

AGM 2022

Chair's Report

This report provides an overview of the work of your committee throughout the year. You will find more detail in the Chair's newsletters which can be found on the RCV website.

Committee A lot seems to have happened since the Extraordinary General Meeting on 9th January this year, when the very existence of Riverside Community Voice was snatched from the jaws of premature death. We were very grateful to 2 members of the outgoing committee for staying on: Joseph Thompson who has provided us with a solid basis for progress on the matter of electric car chargers, and Secretary John Ashbery who has provided welcome continuity in the role of Secretary. Our new committee members: William Hobhouse, Hilary Lee, Ali Penfold, Flo Penfold, Joseph Thompson and Andrew Vickers set to work right away and I am grateful to them all for their important contributions throughout the year. After sterling work on EV chargers, Joseph Thompson was to leave the Committee in July.

Membership Our first task was to secure our future financing and I'm pleased to say that we now have 76 households of fully-paid-up members, which gives us 9% membership amongst all households in Riverside.

Summer Party Next came preparations for the Summer party on 5th June under a steering committee led by Andrew Vickers. They did a great job and we plan to hold another similar party next year – and hope for slightly better weather.

Adoption of Stothert Ave and Midland Rd In February we had our first meeting with the Council and Crest Nicholson to discuss the issue of the Council's adoption of Stothert Ave and Midland Rd. At that time the aim was to have this completed by October this year. I think we can safely say this project is nowhere near complete and the council official in charge has not answered recent queries about progress from me or from our hard-working Councillor, June Player.

Garden Group Victoria Bridge Rd will also eventually be adopted by the Council, but not Elizabeth Park, which we, the residents, will eventually manage. Looking forward to this time we asked for ideas about improvements to the park, and got some excellent responses, which resulted in the formation under Hilary Lee of the Riverside Garden Group. The group has already recommended 25 trees to be planted in the park and we await Crest Nicholson's agreement for this.

Shadow Boards Eventually the entire Riverside development will be managed by the owners. You will remember the letter to all owners sent in July by Pinnacle concerning shadow boards. The plan is for Crest to move out of Riverside by the end of next year with all snagging done, and at this stage the residents start to manage themselves. In order to facilitate a smooth handover, boards of residents will be set up to shadow existing managers. This is an important venture, so if you feel you would like to take part, contact our Pinnacle Manager Francesca. RCV will hold meetings in the new year to provide more information on this important part of our future in Riverside.

Parking Parking under the new regime in Stothert Avenue will come under the Council and designated residents' visitors' parking will be managed by Pinnacle using a web-based system. Pinnacle also intend to initiate a web-based system for the use of residents' assigned parking spaces which should make life a lot easier and put an end to spurious ticketing.

Gasworks Development February saw the initial consultations on the development of the gasworks site and the planning consultation period is now over. We submitted our comment to the planners

under 5 main headings: green future-proofing, lack of indoor community space, possible destruction of trees and habitat by the river, traffic hotspots in Midland Rd, and a possible shortfall in Infant and Primary School Provision.

Gulls This year has probably been the worst in my own personal experience in Riverside for noise and nuisance from gulls. It seems we have quite a sympathetic council gull officer, but actions against these creatures are limited by law. Pinnacle now plans that the worst areas for nuisance on roofs will be fitted with netting to restrict gulls landing, and flights of birds of prey will be rostered to coincide with maximum gull activity.

Dogs in Riverside Many people feel that the notices to dog owners in Elizabeth Park are not clear enough and poorly positioned. Pinnacle have promised to act on this so that owners are aware that dogs should be on a lead and under supervision.

Chargers Progress on the installation of EV Chargers has regrettably come to a halt, apparently because of a financing issue. I am trying to establish with Crest what the problem is. Meanwhile, following the recent Bristol tower block fire, we are looking to establish some common sense advice for those charging bikes at home.

The Coming Year We look forward to another busy year and have a vacancy on the Committee. If you would like to join the team, please let the Secretary John Ashbery know:
secretary@riversidecommunityvoice.org.uk .

Paddy Doyle
Chair
Riverside Community Voice

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