supply of envelopes

11. Meetings update

Croydon Communities Consortium (CCC)

We have attended this council funded group and found it not currently relevant for ASPRA but are maintaining contact

Resident's Forum

This forum came about following the Croydon Strategic partnerships view that 4 individuals could represent the views of the 102 residents associations across the Borough of Croydon. It was decided instead that the forum would work on a strategy for consultation with the council on issues of shared interest. ASPRA is on the working committee to take this forward.

Croydon Voluntary Sector Alliance (CVSA)

Whilst interesting to find out about council initiatives it does not appear to be particularly relevant to ASPRA at this time but we will remain registered with them.

Mayor's Social

Once a month the Mayor of Croydon is inviting volunteers to an evening reception and 5 ASPRA volunteers recently attended one. After her brief welcome there was the opportunity to visit the council chambers and the Mayor's Parlour gaining insight into the history and formalities as well as partaking of refreshments, meet the mayor and other volunteers

12. Councillor's update from Steven Mann

- Friends of Ashburton Park - established with a facebook page and website to soon accompany it. £500k to be invested. A local community committee with council support. Anyone interested please let me know.
- Park bins a big issue we are pushing contractor to keep it clean
- Crime - we are continuing to work with the SNT on this. Maddie has contacted the family and we are happy to support if they wish it.
- Banned right turn in Northampton Road - mobile cctv to be investigated
- CPZ and Speeding /Crossing - listening with residents happy to work with ASPRA to draw up solutions. We recognise parking, speeding and crossings are an issue and want to find an acceptable solution for all local residents.
- 1 hr free parking has been delivered for Lower Addiscombe Road to support our excellent local businesses.
- 130/312 were reinstated on their old route including an extension of the 130 to Thornton Heath. We are pleased that we have reached a successful end to this long running campaign.
- Don't mess with Croydon - please use the My Croydon app for issues in the area. It is a useful tool for road reps.
- Street Champions are doing a great job across Croydon and we will see how these can tie in with ASPRA.
- New bins are to be launched soon after a trial in Upper Norwood.
- Garden waste - contrary to rumours this remains for 2015. It is under review for 2016 but we will fight to keep it as it is a good asset for Ashburton.
- Fishers Farm - the recycling centre in New Addington will remain but be resited again contrary to rumours.
- Selwood - yellow lines on corners near Craigen have been raised by residents and are being investigated.
- Surgeries - stay as they are and we are adding roving surgeries. If you wish us to do one in your road please let me know!
- Fairness Commission. If you are interested in getting involved contact Hamida Ali.
- Website - our original website we have now lost. We have now merged with Addiscombe to ensure we have something on the web www.addiscombe.info/ashburton.
- Finally, our big campaign for 2015 is the high street and how we can revitalise it. ASPRA ideas and assistance welcome.
- Also forgot to mention Council Tax is frozen!

Actions joint:-

- Look into a Bingham Road area speeding, parking and crossing working group
- Investigate establishing a Friends of Addiscombe Rec.
- ASPRA: consultation for Bingham area matters

Actions Councillors:

- Share FOAP contact details
- Deal with Parkview Church

- Investigate Park Lock Up Procedure
- Get Street Champion Contact Details

13. Speeding in the Bingham Road

14. Parking issues Bingham Corner to Fernhurst Road

Items 13 and 14 were combined and Jenny Crook reported:

There have been continuing discussions between ASPRA, councillors and council officers for several years.

- I called on local residents in Bingham Road, in the blocks between Fernhurst/Craven and Northampton/Colworth Roads, on the past two Saturdays (7 & 14.02.15).
- I asked informally whether they have concerns about speeding traffic and commuter parking in the road, and if so whether they thought that recommendations from the borough's Traffic Management Advisory Committee would reduce the problems.
- These recommendations are that the Controlled Parking Zone, at present in Colworth Road and from the Colworth Road junction west along Bingham Road adjacent to the tram lines, be extended along Bingham Road as far as Fernhurst Road and along all the roads leading to the Lower Addiscombe Road, from Ashling Road to Fernhurst Road.
- The suggestion of a CPZ was in response to residents' complaints to ASPRA & the local councillors that commuter parking makes it difficult for local residents who do not have off street parking to find parking spaces during the day. Residents with off street parking complain that commuters (or maybe local residents) make access difficult because cars are parked close to or even across lowered kerbs.
- The CPZ would operate Mon to Sat from 9 am to 5 pm with permit or 8 hour maximum stay Pay and Display bays. The Council proposes to carry out an informal consultation with residents of roads in the suggested CPZ in the 2015/16 financial year.
- In addition, the council is considering reducing the speed limit to 20 mph within some residential areas of Croydon - these speed limits already operate close to some schools in Croydon – and many of the roads in ASPRA could be subject to this speed restriction including Bingham Road, but not the main trunk roads.
- I spoke to 38 residents – not specially selected – they answered the door when I called and were prepared to discuss issues about the road.
- Residents' views: CPZ - in favour – 7; against – 18; undecided – 13 (including those not bothered either way – often because they have off street parking).
- The reasons some people were in favour of a CPZ: one resident mentioned that cars were left parked for a week or two outside his house and then were driven away after the occupants had loaded their luggage into them, possibly returning from holiday; the usual reason for favouring the CPZ was to reduce likelihood of cars parking across a lowered kerb; a resident who emailed his response said 'On balance, I am in agreement with a residents' parking scheme but would like to see the details i.e. visitor parking and prices etc. Sunday seems to be the most chaotic day for parking and I would like to see the restrictions 7 days a week'. (I will say more about this particular response shortly.)
- The majority were in favour of maintaining the status quo: comments included:
 - commuter parking is a small inconvenience/no problem – generally commuters are leaving/have left when residents return home
 - a CPZ would not even guarantee a parking place close to home
 - controlled parking hours would actually suit many commuters, especially if they park at 9 am
 - the CPZ would be more effective for local residents if parking was restricted to permit holders in the middle of the working day – e.g. 12noon - 2 pm
 - there is limited space for parking bays in some of these roads due to lowered kerbs – e.g. Fernhurst, Parkview and Baring Roads
 - why should I have to purchase a parking permit in order to park on the road outside my home?
 - parking for visitors and for people working on a residents' house could be a problem; skips need a licence if parked in a CPZ
 - several residents opposed the scheme as they felt the CPZ was intended to bring in revenue for the council and would not help local residents
 - one resident had lived in Grant Road when the CPZ was introduced there and said it provided no advantage whatsoever to local residents
 - a CPZ with its parking bay markings, ticket machines and parking information signs have a very negative impact on the streetscape – the roads would lose their current pleasant suburban appearance
- Residents' views - a 20 mph speed limit in Bingham Road – overwhelmingly in favour 34; against 2; undecided 2. Comments included:
 - measures to slow down traffic in the road are long overdue
 - several residents recounted details of accidents due to cars speeding in different sections of the road,

- but especially close to roads which join Bingham where visibility is obscured by parked cars and places where the road bends e.g. Parkview Road. Residents also have had their cars damaged by passing cars
- one resident commented specifically on the need for traffic to slow down as it approached the tram stop from the east – the bend close to Northampton Road obscures the tram line and the warning sign is not obvious
- parked cars do help to slow the traffic down, although does a short wait to let traffic pass from the opposite direction cause some drivers to speed up as time has been 'lost'? This may be the case when traffic is held up at the tram lines.
- several residents questioned how a 20 mph speed limit would be enforced – speed cameras were suggested – could some dummy ones and some live ones be used?
- some people did not want speed humps to be installed to slow traffic
- concerns were expressed about the safety of pedestrians crossing the road, especially to the park, to St Mildred's Halls and to Mildred Court (Cllr Rendle mentions an informal crossing).

Returning to the resident who suggested the CPZ be in operation 7 days a week; he lives in close to the Parkview/Compton Roads junction and, like about six residents I spoke to who live in the terraced blocks on both sides of the junction, they are unhappy, even frustrated, about the irresponsible and even dangerous parking by members of the Christians in Action church at the corner of Parkview and Bingham Roads, particularly on Sunday afternoons (from early afternoon till about 6 pm). Cars are parked as close to the church as possible, including on the double yellow lines at the road junction and sometimes across residents' parking access. Some residents have felt intimidated by the users of the church when they have asked them to move their vehicles.

Would it be possible for the ASPRA committee to write to Christians in Action on behalf of the residents?

Action – Committee to consider writing to the church as well as the councillors

15. Dates for meetings - all at St Mildreds:

Pavilion 8 April 2015 19:30-22:00 ASPRA's AGM

Small Hall 29th June 2015 19:30-22:00 Road Representatives Meeting

Small Hall 14th September 2015 19:30-22:00 Road Representatives Meeting

16. AOB

Chris Facey advised that Dave Prowse (Darth Vader / Green Cross Code man) has offered and is happy to use his celebrity status to support ASPRA

The most suitable approach for e-mailing Neighbourhood Watch information was discussed and it was agreed that the post master would forward relevant information to all ASPRA members e-mail account.