

LADBROKE ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the 44th Annual General Meeting
Held on Wednesday 3rd July 2013
At St Peter's Church Kensington Park Road

Present Graham Child, Chairman
(committee) Paul Bastick, Treasurer
 Anne Chorley, Secretary
 Sophia Lambert
 David Marshall
 Maurice Fraser
 Kay Broadbent
 David Champion
 Catherine Faulks
 Malcolm Pawley
 Sandra Kamen

Present John Taylor
 Edward Manisty
 Cllr David Lindsey
 Anthony Temple
 Michael Becket
 Michael Cocks
 Andrew Jungesson
 Chris White
 Nicola Heywood
 Jo Simmonds
 Elizabeth Girton
 John Durrell
 Lorna Sheen
 Susan Lynn

Apologies Thomas Pakenham, Peter Chapman, Peter Mishcon
 Nigel Pullman, Val Allen, Pat Cornick, Peggy Post

1. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting were circulated and approved.

2. Chairman's Report

The Chairman's Report was presented in such a way as to allow contributions from others at the meeting and discussion as it went along.

The Ladbroke Association continues to be particularly concerned with planning matters, not just buildings as such, but we have also made representations about telephone cabinets as Telecom want bigger ones for fibre optics. We may not have had much success. Also Boris Bikes – Cllr Faulks confirmed that there had been some success in getting the docking stations located in more suitable places than originally proposed. Telephone boxes seemed to be an issue when Telecom made applications from which it was clear they saw an excuse to sell advertising space. Cllr Campion said that they had now accepted that advertising was not possible in the conservation area.

On planning matters concerning individual properties we look each month and make representations. One big issue is basement development. Ladbroke Association has a good pioneering record having conducted a survey and produced a report in 2009, and kept up pressure on the Council ever since, and even tried to get legislation but without success. We are pleased that the Council has in the last few days accepted a new local plan (core policy) on basements. Detail of the new policy may be found in the Ladbroke Summer Newsletter. The policy needs to be approved by Central Government before it comes into force. Our Committee considers that the Council's consultation on basements policy has been very good and we have contributed substantial amounts of time to that and to other consultation processes that occurred earlier in the year.

The Chairman receives requests for advice when members find an application relating to a neighbouring property. He advises above all that people speak to their ward councillors, Cllrs David Lindsay, Catherine Faulks and David Campion who were present and contributed comments. We also need to get Party Wall surveyors on board. We recognize that the Party Wall legislation is defective but attempts to get amendments in Parliament have been unsuccessful.

It is recognized that procedures both in regard to validation and at the Council Planning applications committee are in various ways most unsatisfactory. There was a lively exchange of views on some aspects involving councillors, committee members and other members. The Ladbroke Association is aware of these concerns and does make representations and is engaged in the further consultation process that is under way.

Listed Buildings: The interiors of listed buildings are protected – not so unlisted ones. The architect and builder have been prosecuted and fined for

removing internal fittings without planning permission inb one listed building, 18 Kensington Park Gardens.

The Ladbroke Association's Article IV exercise was discussed. Some questions were raised about what matters could reasonably be targeted, particularly as regards external painting. Some wish to be more prescriptive, others to be more liberal. There is an any event a need to press on with this exercise.

Cllr Campion raised a wider point namely that Council's policies deal with individual properties and not streets and there was a discussion of what a change could entail.

It was mentioned that in Victoria Gardens a dilapidated property has been put into essential order by the Council, and a charge made against the house, which happens very rarely.

3. The Robert Meadows Memorial Lecture given by Thomas Pakenham, our Chairman, took up the theme of trees in the area, eleven years after his original Lecture in 2002 on the subject. Some 120 people attended and it was much appreciated. As always there had also been a successful Christmas Party.

4. Adoption of Annual Accounts

The Treasurer circulated the accounts to the meeting. We had noted that the rules for Gift Aid had been changed and we had not claimed this year so that next year's accounts will show two years contributions. With our reserves we were in a position to support any action which may be brought in respect of planning should the occasion arise. David Campion proposed the adoption of the accounts, this was seconded by Kay Broadbent.

5. Election of Officers.

Graham Child had agreed to act as Chairman of the Ladbroke Association for the coming year. His election was proposed by Catherine Faulks and seconded by Chris White. Paul Bastick and Anne Corley had agreed to stand again. Paul Bastick was proposed by Graham Child and seconded by Kay Broadbent. Anne Chorley was proposed by Graham Child and seconded by David Marshall.

6. Election of Committee

All members of the committee had been elected in 2011 for three years and would be due for reelection in 2014 with the exception of Catherine Faulks and Kay Broadbent who would be due for reelection in 2015.

6. AOB

David Campion reported that Cllr Nick Paget Brown had been elected as Chairman of the Council following the resignation from the post of Cllr Sir Merrick Cockell. Cllr Paget Brown had been his deputy and was well qualified to follow on. It was also to be noted that Cllr Tim Coleridge is now Chairman of the Planning Committee and was someone who would go out of his way to listen to people.

The Chairman thanked all those who had attended and closed the meeting.