

Fitzharry's Manor Estate Residents' Association

Annual Report - November 2023

Welcome

Welcome once again to the FMERA Annual Report, and an especially big welcome if you are a new resident of the Estate! The main goal of our Residents' Association is to foster a friendly community spirit through the news we share and events we organise, so thank you to everyone who joins in.

Your committee

The committee met on four occasions again this year (6th Dec, 9th Mar, 13th Jun, 21st Sept). Our meetings are relaxed and sociable, and if you think you might like to join us for any next year, please let one of us know. We are:

Name	Role
Nick Pumphrey	Chairman
Matt Franklin	Secretary
Paul Mason	Treasurer
Mike Evans	Archivist
Marion Evans	Member
Andy Pearl	Member
David Pope	Member
Nick Shephard	Member
Briony Penneck	Member
David Busby	Neighbourhood Watch

AGM 2022 and website launch

Last year's AGM was held on 20th October in St Nicolas' School's Community Room. We covered the usual agenda items including reviewing last year's minutes, the Annual Report, Treasurer's Report, and discussing various topics that affect residents (such as maintaining pavements, litter picking and raising subs to £3). Mike Evans gave a talk "Fitzharry's Manor Estate through Time", and Marion Evans presented the launch of our new website - <http://fitzmanorestate.org.uk/>. Please have a look and let us know (via the Contact Us page) what additions or improvements you would like to see. Also let us know if you have interesting stories or photos you would be happy to share on this public website.

Advent Calendar and Carol Singing

Thanks to everybody who decorated a window for the Estate Advent Calendar, and to Kath Holt who organised it last year. It was lovely to see the bright and festive displays counting down the days to Christmas. Carol Singing around the estate, organised by Sally Mears on 12th December, also helped raise Christmas spirits.



Easter Egg Hunt

Now a firm favourite on our calendar, the Easter Egg Hunt was on the Easter Bank Holiday Monday, 10th April.

Summer Party

This year the Summer Party was held on 2nd July. We were lucky with the weather and a large number of residents came to browse the book and toy stall, share the fantastic assortment of cakes and savoury snacks, and meet their neighbours. Thanks again to everyone who came and made it a great day. Don't forget, our marquee, tables and wine glasses are available for residents to hire for just £5 (plus £2.50 per extra day) - contact Nick Pumphrey for more info.

Litter Picking

We decided at the AGM that we would meet for two main litter-picking events this year, once in spring and again in autumn (4th March and 21st October). Don't forget we have a good number of litter-pickers if you'd like to borrow one, and we can arrange litter-picking as a Duke of Edinburgh Award volunteering activity if you know anyone who may be interested.



Estate Maintenance

After many years of decline, our repeated calls for attention on www.FixMyStreet.com finally paid off and the pavements around the Manor Green were resurfaced this year. It's great to have smooth, weed-free pavements, complete with nice dropped kerbs at the crossings. There are still areas that need attention, so please log onto FixMyStreet and have your say.

FMERA emails

Last year we sent 15 Newsletter emails about the events we run. We also sent over 40 Roundabout emails covering a multitude of topics from items for free or for sale, pets to rehome, upcoming local events, requests for information, advice or recommendations. Please get in touch if you have anything you'd like to share.

Facebook

The Fitzharry's Manor Estate Facebook site continues to grow, with 94 members. There have been hundreds of posts over the last year, covering numerous topics such as:

- Information about local events
- Posts about bin collections, scams, bat recordings, damaged trees and missing pets
- Free stuff such as furniture, nursery items, toys, plants and seeds, doors and tiles
- Items wanted or for sale
- Recommendations sought, e.g. for building work or music teachers

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



Other excitement

A fallen tree blocked the entrance to Clifton Drive in June. Luckily emergency tree surgeons were able to clear it out of the way so that residents could get to work the following day.