

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Arbury Road East Residents' Association

Held on ZOOM at 7.30, Wednesday, February 10th, 2021

Lucy Edgeley, acting chair, opened the meeting with a welcome to everyone attending. It was good to see all the faces on ZOOM.

She handed over to Vince Poole who explained how the meeting would be run according to the limitations posed by ZOOM.

Lucy explained that the **Minutes of our inaugural AGM, held on 9th December, 2019** at Arbury Baptist Church, had been posted on our website for people to read. No queries or comments had been received. The committee had read and agreed them as a true representation of that meeting. A proposer and seconder were requested to accept the minutes.

Proposer: Valerie Elliot **Seconder:** Rosalind Lund

The minutes were accepted.

Annual Report

This was given by **Ian Cooper** and can be found on the website info@arera.org.uk

Lucy thanked Ian for the hard work that had gone into this and said that all thoughts and ideas from members and those attending, would be welcome.

Finance Report

Presented by Rosalind Lund who explained that she and Simon Crisp had been agreed as joint treasurers at the inaugural meeting. A nominal payment of £5 had been suggested then as a membership contribution.

An ARERA Bank Account had been set up in March 2020 just before the first lockdown because of the pandemic. The Bank details will be posted on the website and any contribution is welcome.

Details for Year 2019 - 2020

Our income: £193, made up of Subscriptions £100 – donations, £93

Expenses: £120.11 (for advertising and promotion)

Balance at Bank: £72.89

Funds are needed in order for ARERA to be able to achieve more. At the moment, it is largely the committee who have contributed.

A question regarding the minutes of meetings was raised by **Linda Smith** who asked why nothing had been circulated to members. And was ARERA considering concerns raised at the Inaugural AGM such as heavy traffic, speeding, the prospect of the building of a new community near Cambridge North Station etc. Was ARERA only concerned with the proposed filter on Arbury Road?

Lucy assured Linda that all these questions had been asked of our Councillors with as yet, no result. ARERA was very much concerned with them.

Minutes of meetings were available to all those for whom we have an email address.

George Vardoulakis said that news updates were regularly posted on the website. Questions about signage directing incoming traffic away from the northern end of Arbury Road have not resulted in any action. He also said that the possibility of a modal filter had been talked about before the pandemic made it even more necessary. **Councillor Ian Manning** has been very active on our behalf.

Elections

Originally, 12 members had formed the committee. For various reasons, several had since resigned. Nominations had been asked for but none have been received.

Lucy, who was vice-chair, took over as acting chair when Marilyn Smith resigned. The committee has now elected **Rosalind Lund** to be chair and **Simon Crisp** will continue as treasurer.

Matthew Danish has been formally elected to the committee, **proposed:** Rosalind Lund **seconded:** Lucy Edgeley.

Lucy handed over to Rosalind, with thanks to everyone for their hard work during the year and mentioned also Jane Kroeze who had helped with publicity and contact with the press, although not a committee member.

Ros took up the post of committee chair at this point, thanking Lucy for all she has contributed during the year.

Ros made an urgent request for a web master and asked all present to bear that in mind.

Ros said that ARERA had received notice of a motion to be brought before the meeting at the request of Linda Smith. ARERA recognised that help was needed as to how this could take place as it is something not covered in our Constitution. Advice had been sought from FECRA but no reply had been received yet. Also, because the meeting was taking place on a non-paid for zoom platform, time was limited. Linda Smith had then submitted a question instead.

A.O.B.

Linda Smith raised the following question and asked that the committee withdraw their statement to the G.C.P. (Greater Cambridge Partnership.)

On 04.06.20, ARERA made the following untrue and misleading statement to the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP).

_"Our recent survey shows that a large majority of those who live on the road are ready and willing to try experimental or temporary schemes..." _

_You then asked the GCP, "Will _the Joint Assembly resolve to add Arbury Road, with description 'prohibit through movements between Cambridge North Academy and Leys Road' to the list of schemes prioritised for implementation...?"_(her email of 2021.02.10)

Linda said only 62 responses to the survey distributed to houses in Arbury Road East had been received of which only 48 supported a filter. She knew of 44 people where she lives who were against it. She felt ARERA did not have a large response in favour and asked 'would we withdraw our request for a filter?'

Vince Poole replied that out of the 62 responses received, 48 had been in favour of our request. So **77% were in favour and 10% more were supportive of 'doing something' to reduce the traffic.**

John Welton, who owns the butcher's shop – '**Cambridge Quality Meats**' said he has been asked to speak for the traders at the Milton Road end of Arbury Road. He is also an Arbury Road resident. They all agree that the road needs to be made safer. However, he and the proprietor of '**Al Noor**' are against the idea of a filter and he knows that **Jon West, butcher at Arbury Court**, is also against.

Paul Wright, partner in '**Cambridge Quality Meats**' together with the proprietor of '**Grape Britannia**' and **Elaine**, who had the hairdressers, were for the idea of a filter.

They all agreed that a lay-by was needed by the shops, for deliveries and customers and that traffic on Arbury Road needed slowing down.

In reply to the issues raised, **Ros** said that the government wants these safety measures like modal filters to be tried out – to see what effect they have. She agreed that a lay-by was a good idea.

Colin Simpson queried Vince's statement that the survey results indicated 77% response in favour of a filter.

Ian Manning said the survey result indicated an opinion 'for' a modal filter, even though there had not been a response from every household.

George Vardulakis had also requested to present his report in AOB. The data he has collected over the year and turned into easily interpreted graphs, can be seen on the ARERA website - together with photos showing difficulties of walking and cycling and concentration of traffic on Arbury Road.

Lesley asked if any measurement of pollution had been taken.

George replied that he had been measuring it for himself for a year. He knows someone in Cambridge University who could help with this to a professional standard. **Ian Manning** will also assist with finding ways to measure pollution accurately.

Mention was made of how pollution from idling vehicle engines can seriously damage health and even cause death.

Linda Smith said that the mother of the little girl who had died in London, as the result of pollution, was very against the traffic filters because they pushed pollution into smaller streets. **Ian Manning** said that in London, these were a series of permanent measures – not the same as in Cambridge.

The meeting ended with **Ros** thanking everyone for coming and asking again for any ideas and comments as to how the East End of Arbury Road could be made safer and pleasanter.

Maggie Fernie

16/02/2021