

ASPRA PROJECTS REPORT

RR Meeting 27.09.16

FESTIVE LIGHTS

- 1) This year we were offered the choice of four different lighting units, & ASPRA Members voted for a combination of two designs: “Holly & Berries” & “Snowflake Lines” (as shown on hand-out), & the availability of these has now been definitely confirmed to us.
- 2) Several Members will be canvassing the shops & businesses along Lower Addiscombe Road for contributions towards costs. Letters & fliers (written by Dave) have already gone out to the larger “chains”, but we heard back from the Head Offices of Boots & Sainsbury’s that they have their own charities which they support. However, it was indicated that the local branches might possibly still be able to help us in some way.
- 3) Having discovered that Blackhorse Residents’ Association will not now be sponsoring a Christmas Tree at Blackhorse Corner, we did investigate the likely costs of arranging this ourselves, particularly as we have had so many enquiries from various charities & local groups expressing interest in holding festive events there.

However, it was felt that these events would mostly need to tie in with some sort of late night shopping events in Addiscombe “Village”, & for this the Traders’ Association would need to be revived.

The cost of the Christmas Tree also proved prohibitive for us at this time, & it was felt that this would be too much of an additional burden on ASPRA, without having the support of the Traders.

Our Councillors have been trying to encourage the Traders to get together, & Andrew Rendle has recently written to them again after Stephen Mann’s efforts last year, but so far there is no further news.

If they could form a business association or forum, with a Committee & Members, it would be much easier for us to liaise with them. At the moment ASPRA has to approach/write to each shop/business individually, which is both expensive & time-consuming.

- 3) We have permission this year from Skanska to put sponsorship labels on the lamp-posts.

ADDISCOMBE PUBLIC NOTICEBOARD

- 4) The position for the Notice board originally proposed by Croydon Development Management was vetoed by the Highways Authority as too hazardous.

However, a new position proposed by Dave & Gill Lee (shown in hand-out) during a site visit has now been approved & accepted by both these departments, which leaves the way free for us to submit a Planning Application.

- 5) We have now received comparative costings from three different specialist companies. One was almost twice as much as the others, so we currently have two companies under consideration, with four different sizes & designs (as shown in hand-outs).

We did also approach a local sign firm, but they were unable to carry out such work.

It is hoped that these designs can be further discussed at the next Committee Meeting, prior to making the formal Planning Application.

The proposed designs are fairly simple: double-sided, with rectangular frames in matt black (in keeping with the existing Black Horse Sign) & “Addiscombe Public Notice board” written across the top in gold, mounted on supporting posts.

Councillor Andrew Rendle has kindly offered to fund the Notice board from his Ward Budget, & at our last Meeting Councillor Maddie Henson has also offered sponsorship.