

Charlton Central Residents' Association
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Thursday 4th October 2018 at 7.30pm in St Richard's Hall, Swallowfield Road

1. **Welcome & introduction:** Jodie Coughlan (chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence:** received from Barbara Buchan, Gabriela Dall'Olia, Rosemary Leeke, Sarah Roseblade, Rachel Taggart Ryan, Len Weir
3. **Minutes of AGM 2017 – 5th October 2017:** The Chair invited members to comment on any inaccuracies in the record of last year's meeting. Clarification questions were received regarding the redaction of names in the published minutes. This was due to the persons named wishing their names not to be published. The minutes were adopted as a true record of the meeting.
4. **Matters arising:** There were no matters arising
5. **Report from the Chair of the Association**
I'd like to warmly welcome everyone to St Richard's Community Centre for Charlton Central Residents' Association's 11th AGM.

Over the last year, - and I can't believe a year has gone by so quickly, it has been a very busy 12 months. It has been an honour being a custodian of the community, and a privilege to represent residents.

In addition to that I have very much enjoyed the small, treasured moments, when I have popped round to an elderly resident for a cup of tea and to give them reassurance over issues that affect their daily lives.

Each one of us has so much to contribute, and to quote a line in a favourite film "each life touches so many others". (It's a Wonderful Life)

If I can begin with **planning** – over the last year there have been a whole host of planning applications in and around Charlton Central, that will undoubtedly impact our day-to-day lives and that of new residents coming to the area. Planning Action Group I am very pleased to say, is now an 8 person strong team. A number which will certainly spread the load over the next year, bringing experience and enthusiasm, as there is much work to do, with the upcoming public hearing regarding Rockwell site on Anchor & Hope Lane, at the GLA.

One of my pledges as new Chair of CCRA was to forge new partnerships with other local organisations, and this came together with the setting up (last November) of an informal group that you may have heard of called Charlton Together – a collective of residents' associations and amenity groups. Set up primarily to look at planning issues across Charlton and offer each separate group support and expertise.

Greening and Environment

From the end of last of October, resident volunteers – grandparents, parents and children, got stuck in with Planting Parties at Wellesley Close, planting crocuses, and daffodils, which gave a beautiful display in Spring and made it through the harsh Winter and Beast from the East. In the Summer, volunteers were out in force to tackle unloved space in Nadine Street, and I'd encourage everyone to go round and have a look at that site, as we will have some gorgeous colours in every season. Delafield Road's alleyway, also got a makeover, thanks to residents at that end of the

road who helped with that. Now we only have two sites to complete at Wellington mews and Inverine Road.

Social Programme

CCRA's social gatherings have been very successful, over the last year we have run a Quiz Night, Carol Singing, Family Ceilidh, Spring Social, Big Lunch, Community Day and Open Gardens event. On the weekend of the 15th September, all the effort was worthwhile with a very successful the 7th Annual Flower & Produce Show, and with a new event – Hygge Night.

I'd like to say special thankyou to all of those involved in social group, especially to Chris Harrison who has run the group for so many years. Our social schedule is so important, and is a great way to meet new friends and forge new bonds.

Community Safety Action Group

Our Community safety Action Group were very successful in launching the No Cold Caller/No Rogue Trader Zone in Charlton Central in April, with stickers on doors and signs fixed to lamp-posts in each of the roads. At the launch were two speakers one from Trading Standards at the Council and another from Victim Support, both our speakers also came along to Community Day in the Summer.

Recap of the last year

In the wider area over the last year we have seen the opening of the Skatepark in Charlton Park in October. And another new group was set up New Friends of Charlton Park in November.

Last November if you recall, roads in the Charlton Central area were closed due to essential gas works and these continued until Spring. CCRA worked closely with SGN & Forefront utilities to ensure that Playing Out was unaffected.

Who would have believed it, that in December 2017, Charlton Athletic has been back at The Valley for 25 years, whilst we acknowledge parking issues and crowds, having a local football team on our doorstep is a part of our collective heritage, and a huge boon to small, family run local businesses. Other sporting events on our doorstep are the London Marathon and Ride London, we seem to be in the heart of everything.

In the early part of 2018 we all struggled with the new train timetable, which as we know there was quite a bit of chaos, but hopefully that has smoothed itself out, and we reap the benefits of better transport links overall.

One of other local groups such as The Charlton Society launched The Charlton Village Action Plan in January of this year, which will see variety of improvements to the Village.

CCRA launched its new website in August, this I am glad to say is mobile friendly, and has improved the user experience. Feel free to feedback to us about content that you would like to be added.

Knit & Natter and Playing Out sessions, continue to reach both ends of our community, with our senior knitters, knitting some fabulous hats and blankets for the local premature baby unit, as well as fiddle-mufflers for Dementia sufferers. The local children very much enjoy the freedom to run about in the play street that is set aside for them just twice a month, these sessions are key to their social development.

Underpinning much of CCRA's work, are the range of formal and informal meetings that are attended both during the day and in the evening. Some of these meetings are with the Council such as public Scrutiny Panels where CCRA have a strong voice, and other meetings are with local residents who have concerns about issues on their streets.

I hope that over the next few years, we continue to build on all of the wonderful things that we currently do, shaping our story and the future.

Sadly we have to say goodbye and thank you to Sonja Nolte who has worked really hard as Secretary of the Association this year, and to the same to Katrin Bain who has done a great job as Treasurer over the last year, and also thank Katrin for her technical support with the work on CCRA's new website.

Thanks also to the editorial team who have worked tirelessly at producing the Charlton Grapevine, producing 5 issues this year. Grapevine is one our main costs, but it is such a well received publication, and a means of ongoing communication with residents.

So, as another year comes round, I look forward to the discussions around the future of CCRA and the next 10 years.

6. Report from the Secretary:

It has been a very exciting but also challenging year in many respects.

Administrative:

We have had, as per our constitution, 11 monthly CCRA management committee meetings, all of which quorate (including this AGM) and 4 officer's meetings. Detailed minutes have been taken. Minutes have been scrutinised for accuracy and signed off as true records of the Association.

We would like to thank all who renewed CCRA membership in 2018. We have seen a steady increase in membership year on year and welcomed 25 new members to date in 2018. Please renew early in 2019; it helps us better plan our work and events. Our membership form, which includes how you could pay by standing order, can be found on our new and improved website <http://www.charltonresidents.net>.

The Membership fee enables us to produce the Grapevine and put on key social and community events.

Many heartfelt thanks to our membership secretary, Jacqui Mitchell, for whom it has been a busy year with the introduction of the new General Data Protection Regulations. We hope to further increase the membership for 2019 as well as developing new ideas to include local businesses, or individuals who can offer services in the CCRA area. If you have any ideas about increasing membership or would like to offer a discount to CCRA members as a local if you have ideas as business or individual to increase memberships, then please do not hesitate to contact membership@charltonresidents.org.

Please also encourage your neighbours to join, the stronger we are the more we will be able to do for our community and the stronger our voice will be in local matters.

2018 has seen important changes (GDPR) but had some really good highs.

- Greening programme – Plants and tidier corners make such a difference
- Working together with other Charlton neighbourhood associations on important planning issues
- Challenging finances: trying ways to reduce outgoings in a world of ever-increasing prices and to generate income to continue with the important community work CCRA does.

Unfortunately, I need to step down as Secretary and from the Management Committee due to personal reasons. It has been a privilege and honour to work in this community through an organisation which has made a real difference to life in Central Charlton. Thank you for your ongoing support and neighbourly friendship.

7. Report from the Treasurer, including statement of accounts and Auditor's report:

Katrin Bain (Treasurer) addressed the meeting having circulated the report and accounts (audited). The report and audited statements were circulated. The Treasurer invited questions from the floor, but there were no queries on the accounts. The audited accounts were accepted by the meeting.

8. Proposed changes to the constitution:

The change needed due to GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) Text is added to Section 4 – Membership as below.

4.7 New Data Protection legislation (GDPR) came into force in May 2018. GDPR aims to protect people's personal details and privacy further and it is a legal requirement for all organisations that store data to comply with GDPR principles. CCRA Management Committee takes members' privacy seriously and our Data Privacy Notice and Data Protection Policy (available at <http://www.charltonresidents.net>) sets out the processes by which data will be stored, handled and protected.

4.8 CCRA Management Committee will have annual oversight of our Data Protection Policy and Data Privacy Notice to ensure that they both comply with the law; follow good practice; protect CCRA Members and protect the organisation.

The proposed changes were accepted unanimously, and the constitution will be amended accordingly.

9. Election of officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary & Treasurer:

Chair: Jodie Coughlan – Proposed by Martina Keating/Seconded by Liz Somerville

Vice Chair: Brenda Taggart – Proposed by Jodie Coughlan/ Seconded by Sonja Nolte

Secretary: No volunteer

Treasurer: Jas & Baljnder Dhesi – Proposed by Brenda Taggart/ Seconded by Martina Keating

Membership Secretary: Jacqui Mitchell – Proposed by Joy Ogden/Seconded Brenda Taggart

10. Election of General Management Committee:

In addition to the officers named in item 9 above, the following members were elected as members of the committee: David Gayther, Wendy Barrington, Annie Galloway, Jas Dhesi, Baljnder Dhesi, Ana Sampaio, Jane Bland, Joy Ogden, Chris Harrison, Dave Picton, Martina Keating, Liz Somerville, Pete Somerville, Matt

Giddings, Michelle Beaumont, Jonathan Saunders, Elizabeth Palmer. All of the above were proposed and seconded.

11. Any other resolutions:

Membership Fees Change - Resolution

Proposed by Jacqui Mitchell. Seconded by Brenda Taggart

CCRA Management Committee would like to propose an increase in membership fees and a broadening out of membership categories for the membership to approve at the 2018 AGM.

The rationale for doing this are:

- we have not raised the membership fees for 12 years;
- the costs of producing the Grapevine and events hall hire have increased;
- there is a need to offer wider range of membership categories.

Fees from 2019 (Membership Year runs from January to December) will be:

- £12.00 Per Family/Household (with or without children)
- £7.00 Individual
- £5.00 Unwaged/Student
- £7.00 Associate
- £5.00 Associate Unwaged/Student
- £10.00 Associate Business

Jacqui briefly answered questions about the proposal which was subsequently adopted unanimously. The resolution was accepted and the change in fee will come into effect on 1st January 2019.

12. Any other business: None

The formal part of the meeting concluded at 8.15 pm.

Minutes taken by Sonja Nolte