

ACTION NOTE FROM BERA AGM AND HUSTINGS ON 20 APRIL 2023 AT ST JOHNS CHURCH HALL

The AGM was attended by approximately 38 BERA members, including all the Committee, except Amie Berkovich and Ric Jerrom, who presented their apologies. Charles welcomed those present, outlined the planned handling of the AGM and Hustings to follow. He summarised his Chairman's Report, circulated on 14 April, which included a look back over the past 8 years, since it was his final report as Chairman. BERA had played an important role in opposing the Bathampton Park and Ride, supporting the Ward Boundary change bringing the Estate back into the Bathwick Ward, and on the Cleveland Pools Issue. It had been instrumental in persuading BathNES Council that the Estate should be included in the CAZ. Most recently we had successfully argued for safety improvements that were implemented in the Beckford Road Cycle path scheme. The main conclusion he drew was that while the very popular Estate WhatsApp group was very successful for alerting neighbours to issues and opportunities, it could not substitute for a Residents Association type of organisation for more complex issues, especially in response to Council initiatives.

Charles thanked his Committee colleagues for their contributions and support over the past year, and indeed the whole eight years. **The Meeting then agreed to note the Chairman's report.**

Wendy introduced her Treasurer's report, which had also been circulated in advance. Expenditure in 2022 had been small, and more than covered by income. But there was worse news in for 2023, as our website was now costing us over £100 a year. We had paid for the next two years, but needed to use that period to ensure that we were getting value for money before extending it further. **The Meeting then agreed to note the Treasurer's Report.**

Wendy presented Charles with a card and a £50 voucher for the Bathwick Boatman as a thank you for his hard work over his 8 years as Chairman. This was followed by applause, and thanks in turn from Charles.

Committee Member Mark Thurstain added his thanks to Charles and especially for his advice on chairing BERA. Mark then put forward the proposed new Committee. This was: Mark Thurstain – Chair; Ric Jerrom - Vice-Chair; Wendy Powney -Treasurer, Membership and Website; Danielle Sellwood – Secretary; Nola Wright – Member; Amie Berkovitch – Member; Alasdair Barron – Member; Sally Galsworthy - Member. Other informal roles would continue.

Mark said he was keen, if elected, to have a broad discussion with Residents about what BERA should be doing, and in particular what we should do to improve the quality of life here. He proposed an event at Burdall's Yard for that purpose for as many residents who could come, provisionally on May 16th. More details to follow. **The meeting then agreed to elect the new Committee as proposed.**

There was no other business. Charles thanked those present, and closed the AGM at 7.50 p.m.

There was then a Hustings chaired by for the 4 May Local Elections. 6 Candidates (Michael Coffey - Green; Yuktshwar Kumar – Conservative; Mark MacDonnell -Conservative; Kodi McBride – Labour; Manda Rigby -Lib Dem; and Toby Simon- Lib Dem) attended. Each candidate was invited to speak at the start for up to 3 minutes, with incumbents going last; followed by questions from Residents grouped by theme; and finishing with closing statements from candidates of up to 1 minute in the reverse order to opening statements. The Hustings concluded at 9.30 p.m.

CD, Retiring Chairman, 24/04/23