

**HARROW HILL TRUST
AGM**

**Harrow School Old Speech Room Gallery (by kind permission of the Curator OSRG)
8.00 pm on Tuesday, 27 November 2017**

Present: Eileen Kinnear, Paul Catherall, Jayne Radford, Professor Alan Evans, and about 40 members of the Harrow Hill Trust

Guest Speakers: Julia Walton (Curator OSRG)

Apologies: Mark Mills, Euan & Jean Ross, June Baxter, Judith Mills, Jenny Ransom

1 Chair's Welcome and Report

The Chair thanked the Curator for the use of the Old Speech Room Gallery and welcomed members to the meeting. She stressed that the meeting would have to follow a strict timetable as the premises needed to be vacated by 9.15 pm.

The Chair reported on the highlights of the year which were:

- Harrow School Sports Hall
A great deal of the year has been spent protesting against this proposal. Although Harrow Council gave planning permission for the development this had to be confirmed or "refused" by the Mayor of London and we are still waiting to hear the outcome of that referral.
- The Powerhouse, West Street
This has caused significant concern and a residents' Action Group has been formed and has been fighting their corner with determination. The local newspaper published a very good article about the flouting of planning regulations by the developer, so their efforts will be sustained.
- Mayday Festival and Hill Walks
Planning has already started for the May Day Festival, but unfortunately Judith Mills has had to stand down from the Committee, but the good work will continue, and all the members deserve a big vote of thanks.
- John Lyon School
Against representations from residents and the Trust, Harrow Council gave planning permission for an increase in pupil numbers. This led to an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate where "Rule 6" status was requested and granted which enabled full participation in the inquiry, and involved Ted Allett, Johanna Nixon and Ashley Vickers who were congratulated by the Planning Inspector. The chair asked that our thanks for all the hard work and effort was formally minuted.
- Social Comment
The commitment of the Trust in "Caring for the heritage of the Hill and its future" is quite a wide-ranging mandate: not only to continue to promote the valued activities that people already enjoy, but also to extend that as times and places change, and particularly to continue to evolve in carrying out that mission. Hence, with that in mind, the Chair reiterated her plea made in the last Newsletter for others to come forward who might be interested in sharing that commitment and be willing to take it on. The Chair was pleased to report that an encouraging response had been received and a number of new people were present at the AGM. The Chair also took this opportunity to formally thank the Executive Committee for all their hard work during the last year. The Chair thanked all the Trust members for their support over the last year.

The Chair announced that for certain personal reasons she had decided not to stand for re-election this year.

2 **Minutes**

The minutes of the AGM held on 22nd November 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3 **Committee Chairs' Reports**

Planning Committee – Professor Alan Evans reported as follows:

Planning applications seemed to have dropped over the course of this year and the Trust planning meetings have therefore become fewer.

Harrow School Sports Centre is still at the forefront as is the increase in the numbers at John Lyon School. The Sports Centre is a very complex issue in the midst of Metropolitan Open Land, hence the Trust took legal advice. The decision now rests with the Mayor of London.

Rita Bhatia raised the point that the press had reported that the Mayor of London supported Theresa May regarding the green belt not being encroached upon and asked whether this would have a bearing on the Harrow School application. Professor Evans explained that MOL and green belt were distinct, so this may not be the case. Professor Evans mentioned a case (in South London) where protection did lead to refusal.

The Chair thanked Professor Evans for his report.

Environment/Community Relations – Paul Catherall reported on behalf of Mark Mills as follows

May Day Festival and Christmas Carols – both were very well attended. Paul Catherall thanked Mark Ellis and his team for taking on the erection of the tree which will take place on 2 December this year.

Garden Competition

Paul Catherall extended special thanks to Barbara Miller for her contribution to this event over the years and wish Rita Bhatia well in taking over the reins.

Communications – Paul Catherall reported as follows

The bi-annual newsletter is going strong and thanks were extended to Victoria Peet for collating the information and editing the newsletter.

Trust events are displayed on the Hill Trust noticeboard and on the website. Thanks were extended to Deb Catherall for stepping into this role on an interim basis.

Kids' Committee – Paul Catherall reported as follows

Paul Catherall thanked Solveig Wilson for all her help with the committee. The Kids' Walk was very well attended and enjoyed by all. The committee is looking for new members to replace the teenagers who will be turning 18.

All the above reports were accepted.

4 **Honorary Treasurer's Report** – Paul Catherall reported as follows

Over the last two years the Trust has put together an Annual Review and a vulnerable persons policy. Paul Catherall thanked Michael Golz Auditors.

Paul Catherall tables the Trustees' Annual Report for the period 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017, the Trust's Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2017. Income was steady and the May Day Festival brought in increased income,

along with an influx of new members. There was one major item of expenditure relating to the planning application re Metropolitan Open Land, whereby the Trust sought legal advice. This resulted in a deficit of funds, but overall the accounts are healthy.

The Chair thanked Paul Catherall for serving as Treasurer and preparing the Accounts. The accounts were formally approved.

5 **Election of Officers**

Office	Name	Proposed by	Seconded by
Chair	Deb Catherall	Andrew Reed	Jayne Radford
Vice-Chair	Vacant		
Hon Secretary	Jayne Radford	Victoria Peet	Mary Dobson
Hon Treasurer	Paul Catherall	John Macdonald	Mark Ellis
Hon Membership Secretary	Mark Mills	Solveig Wilson	Alan Axten
Chair Planning Committee	Prof Alan Evans	Denise Robertson	Jenny Mills
Chair Community Relations/Environmental Committee	Vacant		
Communications	Vacant		

Eileen Kinnear formally stepped down as Chair and Deb Catherall conducted the remainder of the meeting. She thanked Eileen for her services to the Trust.

6 **Election of Honorary Auditor**

Michael Golz was thanked for this work as Independent Examiner of the Accounts.

Members present re-appointed Michael Golz as Independent Examiner for the ensuing year.

7 **Presentation of Garden Prizes and Certificates** by Rita Bhatia

Rita Bhatia gave special thanks to Jan Davis and Barbara Miller for a very smooth transition to her new role. The gardens were judged at the beginning of July this year and it was noted that there was lots of collaboration this year between neighbours and designers.

This year there was no Community and Hill Enhancement award winner and Rita Bhatia encouraged any Harrow Hill Trust's corporate sponsors to enter the competition next year.

The prize-winners were as follows:

Corporate / Schools Joint Winners:

Paul Blower (Head Gardener, Harrow School) & his team (Druries)
Jill Sinden & David Jackson working with Pattie Campbell (Morley House)

Best Front/Patio Garden Joint Winners:

Paul & Silvana Barry (3 Mount Park Ave)
Uta Frith (2 Mouth Park Ave)

Best Front/Patio Garden Commended:

Paul & Elaine Wilson (Waysmeet, Orley Farm Road)

Best Pots/Window Boxes/Hanging Baskets:

Jenny Ward (1 Nelson Cottage)

Rita Bhatia also awarded the Andrew Bishop Trophy to Uta Frith.

The Chair thanked Rita Bhatia for judging the competition.

Any Other Business

Horse Trough at bottom of West Street

A member from the floor requested that thanks were given to Lynne Newton for the maintenance of the trough.

Lampposts

A member asked when the original posts would be re-instated. Dee Hinton and Denise Macdonald are championing this cause with the Council. All Hill Trust members were encouraged to write to the Council and express their dissatisfaction.

Rubbish Bins

Members felt these should all be heritage bins. Again, members were encouraged to email the Council as there are constant issues with street furniture and paving on the Hill.

Conservation Area and Area of Special Character

It was agreed that this needs to be brought to the forefront of the Council's notice again. All members were encouraged to write to the Council. The trust will also write.

The meeting concluded with a talk by Julia Walton, Curator of the Old Speech Room Gallery on the current displays. Members were invited to attend the next Private View on 25 January 2018 at 6.00 pm. The Chair thanked Mrs Walton for her presentation and hospitality. This was followed by drinks and an opportunity to view the fascinating exhibition.