

CURZON PARK RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Location: Chester Golf Club

Date & Time: 20th July 2023 - 1900

1. **Welcome and Apologies.** Apologies from: Jacky Arrowsmith, Peter Aikman, Alex and Phil Tate.

2. **Minutes of AGM 14th September 2022.** The minutes of the 2022 have been published on the website and were read by those attending. There were no matters arising from the minutes. By a majority vote the minutes were accepted as a correct record.

3. **Reports on Association's Activities.**

a. **Chairman.** Andrew Kendall, welcomed attendees to the meeting. He described the packed and eventful year. There was a busy social calendar, which included the Italian meal at the golf club, carols on the green, the trip to RHS Bridgewater as well as the King's Coronation celebrations on the Green. One element of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee celebrations was the The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) initiative. An oak tree was planted on the Green as part of QGC, which was unveiled during the Coronation celebrations. Residents also took part in bulb planting and a litter pick to keep Curzon Park looking its best. Martin Brown had another hugely successful charity plant sale. The Dingle project secured funding and work has started to deliver the project.

b. **Social Committee Report.** Deanne Garratt highlighted the appetite residents have for events, given the large number who attended the Coronation celebrations and then stayed well into the afternoon. Deanne thanked John and Christine Jones-Pritchard for organising the very successful RHS Bridgewater trip. Looking forward the social structure for the year would be an event on the Green in the summer, bulb planing in the autumn, carols on the Green before Christmas and a meal at the golf club. Additional events could be held, but would be dependent upon residents helping to organise them. Deanne also talked about the very successful walking group and discussed whether there was an appetite for a young families like a walk in September, starting and ending on the Green. A meal has been booked at the golf club for 23rd November with thematic food and some activities.

c. **Highways and Open Spaces Report.** Allan Hogan updated the AGM, which did elicit some discussion:

(1) Allan thanked to all the residents who keep verges neat and hedges trimmed.

(2) The Dingle Project. The crowd funding of the project hit the target which then triggered CWAC to provide its funding element. The bio diversity report has been completed. The bio diversity report acts as an enabler for further work from CWAC to improve the Dingle.

(3) Bulb Planting. Yet again an impressive response from residents to plant the bulbs. Allan would like to know what types bulbs residents would like planted. Please comment on the CPRA Facebook page. Allan can obtain good prices on bulbs through his bulk buying. If anyone would like him to purchase some bulbs please get in touch email him at allanhogan37@gmail.com

(4) CWAC are able to support the planing of wild flower area on CWAC land. Cllr Matt has looked at options either side of the post box on the Green (which is formally classified as a grass verge) and the area at the top of Mt Pleasant.

(5) Deanne mentioned that Westminster Park is a wonderful asset and is in part maintained by volunteers, many of whom live in Curzon Park. There is a "Friends of Westminster Park" Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064362866723>) which highlights many of the activities that take place in the Park. Volunteers who wish to help maintain the Park meet at 1000 each Wednesday at the store by the side of the park's cafe. All are issued a tabard and appropriate tools before enjoying a couple of hours of ground maintenance.

(6) There was some discussion regarding signage around the Dingle and whether it was clear enough to inform those who do not know the area, that the Dingle has footpaths that all are welcome to use it. In particular whether the signage on Dingle Bank (a private road) may lead people to believe that they cannot walk through the area. What is the appropriate signage on the Dingle Road? Our councillors Razia and Matt agreed to speak to highways with regard to what the appropriate signage is. Allan to follow up with our councillors regarding the outcome.

(7) The highways discussion was rounded off by Andrew outlining the exchanges he has had with CWAC on the subject of speed limits in Curzon Park. Last summer Andrew wrote to Cllr Shore detailing a case that all of Curzon Park should be considered a residential area with a speed limit of 20mph throughout. Cllr Shore responded that 20mph speed limits had been implemented in a number of phases of 20mph and there would be more. Cllr Matt raised the issue at a full council meeting the week before the AGM. The current position is that more survey work and local community engagement is to take place prior to any changes. Cllrs Matt and Razia offered to share the minutes with CPRA. There was some further discussion regarding how different local authorities interpret central government guidance in very different ways.

e. **Membership Report.** Dave Plunkett gave an oral report. The Google contact data base has 340 members. Carolyn's work on the successful Facebook group was recognised by those attending the AGM. The group currently has 667 members. It is a big part of CPRA's comms with residents. The other key communication method is the newsletter. 650 copies are printed by Dave and then given to John who gives it to the 15 street distributors. John Jones-Pritchard was thanked for all his work over the years coordinating the distribution of the

newsletter. John will be leaving Chester in the near future. Diane Terry kindly offered to take over the coordination of the distribution of the newsletter.

4. **Accounts.** Dave Watson presented the accounts for the year. The bank balance had remained stable. The full report is attached.

5. **Election of New Members.**

a. The following will continue their role:

Chairman - Andrew Kendall

Secretary - Dickie Danby

Highways and Open Spaces - Allan Hogan.

Social - Deanne Garratt

b. Treasurer - No one volunteered. Asked those attending the AGM to speak to those they know. The role only takes around one hour a month. The hunt for a treasurer is to continue post the AGM. Without a treasurer CPRA will not be able to function.

c. Membership. Dave Plunkett has filled the role for some three years therefore was due to step-down. With no volunteers for the role, he kindly offered to stay on until we could find a replacement, post AGM.

d. Under 39. There were no AGM attendees under 39.

6. **AOB.** The CRAG Conference is a full day event on 5th October at 1000. It is open to all residents. The speaker line up is impressive with Sam Dixon, Richard Beecham and more. Attendees only need to pay for own lunch, which is subsidised.

7. **Chairman's Closing Remarks.** Andrew Kendall thanked our councillors for their continued support. The members budget has been an invaluable source of funding for CPRA activities. CPRA could not exist without their support. Andrew also thanked John Jones-Pritchard for his many years of work coordinating the newsletter, walks and his support of the social working group. Thanks to Carolyn for the Facebook page, which has blossomed whilst she has steered it. Many thanks to Dave W and Dave P for all their work over the years. Thanks also to Martin Brown for putting on a superb plant sale.

Meeting ended at 20:07.