

Fitzharry's Manor Estate Residents' Association

Annual Report - October 2021

Welcome

It's been another strange year as we've gradually adapted and emerged from COVID restrictions. Whilst events like the Easter Egg Hunt were unable to go ahead, and others like the Summer Party were changed or delayed, still we've been able to keep going. I'd like to thank everyone who has helped others during this time, strengthening our community spirit. I also want to extend a special welcome to new members of the estate this year, and look forward to 2022!

Your committee

The committee met on four occasions this year (17th Feb, 24th Mar, 26th May, 22nd Sept), mostly via Zoom, but it was great to finally meet again in person for our last meeting. We are:

Name	Role	
Nick Pumphrey	Chairman	
Nick Shephard	Secretary	
Paul Mason	Treasurer	
Mike Evans	Archivist	
Ken Hinkley-Smith	Member	
Andy Pearl	Member	
David Pope	Member	
Marion Evans	Member	

After many years on the committee, Ken has decided to take a well-earned retirement. Please join me in thanking him for all his invaluable help and hard work over the years. Matt Franklin has kindly agreed to stand for election into the committee, but we are always seeking new members too. If you think you might like to join us for any of the meetings next year, please let one of us know.

AGM 2020

Last year's AGM was held later than usual on 2nd December. As we were under COVID restrictions it had to be held by Zoom, which was a shame but it was still a productive meeting. In addition to the usual agenda items of the previous minutes, Annual Report and Treasurer's Report, we discussed various topics that affected residents and also voted in favour of donating £50 to the bulb planting on Boxhill Park.

Hazard Survey

A Hazard Survey was sent out in February, which had a great response from residents, so thanks to everyone who took part. It has highlighted the key areas of concern for us, and raised some good suggestions for how to address them. As a committee we looked at these results in detail, and discussed what we can do both as a committee and as a community to address them. Several initiatives such as litter picking and Fix-my-street submissions have helped, and we are also keeping a close eye on wider initiatives such as Neighbourhood Watch, School Streets and residential 20mph speed limits.

Advent Calendar

Thanks to everybody who decorated a window for the Estate Advent Calendar, and to Sharon Brewster who organised it all. They were a lovely splash of colour in a dark time. A link to an online album of all the windows was shared via email:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/FQXCymTYm7nimABw6>

Summer Party

Continuing COVID restrictions meant that the 2021 Egg Hunt had to be cancelled, and then forced us to postpone the Summer Party. Threat of rain (which never came) meant the Summer Party was delayed again, and it finally went ahead on Sunday 8th August despite a last-minute revision to the forecast predicting a high chance of rain and thunder! Thankfully it stayed dry, and the quiz and activities, free ice creams and drinks were all very popular. The book and toy stall also did a fair trade and all proceeds (£12.25) went to Dementia UK. Thanks to everyone who came along and helped make it a great day.

Litter Picking

The results of the FMERA Hazard Survey last year showed that litter on the Estate was a big concern for many, so we decided to do what we can to tackle this ourselves. We offered all our old litter pickers out to residents on permanent loan so they can litter-pick whenever they want to, and placed an order for 10 new litter pickers. Some of these have also been loaned out too, including to teenagers volunteering for their Duke of Edinburgh award. I hope you too have noticed what a difference it's made over the last year.

Traders list

For many years the Traders' List has been a helpful resource for residents, but online resources these days mean that our spreadsheet is a bit outdated and increasingly difficult to keep relevant. If you have a specific enquiry for recommendations please feel free to ask on our Facebook group, or I'd be happy to post an alert via Roundabout.

Facebook

The Fitzharry's Manor Estate Facebook site has grown again this year, with 85 members and plenty of posts covering numerous topics, such as:

- Information about the Neighbourhood Plan
- Updates on the Advent Windows
- Neighbourhood Alerts (David Busby)
- Collecting for Afghan refugees
- Services such as babysitting or cat sitting offered
- Free stuff such as children's toys, furniture, surplus apples, grapes
- Recommendations sought for building work

The site can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1994018137510006>

Roundabout

E-mail is still the main form of communication for our Estate and in addition to our Newsletters there have been numerous Roundabout alerts. Like the Facebook posts, these have been very diverse, with items for sale or for free, items wanted, advice sought, events advertised. Please feel free to get in touch if you have anything you'd like to rehome locally, or if you need anything (items, advice, recommendations, tools to borrow, etc), or if there's something (information, event, etc.) you'd like to share with everyone.