

HURST PARK ESTATE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting

Virtual Meeting to be held at
7.00pm on Sunday 10th May 2020

AGENDA

Introduction and Welcome

1. Approval of minutes of AGM of 24th March 2019
2. Chair's report
3. Treasurer's report and accounts
4. Q and A forum
5. Election of committee and officers for 2020/21
6. Forthcoming public meetings
7. Any other business
 - Local History Project
 - Prize Draw

Introduction - the HPERA Committee

Michael Page (Chair), Nicky Webb (Secretary), John Beasley (Treasurer), Richard Cushing, Andrew Milbourn, Jane Wheatley, Barbara Thomas

1. Minutes of AGM of 24th March 2019

Available at <https://hpera.co.uk/documents/agm-minutes-2019.pdf>

2. Chair's Report

This is my fifth Chairman's report since the formation of the Association back in January 2016, and it will be my last as I am stepping down in accordance with the rules of our constitution. Back then we came together in response to a threat to our neighbourhood – the outrageous plans to turn Milton Road into a four-lane, tree-less highway. And now we have come together once again in response to a different kind of threat – a virulent pandemic that is changing people's lives and testing our resilience.

It's pleasing to see that HPERA has played its part in helping to lead the community effort in the emergency response and thanks are due to the more than 50 volunteers who came forward to support neighbours who are no longer able to leave their homes for shopping or socialising. I should also mention local shopkeepers who have changed their ways of working to keep us supplied with food and deliveries, and a special mention to local resident Robin Standing who has organised supplies of vegetable plants and sundries to keep us gardening.

This, along with events such as the Christmas carol singing, has established HPERA as a focus for social cohesion in our community. But its other role as a watchdog and pressure group remains undiminished. During last year we:

- * made representations at city and county council committee meetings, maintained a seat on the Local Liaison Forum at the Greater Cambridge Partnership and were observers at the Citizens' Assembly process

- * continued to support the Federation of Cambridge RAs (FeCRA) in promoting the interests of residents across city in dealing with the challenges of growth, transport and densification

- * successfully overcame institutional opposition and inertia to get the Arbury Play Park hedge re-planted alongside the new cycle path

* took part in early consultation meetings regarding a new high-rise development for up to 18,000 people on the site of the water treatment plant at Cambridge North

* kept an eye on planning applications which might have an impact on the character and infrastructure of our neighbourhood

* carried out parking surveys and met on numerous occasions with city and county councillors of both parties and with other resident groups in an attempt to mitigate the parking congestion crisis. But our efforts on this are now on hold thanks to a bizarre decision by the county council to suspend all work on parking schemes for a further 12 months.

These challenges still remain to be addressed, and we are now faced by a new threat to local democracy posed by a county council that seems ever more detached from the interests of city dwellers.

The seat of county democracy is being moved from Cambridge to Alconbury so that Shire Hall can be redeveloped by Brookgate Ltd, and the county council is poised to push through the abolition of our local highways committee (CJAC) with all decisions to be delegated to county officers or taken by county councillors - the majority of whom live far from the city. If you have not already done so I urge you to sign the petition which is featured on the home page of our website.

So, with the Cambridge North development, new Local Plan, climate change, the growth agenda and CAM metro, you can see that there will be plenty for our Association to scrutinise in the coming weeks, months and years.

It has been a pleasure to be your Chair for the last 4½ years and I would like to thank all committee members past and present for their hard work and support. We have achieved a lot, not least the remodelling of the Milton Road project using our own design concept developed in collaboration with Camcycle and Milton Rd Res. Assn. This was accomplished against all the odds and in the face of stunned opposition from old-school highways officers and consultants. My only disappointment is that successive changes to the construction schedule mean that our efforts won't bear fruit for some time to come, and in the meantime we will still have to put up with poor pavements and running repairs to pot-holes.

Michael Page, Chair

3. Treasurer's Report and Accounts

Income for the year to 31/12/2019 was attributed entirely to donations from local residents, mostly taken during the last AGM event. Special thanks are due to Cam Home and Garden which donated £55 to HPERA, derived from the sales on the day of their excellent plants.

Income & Expenditure	1 January – 31 December			
	2019		2018	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Donations	267.50		319.13	
Total Income		267.50		319.13
Expenditure				
Room & Refreshments	109.87		91.08	
Printing & Stationery	129.00		247.58	
Total Expenditure		(238.87)		(338.66)
Balance – Current year		28.63		(19.53)
Balance Brought Forward		468.80		488.33
Balance Carried Forward		497.43		468.80

2020 Expenditure to-date:

Since 1st January 2020, total expenditure (on printing costs and the domain name renewal) amounts to £147.98, so the net cash reserve of HPERA at the date of this report amounts to £349.45

The Association has no membership fee, and relies upon donations for income. It will be seen that expenditure is roughly matched by income, and the Association has sufficient reserves to absorb fluctuations. From the outset, the Association has operated a Community current account with Barclays Bank plc. Most transactions are made on-line, with expenditure authorised by any two of the signatories. The signatories (of which there are 4) are able to inspect the bank transactions at any time by logging in to the account. No overdraft facility is sought. John Beasley took over as Treasurer at the last AGM and remains in post.

Prepared by John Beasley, Treasurer, 21st April 2020.