

Acocks Green Neighbourhood Forum Accounts 2014

Income

Bank Interest	£	0.26
Proceeds from carnival	£	55.35
Grant	£	800.00

Total £ **855.61**

Expenditure

Room Hire	£	100.00
Distribution of leaflets	£	225.00
Printing of leaflets	£	393.50
Donation to Village Partnership (Christmas Lights)	£	100.00
website fees	£	11.12

Total £ **829.62**


Surplus in year £ **25.99**

Balance brought forward **01.01.13** £ **598.01**


Balance Carried Forward **31.12.13** £ **624.00**

Signed

B. Fisher

+ 
22/1/15

S.Cox


27/1/15

ACOCKS GREEN NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, 17TH JUNE, 2014,
AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH HALL, YARDLEY ROAD

Attendance: As per list.

1. Welcome

David Treadwell welcomed everyone to the Forum's AGM, including Councillor Stacey, Councillor O'Shea and Councillor Roger Harmer; Prospective Parliamentary Candidate, Jess Phillips, and a speaker from Friends of the Earth.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Sgt. Mark Fellows and his team,, Forum Executive Members, Steve Cox, Mandy Spencer and Sandra Garbett; Acocks Green Focus Group Members, Julia Larden and Mick Lawley; Forum Auditor Isobel Lawson.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes were summarised by the Chairman and accepted as a true record.
Copies had been circulated at the meeting.

4. Matters Arising

Last year's main speaker, the Coroner for Birmingham and Solihull, Aiden Cotter, has since retired. The Chairman thought Mr. Cotter's presentation was extremely interesting. Everyone agreed.

Acocks Green in Bloom: The village was very successful last year in winning a Silver which was a step up from the Bronze for the first attempt the previous year.

Red Lion: This pub is now open.

Glynne Edwards Hall: The planning application was withdrawn by the Baptist Church.

Conservation Area: Three consultations were held with the public in March and results were unanimously in favour of a conservation area – 97%. (inside the boundary: yes 96, no 3. outside the boundary: yes 18, no 0). The necessary papers are now being put together to present to Conservation Planning for scrutiny before going to the Cabinet Members.

Eastbourne House: It is proposed to open this as a music school in September.

Acocks Green Carnival: Last year's carnival was very successful, due in some part to the lovely weather. This year it will be held on 5th July and the Forum has a stall again.

Litter on Yardley Road: The Environmental Health Officer, Kate Stanley, held an initiative from February to late April. Two litter picks were organised – one with Cottesbrooke Junior School. Businesses were visited to see if they had commercial waste contracts with 34 site visits being made and 11 notices served. Refuse bags were opened for evidence and information given to residents of flats about the correct collection day.

5. Guest Speakers

Rob from Friends of the Earth said Birmingham was the second most polluted City in Britain. People die from air pollution and figures vary from 29,000-50,000, but it was the biggest killer after smoking. Unfortunately, the car was king in the 1960's and cycling in Birmingham is very dangerous. Only 1-2% of journeys are by bike and Birmingham needs a cycling infrastructure with segregated lanes, but it was lagging behind other cities. He said the London bike scheme was heavily subsidised. Cllr. Stacey said Transport for London owned the buses and got the profits, but here the profits went to National Express. He also explained about the Smart Route. Rob said FoftheE were looking at funding being spent slightly differently so that people could be given the option of getting on a bike. Funding was an important debate, but campaign was about air pollution. The Tyburn Road for example was well over the legal limit and there was not enough monitoring in the City. Diesel fuel was carcinogenic and focus needed to be on the arterial roads. The campaign had 3,000 signatures so far with residents groups, schools, etc., signing up. FoftheE was an independent organisation to which the Birmingham branch was affiliated. There were several

campaigns running and details could be found on the website, Facebook and Twitter. He was happy to supply more literature for the next meeting. He hoped Acocks Green Neighbourhood Forum would get involved. The Chairman thanked Rob for his talk which gave a lot of food for thought.

6. Chairman's Report

David Treadwell said the Forum had complied with its terms of reference and had held five public meetings during the year. The Forum received funding from Acocks Green Ward Committee and a proportion from South Yardley Ward Committee. It had delegates on the Acocks Green Village Partnership and supported other local organisations such as the Focus Group and Acocks Green In Bloom. Members also took part in litter picking on the Yardley Road and also the canal towpath. He called this co-operation Team AG.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Chairman presented the report in the Treasurer's absence. The current balance was £925.65 and expenditure covered room hire, newsletter printing and delivery. The Forum also gave donations towards the Christmas Lights and Spring bulb planting. Copies of the accounts were available at the meeting. The report was accepted as a true account.

8. Election of Officers

Cllr. O'Shea took the chair for the election of Chairman. He thanked David Treadwell for all his hard work during the past year.

Chairman: David Treadwell

Ann Clarke proposed David Treadwell, Agnes Martin seconded. All were in favour.

Deputy Chairman: Mike Clarke

Treasurer: Stephen Cox

Secretary: vacant

Minute Secretary: Ann Clarke

Publicity: Ged Hughes

Executive Committee: Mandy Spencer, Nancy Turner, Martin Young, Jim Corcoran, Sandra Garbett. Simon Holloway re-joined and Lisa Walker - a new member.

Auditors: Brian Fisher and Isobel Lawson

The above Executive Committee and Auditors were proposed en bloc by Mike Clarke, seconded by Veronica Treadwell and unanimously accepted.

9. Public Forum

State of Yardley Road (re-surfacing): Mr. Martin said there had been five years of broken promises. Amey had assured the work would be done between November, 2012, and June, 2013. Cllr. O'Shea said he was frustrated at having passed on Amey's promises for them to be broken. He had yet to have a response from the Amey planning team. Also their contract was up for debate. The Chairman asked if we, as a Forum, could act. He was advised to keep the Councillors up-to-date.

175 Yardley Road: The EHO had come out about the hedge and found nothing wrong. However, this hedge was half-way across the pavement on the corner of Augusta Road and the fence in Augusta Road was very unsafe. There was also parking on the pavement in Augusta Road. Cllrs. to take up problem and matter also to be raised at the Police Tier 2 meeting.

Crime Up-date: The Chairman understood there had been a reduction in the police presence in the Ward due to a number being sent to South Yardley where there were problems. However, he was worried about the recent damage and vandalism in the village. A dispersal area had been sent up on the Stockfield Estate for six months. He was also worried about the closing of front offices, which was not necessarily related to budgets. Members of the Forum Executive had already expressed their concerns.

Tyre Garage/Accommodation: The Forum had been informed there had been no planning for residency, but the landlord had changed and Enforcement had been chasing the wrong person. There was no drainage for the sink and a pipe is sticking through the wall to flow onto the pavement in Francis Road to soak away. This pipe is at the head height of a small child. Cllr. O'Shea to take on board.

Westley Vale: Trustee, Veronica Treadwell, said the Vale would be taking part again in Acocks Green In Bloom. She stressed there was only one month to go to the Judging Day on 15th July and y

needed help to tidy up on the Sunday before.

Beeches Avenue: Residents wished Buywise would keep their frontages clean and tidy. Vehicles were being broken up for scrap at the back of this shop. The vehicles were also being parked on the road prior to being dismantled – presumably devoid of tax or insurance. To be reported to the Police.

Mallard Close: Sofas have still not been removed.

Roberts Road: Residents said there were parking issues in this road. Also their cars were being damaged by vehicles driving the wrong way under the bridge. To be reported to the Police.

Village in Bloom: There was only one month to go to judging day on Tuesday, 15th July, and the team need extra help.

10. Close of Meeting

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and hoped they had enjoyed the evening. He closed the meeting at 9.10 p.m.