



LANSDOWN CRESCENT ASSOCIATION: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**HELD IN ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH HALL, LANSDOWN ROAD
ON THURSDAY 21st MARCH, 2019 at 7.00 p.m.**

ATTENDEES

Simon Brand, Nick Bishop, Sue and Antony Branfoot, Megan Dalton, James Freeman, Peter Ford, Simon and Cat Heale, Michael Forsyth, Stephanie Higgins, Rachael Hushon, Robin and Sarah Kerr, Jean Jennings, Michelle and Peter Maguire, Charlotte Pinder, Mercelie Umengan, George and Valerie Scott, James Whatmore, Marian McNeir, Paul Richens

MINUTES

1. Apologies (and proxies)

Emma Brand (proxy Simon Brand), John and Yvonne Cullum (proxy Nick Bishop), Judith Constantine, Natalie St. Julian-Brown, Patricia Tayler, Michael and Nicky Oppenheimer, Judith Pepler, Beccy and Robert Derry-Evans, Jeremy and Susie Holmes, Gloria Gibson, Stephen Dalton (proxy Megan Dalton), Ann Taylor, Marianna Clark, Ray Kelly (Neighborhood police officer PCSO).

2. Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed members and guests and passed on Ray Kelly's (Neighbourhood police officer PCSO) apologies.

3. Minutes of the last AGM - previously circulated to members

The minutes of the 2018 LCA AGM were approved – Proposed by Peter Ford, seconded by Charlotte Pinder and universally approved.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

5. Reports, referring to the Newsletter, issued separately:

a. Chairman (Robin Kerr)

Robin thanked the committee and trustees for their hard work. He directed members to the LCA website and to the recently-distributed newsletter (put together by Rachael Hushon and distributed to all the area's residents) for the local goings-on and work undertaken by the committee.

Charlotte Pinder expressed her good opinion of the newsletter

Hope House update –

Paul Willis, Rhatigan's project manager, has said that the crane will be removed at the end of April, when Blocks D, E and F will also be completed; with the remainder due for completion at the end of July.

Paul also regrets the four weeks' work, and resulting three-way temporary traffic lights, that are needed on Lansdown Road around May, for the laying of final cables and pipes, and the realignment of the Hope House entrance.

Robin apologised that the LCA appeal to the Ombudsman about the block D height (protruding above the wall) was not approved, despite our best endeavours. He thanked Mandy Shaw for her help in analysing the data for the appeal.

Robin mentioned some of our various successes: the hoardings on the corner of LPE and Lansdown Road which were repositioned, greatly improving road safety at this corner; and the boiler flues on block D which were removed from their roofs.

Robin drew our attention to Beckford's Garden, for which a vision paper had been drafted jointly with the Bath Preservation Trust, and thought that the LCA may need to "put our hands in our pockets" to help resolve this unsold land and to prevent unsuitable building taking place or its being put to undesirable use.

Robin reminded us that Council elections take place on 2nd May. There will be a hustings for that on 14th April at Lansdown tennis club, and possibly a second one up at Ensleigh – details to be posted on our website.

Robin encouraged us to look out for Judith Liddell, who would appreciate sympathy for her, as yet unhealed, leg injury that happened before Christmas.

b. Secretary (Simon Brand): Voting to elect the 2019/20 LCA Committee

Simon informed the members that the following existing members of the committee would be standing for re-election, having been proposed and seconded according to the table below:

Committee Member	Proposer	Secunder
Robin Kerr	Simon Brand	Steph Higgins
Simon Brand	Steph Higgins	Nick Bishop
Steph Higgins	Nick Bishop	Rachael Hushon
Nick Bishop	Rachael Hushon	Megan Dalton
Rachael Hushon	Megan Dalton	James Freeman
Megan Dalton	James Freeman	Robin Kerr
James Freeman	Robin Kerr	Simon Brand

Additionally, Michelle Maguire was proposed by Simon Heale and Seconded by Sarah Kerr.

Charlotte Pinder asked to be invited to the next committee meeting.

c. Treasurer, referring to the statement of accounts, attached, and vote for their adoption – Stephanie Higgins

Approval of the accounts was proposed by Simon Heale, seconded by Peter Ford, and were universally approved. Steph noted that the expenses had been kept down, largely because of a reduction in the cost of our field insurance and the newsletter printing. The website costs, however, had increased, but we still have an overall healthy surplus this year of £417.

d. Membership secretary – Stephanie Higgins

Steph noted that we had 131 members at 21.03.19

e. Traffic – Nick Bishop

Nick commented that the newsletter contains the traffic updates, but highlighted the clean-air zone and Hope House. The loading and unloading outside Hope House and Lansdown Grove Hotel will be improved once the enforcement ticks are painted on the pavement (Post meeting note: this has now been done). Nick noted that the width restrictions in our Lansdown area should be implemented by the Council at the end of May.

f. Events – Sue Branfoot/Megan Dalton

Peter Ford said he had appreciated having the Christmas/Winter party in January, rather than in the crowded run-up to Christmas.

Megan informed members that we will be holding a Summer party and also occasional (biannual?) pub nights – the first such being on Monday 29th April at The Marlborough Tavern.

Megan thanked Sarah Kerr and Sue Branfoot for their superb cooking at our social events.

g. Field and sheep – James Whatmore

James explained that we currently have two hand-reared and friendly rams in our field: Bill (the larger) and Ben (the smaller). Lambing will start on 8th April and last for 2-3 weeks. The sheep and their lambs (no twins) will be arriving at the end of April.

h. Refuse - Rachael Hushon

Nick Bishop encouraged us to ensure our recycling bins have lids, which can be ordered from the council.

Rachael highlighted the mobile app www.fixmystreet.com, which can be used to report to the Council problems such as blocked drains or gutters or refuse.

i. Neighbourhood watch – Rachel Hushon

Rachael encouraged our continued observance.

j. Website – Robin Kerr

Mandy Shaw created the website in 2013, and was praised. However, it needs refreshing (which Mandy agrees). A tender process has resulted in a contract being placed with Sam Brown, who built the new CARA and Royal Crescent websites.

6. Other business

Marion Billet, James Whatmore and Sue Branfoot are standing down. Robin expressed our thanks to the efforts of these committee members and encouraged additional members to stand for committee positions.

Paul Richens asked if Hope House residents would be asked to join our association. Robin doubted this, following experience with other gated properties. Additionally, increasing the catchment area was thought to dilute the interests of the existing Lansdown area.

It was noted that Beckford's embattled gateway has now been unveiled (the pointing has now been carried out).

7. Guest Speaker. Marian McNeir, Former Mayor of Bath

Marian then gave an informative and entertaining talk on her time as Mayor of Bath, for which we were most grateful.

This was followed by light Refreshments.