



**Hyde Park Estate Association  
Annual General Meeting Minutes  
The Royal Lancaster Hotel  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

Present 82 recorded signed in attendees, plus.

Apologies: Hon. Mark Field MP, Cllr. Antonia Cox, Bernadette McKernan, Lorna Dunphy, Donald Gordon, James Davies, Giuliana La Pera, Dr. Corinne Abel, Mark McKeown, Peter Brown, Dr. Alan Horan.

1. Welcome

Chairman elect Allen Zimbler welcomed all members, Councillors and guests and introduced The General Manager of the Royal Lancaster Hotel, Sally Beck. Sally welcomed once again the HPEA to the Royal Lancaster and explained about all the work that has been going on in the Hotel and hopes that it will be completed in two months, bringing with it huge improvements. Sally thanked everyone for their forbearance and patience and confirmed that, 'we are with you for the long term and we wish to be part of the Community'. Sally reminded everyone to please take advantage of the offer to become a Friend of The Royal Lancaster and enjoy a discount of 10%. and other offers. Sally wished everyone a wonderful AGM.

2. Allen welcomed and introduced our Police representatives led by Inspector Susie Hughes and her colleagues and announced that they would be speaking next as their time with us unfortunately, had to be limited. Allen gave a warm welcome to our Councillors Heather Acton and J P Floru and to Cllr. Karen Scarborough. Also welcomed were John Walton of PRACT, John Zamit, Chairman of SEBRA together with Kay Buxton and Chris Peers representing the Paddington Bid.

3. Allen proposed a warm vote of thanks to former Chairman Nick Johnson who was the Chair of the HPEA for 10 years. Nick had worked tirelessly for the benefit of the community and it was much appreciated by all. Sheila Davies was retiring as Secretary after 17 years and Bill Quinn as Treasurer after 16 years. Lynda King Taylor was also standing down having served on the committee for many years. To recognise the long standing commitment of the Secretary and the Treasurer, Allen was delighted to announce that they have been made Vice-Presidents of the Association. A presentation was made to Sheila and Bill and they were also given certificates in recognition of their long standing service. Allen thanked all the outgoing members of the Committee for their loyalty and commitment over very many years.

4. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016  
These had been circulated and taken as read.  
Proposed by Susan Quinn. Seconded by Anne Mallinson

5. Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

## 6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report had been circulated to all members and Councillors.

Bill warmly thanked everyone and welcomed the incoming committee and wished them every success in the future.

Bill talked through the accounts in detail. We have a healthy balance of £48,703 in the accounts. Bill explained that we keep a healthy balance as do other Amenity Societies as from time to time we have unexpected expenses to consider, such as fighting controversial planning applications. Bill was warmly thanked for his exceptional accounts over very many years.

Proposed by Simon Davies. Seconded by Sandra Brendlor.

### **Allen introduced our cluster Inspector Susie Hughes and Sargent Richard with two colleagues.**

Inspector Hughes explained that it does not help Policing that the Police budget has been severely cut and increasing terrorist activity draws the Police away. Sally Martin reported that there is great concern about the increase in violent crimes in our area and the ever present threat of violence from moped riders with knives. Inspector Hughes reported that Moped issues are London based and that there have been a spate of moped robberies of late. The Police have just arrested three individuals who committed over 100 robberies between them. It is difficult to deal with moped riders who snatch phones within seconds and are gone. The Police are now concentrating on raising public awareness on how to be more careful. Ideally, each Ward should have two dedicated Police Ward Officers. In comparing areas of crime our area has less crime than other similar areas. Bill Quinn asked what has happened to the Neighbourhood Ward Panel. The reply is that for the moment, with Police resources so stretched it is not always possible to have a Police Officer available. At present we do not have a Ward Panel Chairman.

Bill asked what the latest information is on curbing street prostitution. Inspector Hughes replied that there are actions in progress which are very encouraging working with immigration teams, but at this moment they cannot be discussed.

Allen thanked our Police representatives for attending our meeting.

### **Allen introduced our Cllrs. Heather Acton and J P Floru.**

Heather addressed us and explained how the traffic problems on the Estate have arisen since their introduction. We are waiting for more signage as who is going to pay for it has yet to be agreed. Progress is slow, but we are moving forward. JP told us that because main arteries have been reduced to accommodate Bus Lanes, Cycle lanes and other go slow traffic measures this has produced very busy rat runs through the Hyde Park Estate. Cllr. Karen Scarborough informed us that Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London is determined to pedestrianize Oxford Street to make this his Legacy to be remembered by. He is not interested that the displacement of traffic will cause hardship for the residents who live here. Karen informed us that one of the pinch points will be Marble Arch if Oxford Street goes ahead. Fay Sandler reported that the Mayor wants to reduce traffic one way or another. Heather informed us that the Sat Nav's and Waze are taking traffic through the Estate.

Heather reported that 20 mph will be introduced on some streets in the Estate, but admitted when questioned that there will be no Policing of it.

Heather reported that noise is also a problem late at night, especially in and around the Edgware Road. Unfortunately, residents do not report noise issues.

Heather reported that WCC has increased lighting and the number of Parking Marshalls at night to pick up on any anti-social behaviour.

Cllrs Heather and J P took many questions from the floor.

Allen thanked our Councillors for attending and speaking at our AGM.

### **Allen gave The Chairman's report and gave a presentation.**

Allen itemised most of our major problems with traffic.

Dedicated cycle lanes give traffic problems for residents as they have caused rat runs through the Estate as motorists endeavour to find a quicker way to get to their destination. The Association commissioned a traffic survey on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October for measuring traffic between the hours of 7am to 7pm. We have a breakdown of the type of vehicles driving through our estate. If the Sussex Gardens, 'Quietway cycle lane' goes ahead this will cause additional traffic problems for residents.

What are we doing about the Traffic Quagmire? We are teaming up with SEBRA, PRACT, Cllr. Heather, WCC, TFL and the Deputy Mayor of London. John Walton has drawn up a briefing note to address these problems.

We have requested additional Zebra Crossings.

We are working with the Marylebone Association in opposing the pedestrianisation of Oxford Street.

We are trying hard to address all of these issues.

Crime has increased due to the reduction in Police Officer numbers caused by budget cuts. Westminster has one of the highest crime rates in the UK per person. Allen showed a Map of recorded crimes on our Estate and it should be noted that these are the not the true numbers as the majority go unrecorded.

WCC has 76 cameras that are so powerful that the print on a newspaper can be read. All 76 have been switched off to save money.

We will be amending our constitution to reflect today's environment.

Let us know your concerns. The intention of the new Committee is to improve.

Join us and let us know your details and we will respond.

Election of Chairman. Deputy Chairman. Hon.Treasurer. Hon.Secretary & the Executive Committee

Chairman:	Dr. Allen Zimbler	Proposed by Sandra Brendlor	Seconded by Susan Quinn
Deputy Chairman:	Sally Martin	Proposed by Simon Davies	Seconded by Bill Quinn
Hon. Treasurer:	Maria Parpou	Proposed by Sheila Davies	Seconded by Pierre Brendlor
Hon. Treasurer:	Bernadette Mckernan	Proposed by Jeannie Dixon	Seconded by Stephen Mason

The following were elected to the Executive Committee.

Sandra Brendlor, Jeannie Dixon, Darius Sanai, Sergio Chiquitto, Bill Quinn, Juliana Wheeler, Saeed Barzin, Sarah Clifford, Susan Quinn, Stephen Mason, Mark McKeown, James Davis, Sanjay Kohli,

Proposed by Karen Scarborough Seconded by Anne Mallinson.

Chairman Dr. Allen Zimbler thanked everyone for attending and taking such an active part and invited all to remain for refreshments and light bites. Allen gave very warm thanks to The Royal Lancaster Hotel for their splendid hospitality.

The Chairman's presentation will be attached to the minutes for the benefit of those who could not be with us.