



## Annual General Meeting of the Lansdown Crescent Association

Held at St Stephen's Church  
on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023** at 7.00 pm.

### MINUTES

**Present:** 32 people attended the AGM, including the following members of the outgoing Committee: *James Burtoft, Megan Dalton, Lydia Fay, Sarah Garrett, Rachael Hushon, and Stephanie Higgins.*

Others present: *Andy and Jannette Beveridge, Mary Birch, Amanda and Nick Bishop, Alan Cox, John Cullum, Michael Gage, Dick and Rani Humphries, Robin and Sarah Kerr, Nicola James, Jonathan Lampard, Richard and Ros Lovell, Michelle and Peter Maguire, Jane Meadows, Anne Pearson, Angela and Robert Pickering, Alison Sanderman, George and Valerie Scott, and Jim Sherry.*

#### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Committee Members: Neil Dickinson; and the following Association Members:

*Pam Bland, Edward and Tess Cameron, Sarah and James Cosford, Peter Ford, Michael Forsyth and Marion Harney, Jenna Gates, Regina Gilbert, Susie and Jeremy Holmes, Karen and Roger Munnings, Michael and Nicky Oppenheimer, Laretta Saunders, Ian and Crista Taylor.*

In addition, apologies and proxy requests in their absence were received from: *Chris Brennan and Rebecca Wood, Jane Briggs, Edward and Tess Cameron, Noeleen Charlesworth, Geraint and Andrew Devison-Kurg, Neil and Jennifer Dickenson, Bernard and Regina Gilbert, Barry and Yvonne Gilbertson, Bernard and Matylda Higgins, Paul, Saskia and Sophia Karakusevic, Ian Lyons and Teddy Lam, David and Joan Morrison, Judith Pepler, and Pat Taylor.*

#### 2. Chair's welcome

Rachael Hushon welcomed members to the 2023 AGM, held in the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lansdown Crescent Association. She presented a 'thank you' gift to Michelle and Peter Maguire for their role looking after the Field and Sheep for 3 years.

#### 3. Minutes of the last AGM – previously circulated to members with the AGM Calling Notice

The 2022 minutes were proposed as an accurate record by Robin Kerr, seconded by Jim Sherry and passed with universal acclaim.

#### 4. Matters arising

None

#### 5. Reports:

##### a. **Chair** – *Rachael Hushon*

Rachael took members through the Chair's report, previously circulated with the AGM Calling Notice, and provided the following **update**:

**i) High Common** – the new golf providers have been confirmed as Swansea Golf. The Eastern side of the common will be an 18 hole golf course with an area at the top remaining for informal use (free of golf). The Western side is now open for 'foot golf'. The intent is to keep this part of the common as meadow with mown fairways. The 'right to roam' remains in place.

**ii) Maintenance of the LCA area** - Members are encouraged to use 'Fix-my-Street' [<https://fix.bathnes.gov.uk>] to report issues requiring council maintenance and clean up. This includes graffiti on private property.

##### b. **Treasurer** – *Stephanie Higgins*

- Referring to the statement of accounts, Steph informed members that we ended the year with £10,670 in credit across our bank and Bath Building Society accounts.
- Notable expenses falling into this year's accounts related to the 2021 Jubilee Party (for which there was no attendance fee), including £800 for the live band.
- Responding to a question from Robin Kerr, Steph confirmed that planning consultancy fees spent last year on the LCA submission relating to Beckford's garden were under £1000. Jim Sherry commented on the high quality submission and value for money provided.
- LCA member Alan Cox was thanked for reviewing and verifying the accounts.

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Robin Kerr, seconded by Alan Cox and passed with universal acclaim.

##### c. **Membership Secretary** – *Stephanie Higgins*

- Membership turnover remains broadly in line with last year.
- For 2022, this was c.200 members from 113 households.
- Our subscription to Bath Preservation Trust entitles us to a free entry ticket to the museums. This is available to borrow from Stephanie Higgins.

##### d. **Field and Sheep** – *Andy Beveridge*

- On 20<sup>th</sup> April, the sheep returned to the LCA field. They included Bill, the friendly ram, 6 ewes and 8 lambs. The other ram, Basil, is with Mr Creedy. Fewer sheep are in residence than last year with the hope that the grass lasts for longer. One lamb escaped at 6am on 2<sup>nd</sup> May but was spotted quickly and returned. The field is in good condition. The committee is asked to agree whether to address the growing nettle patch at the top of the field.
- Rachael commented that the damaged railings at the top of the field had been rapidly responded to by the council with the repairs completed within a month.

e. **Events** – *Megan Dalton*

- Events over the past year have included our annual carol singing, the highly successful (albeit wet) Jubilee street party, our first Winter party since 2019, kindly hosted by Ian and Christa Taylor, and the recent (also successful and wet) Coronation street party.
- Members were thanked for supporting these events and helping build community. Particular thanks were given to: Ian and Christa for their generosity in providing additional drinks and catering; Sue and Toby Branfoot, and Sarah and Robin Kerr for catering and logistics at the Winter party; Beckford's Rum for generously providing gazebos and rum at both street parties; and St Stephen's church for the loan of tables and chairs.
- Members are invited to contact Megan with ideas for future events or offers to host. We hope to continue to include a mixture of formal, ticketed events and more informal and inclusive ones, such as pavement drinks or street parties.

f. **Planning**– *Lydia Fay and Rachael Hushon*

**Sion Hill and Beckford's Garden update**

- Details of the Sion Hill Bath Spa campus redevelopment can be found on the LCA website. We are awaiting further updates and Rachael will email out any further news to members as soon as it is received.
- The deadline for the planning decision on Beckford Garden was moved from April to 2<sup>nd</sup> June. The developer may come back with a response to the historical report provided in the submission from LCA. We have requested enough time to look at this in detail and our planning consultant is ready to provide further expert input.
- Lydia outlined the planning role on the committee in supporting the LCA's role to enhance the whole area. This includes considering how planning schemes may impact the area or providing support and advice to members. Jim Sherry noted that the opinion of the LCA has weight with the council in making planning decisions.

g. **Journey to Net Zero** – *Rachael Hushon*

- There is a wide range of schemes within the Lower Lansdown and Kingsmead wards. The only LCA committee role is to forward opportunities for participating in consultations to members which it will continue to do.
- The Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for a 20mph speed limit has been passed for Lansdown Road from the connection with George Street up to St Stephen's church. Lucy Hodge (ward councillor) and Lynne Jacobs (Lansdown Rd resident) have been instrumental in pushing for this. Many had hoped that the TRO would extend further up the road to include the schools.

## 7. Voting to elect the 2022/23 LCA Committee – Sarah Garrett

a. The following eight committee members stood for re-election:

Committee Member	Proposed Position	Proposed by -	Seconded by -
<b>James Burtoft</b>	<i>Webmaster</i>	Megan Dalton	Neil Dickinson
<b>Megan Dalton</b>	<i>Events, Field &amp; Sheep</i>	Neil Dickinson	Lydia Fay
<b>Neil Dickinson</b>	<i>Traffic</i>	Lydia Fay	Sarah Garrett
<b>Lydia Fay</b>	<i>Planning (joint)</i>	Sarah Garrett	Stephanie Higgins
<b>Sarah Garrett</b>	<i>Secretary</i>	Stephanie Higgins	Rachael Hushon
<b>Stephanie Higgins</b>	<i>Membership &amp; Treasurer</i>	Rachael Hushon	James Burtoft
<b>Rachael Hushon</b>	<i>Chair, FoBRA, Traffic &amp; Community</i>	James Burtoft	Megan Dalton

b. A new member for the committee was also nominated:

Nominee	Residence	Proposed Position	Proposed by -	Seconded by -
<b>Jim Sherry</b>	Dixon Gardens	<i>Planning (joint)</i>	Rachael Hushon	Stephanie Higgins

All nominations were approved by universal acclaim.


## 8. Other Business

- Robin Kerr highlighted that 'Fix My Street' were not dealing with the drain in Upper Lansdown Mews and suggested a request to the council for local drain clearance. He requested that salt bins be moved back to their summer storage.
- Robin also noted that a number of finials are now missing on railings. Rachael reminded members that there were a number of spares following the finial project. The committee will check where finials are missing and let people know how many are available and at what cost.
- Megan Dalton highlighted that there are many different volunteer opportunities available across the community, including via St Stephen's and the Genesis Trust, as well as local clean-ups.
- Following a push from Rachael Hushon and James Burtoft, the Dell pathway to Park Street has now been re-surfaced, whilst retaining the original penant stones.

At the close of the AGM, Trustee Robin Kerr thanked the Committee, particularly Rachael as Chair, for their hard work.

Immediately after the AGM, LCA member, Nicola James, provided a short informative talk about her role as one of the elected Public Governors at the RUH. The role strengthens links between the RUH and local communities as well as helping to shape services and hold the Board to account. She reminded LCA members that membership of the Trust is open to all. John Cullum also highlighted the work of its charitable arm, RUHX (formerly 'Forever Friends').

The meeting was followed by a 'drinks and nibbles' reception kindly organised by Megan.



Sarah Garrett, Secretary  
May 2022